My dear friends

I wish that it were in my power to tell you what was in my heart when I received your letter & the valuable & beautiful present which accompanied it - my dear friends, the things which are deepest in our hearts are perhaps those, which it is most difficult to us to express. Your welcome home your sympathy with what has been passing while I have been absent have touched me more than I can tell in words -

“She hath done what she could” these words I inscribed on the tomb of one of my best helpers whom I left in the grave -yard at Scutari - It has been my endeavor in the Sight of God to do as she had done -

I will not speak of reward when permitted to do this work - It is what we live for. But I may say that to receive sympathy from affectionate hearts like yours is the greatest support, the greatest gratification
Wellcome 8997

that it is possible to me to receive from man -
I have read over all your names
with grateful tender affection
I beg that you will believe me
my dear friends
yours ever faithfully & gratefully
Florence Nightingale

To the
Female tenantry
of Pleasley

Aberdeen - September 17 -1856

Sir -
I wish that it were in the power of words of mine to express the grateful pleasure with which I have received the mark of your sympathy with the recent labours of my companions & myself.
Little as I am able to say what I feel, I yet greatly regret that my absence from the house, where your kind communication was addressed, has caused so long an interval to elapse, before I could return the acknowledgement which I now beg you to accept & to convey to the gentlemen whom you represent.
To know, while engaged in a distant land, that there was for us an intelligent sympathy at home. was our most cheering support under many difficulties. To receive this feeling expression of it on our return cannot but greatly enhance to all of us this happiness of home -
I beg, Sir. to subscribe myself your grateful & obedt servt.
Wm. Ferrer Esq.
Mayor of Christ-church
8997/3 initialed letter, lf, pen

B.H.

Sept 24/56

{written vertically in top margin} Many thanks for the letters -

My dearest I enclose

Robert’s certificate of discharge - He must keep it carefully. Thank Beatrice for doing so much for him. I am still writing about schools for him.

People here most kind. Sir James not at all prejudiced.

Both the Q. & P.A. everything they ought to have been - also Sir G. Grey. I doubt not the desire but the power of both Q. & P. to do what I want. I said everything I wanted - ever yours F.
Sept. 25/56

My dearest Would you acknowledge the enclosed Poetry if you do answer these effusions? I never do -

Also, Sullivan (Nurse) now Mrs. Serjeant Tye says she sent me her “marriage lines” & begs me to return them to her. They never came to me - But you forwarded her letter to me here without its envelope - Please return them if you have them to her. Her address is 19 Leonard St. Shoreditch If you have them not, please tell her so - & tell her that I shall always be glad to hear from her - Please always to forward my letters in their envelopes - as I don’t know otherwise which enclosure belongs to which -

It is now settled by the Queen’s desire that I stay here to see Lord Panmure

Yours ever & ever

F. [end 14:449]

Birk Hall

Sept 25/56
Sept 29/56
My dearest
I will see my T.s
in persona when I
come back - so need
not write to them.
I have received
a pr of beautiful
grey fur cuffs from
Harding’s - now never
off my hands - I hope
they are not present
from him but an
order from you - many
thanks - they are most
pretty & comfortable

Pray order directly
the “British & Foreign
(quarterly) Medico-
Chirurgical Review”
for October 1855 -
& read the first
Article - I read it
in the Crimea & regret
I have it not here
to quote to Sir J. Clark.
It will be valuable
to me for reference -
giving a just &
unbiased character
of Sir J. Hall - I am
glad however to find
that the Q. is alive
to his merits. She
knows everything. And
Sir James, tho’ blinded
about Dr. A. Smith,
fully appreciates Hall.
However it is not
my tack to attack
men, but systems

Yours ever my dearest
F.

Aberdeen
Oct 9/56

Dear Pa

The Braemar Road
being broken up, by the floods,
Lady Coltman & I came
tonight to Aberdeen -
& go on to Edinburgh
tomorrow - where I
mean to see all my
people - Pray keep
Col Tulloch for me
at home till I come -
which I suppose
will be on Monday -
I have a great deal to
say to him -
I hope to persuade Lady Coltman to go to you on Saturday - Would it be as well to order a vehicle at Ambergate to meet the 7.30 train in case she comes? I do not know that she will -

I had my master Pan for a long day yesterday. He was uncommonly civil to me in the best way, viz of entering into every one of my propositions. But character which makes the word & the deed the same appears to me the stuff wanting in our statesmen -

I was excessively pleased with Prince Albert -

I hope you are doing well - ever dear Pa your loving child
at it for
the next
4 months
Dearest people I am
very sorry to hear
that you are so bad -
very sorry to hear that
I am not to see Col.
Tulloch - whom I must
see in London on
business. I am so
happy to hear that
Aunt Mai is with
you. Uncle Sam is
so good, I cannot
get my business done

with Sir John McNeill
before Wednesday - &
he has agreed to stay
with me till that day.
We are both at Sir
John’s & it is such
a thing to see an
honest man again.
I take it, you are
in a great hurry to
go South. A few days
at the Hurst will
suffice me - But
for the next three or
four months, I shall
have business
(imposed upon me
by Panmure) which
will require hard
work & time spent
in London & elsewhere
to see men & Institutions
whom & which I must
see to get up my
Precis, demanded of
me by Pan - Also I

must have some
quiet hard work
with Mr. Bracebridge
to get up my private
Report.
   I hope & trust you
will all be better when
I see you on Wednesday.
In the meantime, I leave
you to Aunt Mai’s
tender mercies.
   ever dear Pa
Your loving child
With regard to the Derby [1:241]
Infirmary, I doubt much
whether I could do anything

{in the first page top margin} at it for)
   the next )
   4 months )

{continued inside envelope}
Just starting for Balmoral.
Dear Papa, I hope you are better
ever yours
   F.N.
I wish you wd be
Prest of the
Derby Iy
My dear Lydia

The purpose mentioned
to me in your letter
has my deepest sympathy.
It would have been most
congenial with my feelings
on my return from the
death-beds of so many
brave men, to take a
part in it. I shall
be with you the men of Sheffield in spirit,
whenever you/they execute
you/their proposed plans/plan -

It is with real pain
that I feel compelled to
decline the privilege
which you they offer to me
of laying the first stone.
But I believe I shall
best honor the cause
of those brave men dead,
by abstaining from
appearing to court that
publicity, which I
consider to have been
my greatest impediment
in the work I have
been engaged in for
their sakes - impeding it by arousing in some minds care for worldly distinction -
   I will ask you to give this letter to Mr. Overend. And I should be glad that Mr. Overend should make known to those who had expressed a desire that I should lay the first stone my reasons & my sorrow for not doing so - should say also that I feel an especial regret in declining this at Sheffield from old & dear family recollections connected with the place
   I must apologize for so tardy late an answer, as I have only just returned home -
   Believe me
   My dear Lydia
   ever very truly yours
   Florence Nightingale
Miss Shore
My dear Sir John

In reply to your most kind letter of Oct 10
I am glad to say that I quite understood that the copies
I have read them & with a feeling of shame beyond any
thing I have felt before - When we were in the East the
consolation of doing what we could to help the soldier
tho’ a struggle the result of which affected the freedom &
national life of half the world - together with the belief
that while incompetency was regnant there, the feeling
at home at least was sound, and that a great lesson
was to be learnt by us, which it was better for us in
eternity that we should learn, even tho its been at the
expence of the lives of half of us, these convictions were
a great support - and as was a little indignation an
excellent thing - I understood too that Lord Panmure’s
language was “I am very sorry but I did not know that
these men had been promoted.” & Lord Hardinge’s
“I am very sorry, I did hear that the army had suffered.
But I did not know that these men were at all the
cause” And at this confusion of intellects one could
only laugh -
But to find as I did from Lord Panmure’s own mouth
& from those letters which you have been so kind as
to give me to read, that the men in authority over
us are perfectly aware of the truth, of the man slaughter
committed in 1854 & of the falsehood as well as
incompetency of those principally concerned in it is a
very different thing. It is a very different thing to find
a Government deliberately destroying the fruits of that
terrible lesson upon by rewarding all who did the mischief,
& purposely & knowingly throwing the stigma tacit of neglect upon those who not only did their duty & saved us from our colossal calamity, but whom they know to have done it.

I have felt our disgrace far more than our sufferings - Those who are used to official life may think little of it. But to me it seems to involve the decline of our nation -

Before these great evils I am unwilling to revert to lesser ones. But at least it is worth while to ask your kind advice as to whether by sending in a Report to Ministers as pusillanimous as these one is not simply forfeiting means of future usefulness in the Service; which I should little regret as far as what I could do in an individual Hospital at home would be concerned, but which I should much regret in the event of a War which seems so little & way off -

Besides what is common to us both, (ie to your far higher position & mine) I almost regret that I did not make you aware, at the risk of troubling you with trifles, of my experience of the goods & evils of the position of a woman, qua woman, in official life - It is difficult to overrate the disadvantages attached to her means of efficiency, as a public officer among men-public Officers. All their defects, qua men of business, are laden upon her. because “a woman cannot be a man of business” - Her word is not taken as evidence, because “I could not contradict a Lady” so that she never hears the counterstatement till it comes before her in the ultimate decision upon both - I know that I have been reported both to the
Commander of the forces & at home for acts which I [not FN hand bundle 132] have never done, & have never contradicted having done -
If she is perfectly indifferent to all this & allows the Authorities at home to throw all the blame upon her, if the measure they have privately enjoined facts, to take all the credit to themselves, if the measure she has privately counselled succeeds, it is difficult to overrate the practical advantages of the position of a woman in an emergency. She is the scapegoat for all experiments. I should like to have submitted to you my Correspondence with the people at home privately, as a proof of this, had not my old friendship with one of the late Govt prevented me -
The only question now is whether I do not forfeit all the practical advantages of a woman’s position as a worker, & assume all the disadvantages of the theoretical position of a female writer -
You will judge better than I -
I never had the slightest objection to act scapegoat; but a very great one to have no practical work in the service - For I am fitter to create than to criticise & very much dislike the irresponsibility of opposition -
I by no means wish however to shirk the task that I have accepted, but I regret that I did not make you (than whose advice no man in England could give me better) aware of all my disadvantages -
2. I will also ask you to remember what I ventured to solicit of you with regard to the things you have to propose at the Crimean dinner - the philosophical exposition of the Causes of our great sufferings it is impossible to set forth too often or in too popular a manner. I need make no suggestion of this kind to you who were the origin
of their (the cause) being known at all. I only wish that a shilling abrégé of your Report were published as a free Railway novel. But, while I consider that from the knowledge of such evils as you depict, so brought home to many honest hearts that they will feel as well as know them, it is that we may confidentially look for their removal in god’s good time, I have thought it right to answer every Corporation which has asked me to lay a first stone, or do some such public act, that I believed I should best honor the cause of those brave dead by abstaining from appearing to court that publicity, which I consider to have been my greatest impediment in the work I was engaged in for their sake - impeding it by arousing in some minds care for worldly distinction - I shall be glad to keep your valuable notes on Mr. Filder’s letter to Mr. Peel for the present, as I shall have to see a great many of the minor officials in London, & it may happen that the subject may come up, I never invite it. But for
the reason above stated, that the evidence of a woman is valueless, (because officials always ride off upon the “I could not contradict a Lady” to explain the disingenuousness of not affording a counterstatement at the time,) I am always glad to produce the primary statement which must be believed - I shall see Dr. Andrew Smith in London, because Lord Panmure desired me to do so, & because it is affording myself the advantage of hearing his observations & having the opportunity of a reply, not to him but to my Pan - it is not that I have any hope or expectation of Dr. Smith listening to anything I could say If from your knowledge of him in particular or of official life in general you could kindly give me any advice as to my being quite open with him or as to the risk of thus making him too much my enemy you would be doing me great service - I would ask your advice whether I should request an interview with my Pan after I have seen Dr. S Colonel T is in London for the winter & will get out his Defense (!) before the end of Dec. The question is not at all whether he will have brain fever or no brain fever, as I am sure either he or I would have 20 brain fevers, if that would bring the public to do anything. But this will not be done by a catalogue of Col Gordons equivocations so much as by a short & forcible Recapitulation of the great sufferings & great mistakes first set forth in your Report - Pray present my grateful love to Lady M.N & tell her how valuable in every respect was my happy few days time at your house & pray remember me to Miss M.N. also to Mrs. Gibb If Lady McNeil thinks I ought to have the power of capital punishment in another war & only {in the left margin} she would think I ought to have this right of conscription over Mrs. Gibb
30 Burlington St
Nov 1/56

I will thankfully accept your kind appointment for
11 o'clock on Tuesday & have put off an engagement for
that day in order to be free -

I did remember that tomorrow was Sunday, but thought
you had fixed that day on purpose as not being an
Office day.

I am much more afraid of Dr. Smith than of the Queen
& Prince Albert, & indeed I do not know any one in the
world of whom I stand in such fear. With a very honest
man, without vanity, conscientious & abhoring popularity
without benevolence sincerely believing old ways the best
& that there is no great improvement to be made in this
world, a Roman Catholic who always prefers the sanction
of authority & is always ruled more by association than
by the ideal - with such a man what can one do?
There is no hold one has upon him - He is the most
impracticable of human instruments.

With regard to Dr. Alexander I am thankful to say
that of the two Deputy Inspectors of whom I have formed
the best opinion one Dr. Alexander I never saw & I know
he patronizes my greatest enemy a most dishonest man
Purveyor Fitzgerald. The other Dr. Lawson throughout ( &
by all fair means for he is an honest man) applied himself
to thwart that branch of the Service I was commanded
to direct. My testimony therefore is at all events free
from the bias of gratitude. Sir John McNeil Dr.
Sutherland, & Sir George Brown (tho’ personally he hated
Dr. Alexander) were all of opinion that he was the most
efficient man in the Service. I suspect these names would
do him no good with Dr. Smith. But generally the
universal feeling about Alexander was personal dislike
& admiration of his independence & efficiency. Indeed
he was supposed to be the only man with sufficient independence
to resist Hall’s claim upon his subordinates of a lying
With regard to Dr. Smith’s charge against me that he desired me to inform him of whatever was wanted & that I did not, it appears to me totally impossible that I could have forgotten such an order - When everything was wanted, when I was writing by every mail & sitting up every night to write to the War Department, to Lord Stratford to Lord Raglan that we were deficient in everything but bread & meat, I never could have forgotten the order to write to the Director General - which I should have been so glad to execute. Why did he not repeat it? His own Insp Genl told him that nothing was wanted. For me to write that everything was wanted (without an order) would have been sheer & useless impertinence. It appears to me that his is the delusion of an honest mind who thinks that he must have done what appears now so natural to have done. Why did he not write to me?

The fact was that I never had but two or I think three Interviews with him at his Office where I was taken by Mr. Herbert or the Duke of Newcastle or both that he never looked upon me with favor, but simply looked upon me as a caprice of these two men which he was obliged to submit to. I rather honoured him for his independence but certainly never looked upon him as friendly, or as likely to think anything I could say valuable as evidence but only womanish exaggeration And I believe he thinks so still.
30 Old Burlington St. Nov 23/56 No1 [14:463-70]
Dear Lady Canning

I have just received your very kind letter finished Oct 7 at Barrackpore
You have been too kind & efficient a mistress to me & mine for me not
to think it an “official” duty to give you some account of my Stewardship
I answer your letter step by step

...............vide
to give you some idea of the way
in which HM Ministers are informed
of the health of HM troops the only authorized returns (of cholera (of course Ministers may have had private returns ) sent home were & are of the Patients who are in Hospital from Cholera on Saturdays (Cholera running its course in 3 or 4 hours) & the Patients who are admitted the other 6 days in the week dead & buried - of them there is no other record than in the death Returns. & not always then. the excess of burials over recorded deaths was 4000
How Tropical colouring must eat out your artistic feelings. We had small time to look at colouring, but even I feel the change to this London sky deaden all my artistic perceptions. You will wonder what is the grievance with us when everything was so perfect about the Army when it left. The fact is we have not made one step towards a system which will prevent the recurrence of such a disaster. If we were to set down at Batoum to-morrow, we should have all /54 over again. I have never heard any sensible man doubt this who was with our army in the East. We are no nearer having the next army live on fresh meat at 1 ½ d per lb instead of die on salt meat at 8d per lb. We are no nearer having the next War Hospitals drained & ventilated - the next Land & Sea Transport well organized than if we had not died & lived respectively in the years of disgrace /54 & of Grace /56. Because the system does not exist to compel it. Nothing has been done but a violent expenditure & the relaxation of all rules & logical scheme of Government. And the very luxury & expense of /56 was
bad for our cause, because it gave the
supporters of the old system /or no system,
the right to say: Look what these innovators do!

Lord Panmure is going to give us a Royal
Commission of Inquiry into all that concerns
the health of the Army at home & abroad.
And I have been commanded by the Queen &
by him to write a Precis for the Government.
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, Lord 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 with two Taints lately - the Scorbutic
& the Office Taint. & the latter is the worst.
The points in my Precis will be to try to show
1. that the Army must be taught "to do for themselves".

- kill their own cattle, bake their own bread, hut
drain, shoe-make, tailor &c &c. But in this
the Camp at Aldershot is if possible, behind
that in the Crimea. Everything is done for it -
by civil contract. (It’s clothing only is going to be
given it to do.) You will hardly believe that
in the Crimea, even when we had fresh meat, we
buried one fifth part of it & that the most
nutritious. Our Naval Brigade & the French
dug up our ox-heads & made soup of them,
& I dug up the feet & made jelly of them.
2. that the Commissariat must be put upon
the same footing as your East Indian Commissariat
which has, I believe, never broken down
except during the first Burmese War, which
was not its fault instead of which our
Commissariat is made, with other arrangements
to destroy an army.
3. that the Quarter Master General’s stores must
be periodically reported, as to what they contain,
to the General Officers of Divisions. You are
probably well aware that, while our men were
lying in one wet blanket & one muddy great
coat, wet & muddy because they had been
20 hours out of the 24 in the trenches - while they were dying of Scorbutic Dysentery upon salt meat, rum, & biscuit, our stores at Balaclava were full of rice, lime juice, great coats, coatees, rugs & even blankets.

4. But, in time of war, the Transport must be under military control. For while stores were daily arriving at Balaclava & every man in the front would gladly have given 1s/ to have his blanket carried up to him, & every man in the Transport Service could have carried up 10 blankets; we positively never thought either of using or of paying the seamen on board the Transports to carry up stores to the front.

5. that a Sanitary Officer must be attached to every Quarter Master Genl’s Office to advise upon matters relating to encampment, diet, clothing hutting, sick transport. Even after our great distress was over, it was found that the 79th, altho’ down at Balaclava, was in such a state from fever that, if matters went on thus, the whole Regiment would pass thro’ Hospital 4 ½ times in 6 months. After the usual recalcitration from Commanding Officers as to
“Military Position” &c, it was found that by moving the lines 20 yards, which did not alter the Military position in the least, the troops were saved from fever. The boards of the huts were found positively covered with green algine matter. But now a medical officer, if he analyses the water & finds it unfit for human health, & remonstrates in writing, may be placed under arrest. Military health as was written 57 years ago, is sacrificed in an enormous proportion to ignorance.

I have 11 other points which relate:
1. to the Government of General Hospitals, which being in the hands of eight Departments, the officers of which are appointed by different authorities, ensures delay, irresponsibility, & inefficiency. A requisition to mend a broken pane of glass must pass thro’ six Departments.
2. to the Sanitary Element in Hospitals
3. to the Army Medical Department, its rate of pay, education, system of promotion, confusion of its administrative & professional functions, absolute necessity of a Practical Army Medical School at home, impossibility
of its producing as at present constituted good surgical science.

4. the necessity of a Hospital being complete in itself & furnishing a Hospital Kit for each man. We positively had no power of inventing any scheme [when the men were ordered to leave their knapsacks on board ship when we landed at Old Fort which knapsacks they never recovered,] of clothing these men when they came into Hospital with nothing on but an old pair of trousers & a dirty blanket - nor of feeding them, because it was a Queen’s warrant that they ought to bring their spoons with them into Hospital

5. Cooking & Dieting of the Army

6. Working

7. Canteens

8. Soldiers Wives

9. Nursing by male & female

10. Uniformity of Stoppages, the non-uniformity of which engenders a want of confidence in the men (& justly) as to the accuracy of the balance of pay they receive
there being one stoppage of 3d ½ for the field, & another for on board ship, another for wounds in Hospital, another for sickness in Hospital -

I have had so much to do with the little money deposits of the men that I know how badly this works on their moral confidence, without any proportionate saving to Govt.

11. Engineering of Hospitals
12. Mode of keeping Statistics

That good little Sardinia has adopted our civil mode of keeping these at the Registrar General’s Office, while we are not allowed to have any sickness in the army but what they had in Charles II’s time. And I could make you laugh at our classification, which seems made to deceive & bamboozle Govt. as to the causes of our disease. Just as the system of the Army Medical Department seems made to prevent it from rising to the level of the Medical science of the day.

I think if you could see our real Statistics you would think that I have been moderate in my Statements. In eight regiments in the front
of which the 46th actually lost more than its average strength from disease alone, we lost 73 per cent in seven months - from disease alone. I am not aware that we can show any instance in our history of a similar disaster except in the Burmese war in /26. At Walcheren, which is called the “ill fated” expedition we lost 10 ¼ per cent. in 6 months from disease in the Peninsula 12 per cent in a year from disease.

Contrasting this 73 per cent with the loss in our Naval Brigade, which was scarcely 3 ¼ per cent from disease, & among our Officers, which was 3 ¾ per cent, from disease shewing that there was no fault in the climate - & with the loss more fearful than ours from disease among the French this year when they began to do on purpose what we did from stupidity, - namely to ill feed, ill-clothe, ill shelter the troops, shewing that it was not only over-work in the trenches which killed us, I think we arrive at a pretty just conclusion.
4. I am sure that you will be pleased to hear that of yr “friends” as you kindly call them, Nurses Logan, Sullivan, Cator, Jane Evans, Miss Tattersall, Woodward, (from Koulali) Montagu, Orton, Maloney &c turned out “all right”. Miss Morton is good, & many others honestly anxious to do their duty. I do not mention the virtues of those who were before your reign, as they will be less interesting to you. But I cannot help just recording the gratitude we owe to Miss Shaw Stewart, to the “Revd Mother”. of the RC “Sisters of Mercy” at Bermondsey, to Sisters Bertha & Margaret of the Anglican “Sisters of Mercy” of Devonport & to the immortal Mrs. Roberts.

I have not had time to read the Koulali Smyrne books, But even had I, I would not, For women who have had the happiness of serving God & the honour of serving their country in her War-Hospitals to make a book about it, is to me quite enough, whether that book were prompted by their own vanity or by silly or astute advisers.

The Koulali authoress, Miss Fanny Taylor has now joined the R. Catholic Church, which indeed she had done privately before she went out -
With regard to what you say about the necessity of Chiefs at home having the cause of dismissal always sent them - it is so true both theoretically & practically that I only wish it had been more satisfactorily enforced. But, on one occasion, that of Miss Salisbury; a woman proved to be profligate, intemperate, & dishonest, the War Dept. did not act upon the character sent home by the Commandant as well as by myself -

6. I am very much obliged to India - for their zeal in our cause. I am pleased to hear it, because, ignorant as it is, it upon a right principle. One is sick of the cant about “Women’s Rights”. If women will but shew what their duties are first, public opinion will acknowledge these fast enough. I dislike almost all that has been written on the subject, Mrs. Jameson especially/

Let the “real lady” as you call her, be as much professional as little dilettante as possible - let her shew that charity must be done, like everything else, in a business-like manner, to be of any use (a thing I found it more difficult to make my ladies understand than anything) and all that is good will follow, provided, of course, that the real love of God & mankind
is there. And with this, I conceive that we have even an advantage over the R. Catholics - (a vow implies a fear of failure) just as the really sober man is undoubtedly better off than the man who has taken the Temperance pledge. Besides this, R. Catholics, even the best, are essentially incapacitated (from their inherent Manichaean-ism) from doing the best kind of good. They are to console the suffering which evils have produced - They are not to remove the causes of those evils. As a curious instance of this, I will mention that I tried to make a great of mine, the Superioress of the Sardinian Sisters at Balaclava, Countess Cordero - (one of the most remarkable women it has ever been my good fortune to know) to join with me in a strong protest against a certain Canteen, up to which we used respectively to see our respective Patients in Hospital slippers & clothing stealing past the (conniving) sentry out of the Hospital Huts. - The protest was to have been addressed to our respective Chiefs of the Staff & would have been easily attended to. But I never could persuade her that it was any use to take any Preventive Measure against drunkenness or anything else. I have seen this even among the
the excellent French sisters at Paris.

You will be glad to hear that Miss Shaw Stewart is hard at work improving herself at Guy’s Hospital, where she is training as Nurse. I envy her - for I have much more harassing work to do.

7. I am sorry to hear your account of Indian women - but I really think that it might be read aloud here to great advantage, for “Indian” substituting “English”.

India is a wonderful field for you. It is very much that we might imitate with much advantage, out of the Indian army, & what you say of the Sepoys reminds me of this.

I saw hardly anything of the Turks as you may suppose. And what little I did see made me think that poor Turkey’s days are numbered. But men far better informed than I am, say that she is making steady progress onwards.

The merest sight of Turkey impresses one, of course, with the immense superiority in civilisation which Constantinople has attained over her provinces. The Turkish Contingent was the best thing we did - And I regretted much its being disbanded - They - the soldiers were getting so attached to us.
The question is - shall we have any Reform? The Queen has been most earnestly interested, as is Prince Albert. But I fear they have taken the wrong sense as to the Crimean Commission. They do not see how, if all the men there blamed were so excellent, what must the System must be which killed from disease alone 50 per Cent of all our infantrys in the front in 7 months, & 39 per cent taking all the Infantry & Cavalry together!

You will wonder at the din & bustle of our English business in your Indian life, & may I say so, I think you a little wish for it. I wonder more at the way of making conversation out of the most critical subjects which we have here. I think nothing is more extraordinary proof of this than the degree in which the newspapers influence people’s conversation. It is said that the speeches may be counted which in the Ho. of Commons have influenced votes; it is impossible also to believe that, if any one has a definite opinion upon a subject, the newspapers could alter it. Yet how many people read & talk newspapers - shewing how little definite opinion there is however one could not be too thankful for one’s own Free press when one saw the disastrous consequences to the French that spring of having none Lord Panmure has given me six months work (but no wages or character) After that I go to the nursing business again [end 14:470]

Believe me dear sincerely & gratefully yours
another version of above, slightly reworded
The question is – shall we have any Reform?
The Queen has been most earnestly interested,
as is Prince Albert. But I fear they have
taken the wrong sense as to the Crimean
Commission. They do not see how, if all the
men there blamed were so excellent, what
the System must be which killed from disease
alone 50 per Cent of all our infantrys in the front
in 7 months, & 39 per cent taking all the
Infantry & Cavalry together!
You will wonder at the din & bustle of our
English business in your Indian life, &,
may I say so, I think you a little wish
for it. I wonder more at the way of
making conversation out of the most critical subjects.
I think the proof of this is the degree to which in England
the newspapers influence people’s opinion or rather talk.
It is said that the speeches may be counted which in the
Ho of C. have commanded a vote; because an M.P. has an
opinion about his vote and it is impossible to believe
that if anyone has a definite opinion about any subject
the article of a newspaper gentleman who has to fit
up his opinion before 4 o’clock could alter it. Yet

how many people read & talk newspaper shewing I
am afraid how little definite opinion there is even upon
important subjects & how much these are made mere
grinding organs to grind a talk upon.
However, one could not be
too thankful for one’s own
Free press when one saw the disastrous consequences
to the French this spring of having none.
Lord Panmure has given me six months work
(but no wages or character)
After that I go to
nursing business again
Believe me
sincerely & gratefully yours
prefer the former in your approbation
wish for it. I wonder more at the
way we have here of making conversation only out of the
most critical subjects which we have
here I think nothing is more extraordinary
the proof of this than is the degree into which in
England the newspapers influence people’s conversation
rather talk here - It is said that the speeches
may be counted which, in the Ho. of C.,
have influenced commanded a vote, (Because an M.P. has an opinion
about his vote) It is impossible
to believe that, if any one has a definite
opinion upon any subject, the Article of a newspapers
gentleman who has to get up his opinion before 4 o’clock
could alter it - Yet how many people
read & talk newspaper - shewing I am afraid both how little
definite opinion there is - even upon important subjects,
& how much those are made mere grinding organs to grind a talk of
However, one could not be too thank=
ful for one’s own free press when one saw
the disastrous consequences to the French
that spring of having none.
Lord Panmure has given me six
month’s work (but no wages or character)
After that I go to the nursing business
again. Believe me, dear Lady Canning
sincerely & gratefully yours F. Nightingale
Dear Lord Panmure,

I have completed the Report which you directed me to make, with the assistance of Dr. Sutherland, upon the new "Victoria Hospital" at Southampton.

But, as I know that you will not read it, I would come & say it to you at any place (except in the Newspapers) that you might be pleased to direct.

I beg to remain dear Lord Panmure
Your faithful servt

Florence Nightingale

It appears that there is no time to be lost, if your Lordship intends making any alteration in the said plans.
My dear dear mother

My heart was very full at parting with you & my dear loving Parthe. Your ceaseless watchfulness to ease & help me in the time we have been together can never be forgotten by me. Such devoted love is a very precious possession - it cheers me even while absent from you - it surrounds me with a genial atmosphere even when clouds look black & heavy - You will live with me, I know, if I faithfully strive to do Our Father’s work as far as is in me, even more than if I left it to see your dear faces & hear your voices. I know your anxious tender thought for me - Be assured that I will not unnecessarily give you cause for anxiety - He
who “would have his life shall lose it” & I know you are willing that I should offer my all of life & health to the Father, to serve whom is life, & to those poor children, remembering whose sufferings, it is a solace to me to strive that those sufferings shall not have been endured in vain - But be assured that I love their cause too well heedlessly or recklessly to risk any means I may possess to serve it. To my dearest Father I would add whatever words could best express my tender love - but neither he nor I are apt at using words to express what is deepest within us - God bless you all, my most dear ones & for the present Farewell -
If work prevents my writing often, it will not prevent that the loving remembrance of you will go about with me wherever I am & whatever I do – I shall not forget your desire for our meeting at Xmas which would be so welcome to me - You know that I am unable to look so far beforehand, but you will be assured if we do not, it will be because such meeting would be desertion of my work. [end 1:145]

Ever, dear people your loving child F.N.
Dec 14/56
8997/14 signed letter, 2ff, pen (not FN hand?), also 5484 f37v

30 Old Burlington St.
London Dec. 14/56

Private
My dear friends,

Your words of affectionate sympathy come home to my heart and will be ever treasured among recollections dear to me. I have read each well remembered name, in your memorial with grateful pleasure in having been thus remembered by you.

My friends, if I have been permitted a little to labour, in God’s work, I may not call your kind words my reward, because our Father’s work needs no reward, and to soothe such sufferings as we saw bravely borne was a solace which could only make us grateful to be so employed.

But this I will say - Your words shall cheer me on, while life lasts in doing such work as may yet be permitted to me. The country you live in is, indeed my well beloved home. Its woods and fields, and cottages are cherished, in my remembrance. It will gladden me to see them again whenever my work shall permit. But I shall best show the value of your sympathy if, in it I find encouragement.
still to do what I can, even
though it keep me at a distance
from my home. We can do no
more for those who have suf-
fered and died in their country’s
service. They need our help no
longer. Their spirits are with
God who gave them.
It remains to us to strive, that
their sufferings may not have
been endured in vain - to en-
deavour so to learn from ex-
perience, as to lessen such
sufferings in future by fore-
thought and wise manage-
ment.
God bless you all. I say with
all my heart, and I will
beg of you to think of me
always as your faithful
friend and wellwisher
Florence Nightingale
To the Householders in the
Parish of East Wellow.
Dear friends,

Your words of affectionate sympathy come home to my heart and will be ever treasured among recollections dear to me. I have read each well remembered name, in your memorial with grateful pleasure in having been thus remembered by you.

My friends, if I have been permitted a little to labour, in God’s work, I may not call your kind words my reward, because our Father’s work needs no reward, and to soothe such sufferings as we saw, bravely borne was a solace which could only make us grateful to be so employed.

But this I will say - Your words shall cheer me on, while life lasts in doing such work as may yet be permitted to me.

The country you live in is, indeed my well-beloved home. Its woods and fields, and cottages are cherished, in my remembrance. It will gladden me to see them again whenever my work shall permit. But I shall best show the value of your sympathy, if, in it I find encouragement still to do
what I can, even though it keep
me at a distance from my home.
We can do no more for those who have
suffered and died in their country’s
service. They need our help no longer.
their spirits are with God who
gave them.
It remains to us to strive, that
their sufferings may not have
been endured in vain - to endeavour
so to learn from experience, as to lessen
such sufferings in future by
forethought and wise manage-
ment.
  God bless you all. I say with
all my heart, and I will
beg of you to think of me
always as your faithful
friend and wellwisher
    Florence Nightingale
To the Householders in the
Parish of East Wellow.
30 Old Burlington St.
London
Dec. 14/56
My dear friends,

Your words of affectionate sympathy come home to my heart and will be ever treasured among recollections dear to me. I have read each well remembered name, in your memorial with grateful pleasure in having been thus remembered by you.

My friends, if I have been permitted a little to labour, in God’s work, I may not call your kind words my reward, because our Father’s work needs no reward, and to soothe such sufferings as we saw bravely borne was a solace which could only make us grateful to be so employed.

But this I will say - Your words shall cheer me on, while life lasts in doing such work as may yet be permitted to me.

The country you live in is, indeed my well-beloved home. Its woods & fields, & cottages are cherished, in my remembrance. It will gladden me to see them again whenever my work shall permit. But I shall best shew the value of your sympathy, if in it I find encouragement still to do what I can, even though it keep me at a distance from my home.

We can do no more for those who have suffered & died in their country’s service - they need our help no longer -their spirits are with God who gave them. It remains to us to strive, that their sufferings may not have been
endured in vain - to endeavour so to learn from experience, as to lessen such sufferings in future by forethought and wise management. God bless you all. I say with all my heart, and I will beg you to think of, always as your faithful friend and wellwisher

(signed) Florence Nightingale

To the Householders in the Parish of East Wellow.

8997/17 initialed letter, 1f, pen

Combe Hurst  
S.W.  
Dec 22/56

My dearest people

I am uncertain whether I shall not have to go to town on Wednesday - in which case I should not be able to come till the 3 o’clock train - In the other case, I should leave Kingston at 1.5. In both cases, I should infinitely prefer what you propose, the Southampton plan - I will write tomorrow - I have asked Dr. Sutherland to come, for the sake of
doing some business
with me. I do not
expect he will.
      If he does, & if I come
by the late train, I shall
bring a maid & take
a fly from Southampton,
for the sake of not being
alone with him, if
you cannot send for me
at that late hour -
    Au revoir -
    ever yours
      F.N.

Sutherland does not come -
But I do - I come however
by the 3 o’clock from London
which saves me time, &
shall be at Southton at
5.20, which gives me
Mr. Bracebridge’s escort
all the way. Will you
either meet me there
or send a servant to
bring me in a fly?
    Auf Wiedersehen
      F.N.

Combe
    S.W.
Dec 23/56
My dearest
  Bring me down Lord Panmure’s Netley plans
    which are in two long rolls on my table. Lord Palmerston wishes to see them
  Mrs. W. Cowper is here ever thine F.
Saturday

Birk Hall
  Ballater
  Sept. 29/56
Dear Lord Murray
  Your letter of the 13th Mr. Horner concerning certain statements of Miss Stanley & Mrs. Burton & others relating to my conduct while in the East, was forwarded to me this day thro’ my Uncle S.S to whom it was sent by Mr. Horner - with the view of obtaining an answer from me I trust that you will not consider this as a breach of confidence on either of their parts. & that you will believe how much I appreciate the kindness of your letter. & your desire to find out the truth, which is the only real kindness -
It was well known to me that such statements & others equally far from the truth were in circulation. There is, as you anticipate, a very different statement to be made - But it will be obvious to you - who have so much experience of this kind of human things, that if I were once to be tempted to enter the arena of dispute, my whole life would be spent in making counter statements. and though, from the respect & love which must always be borne to your character by me in common with all those who are acquainted with it. you would be the very person with whom I should like to make my first exception to the rule of silence when attacked which I have laid down to myself, yet I believe you would be the first person who would advise me to make no such dangerous precedent - who would say to me “Go on with your own work - silently in God’s name, the truth will come out at last to all those whose opinion you would care for.”

No head of any department, great or small, trusted to hold that which implies heavy responsibility & peculiar duties, in addition to the common labour, can with propriety to the service either at the time or afterwards, answer the accusations of his or her subordinates
But if you should at any time wish to cross examine me in conversation - in order then, in your Judge's mind, to weigh the evidence, I shall be at Edinburgh between the 6th & 11th October, and then (if you happen to be there) or at any future time or place, I shall always be ready & willing to answer any questions from you - Sir John McNeill will always know where I am.

And in the meantime, that Lord Murray should reserve his judgment till he has heard both sides, is no new proof to me of the impartiality of his love of truth in things small or great

I beg you will believe me
dear Lord Murray
Your obliged & faithful servant
Florence Nightingale

I hope I am getting on well here but remembering as I do that I gave all these suggestions & plans at the beginning of the war & that they were accepted & that I feel nothing has yet come of it but little encouragement in making converts of these people, although I think I have succeeded with P. Albert & Lord Panmure comes on Saturday -
How to train a Nurse
I have been favored by Correspondents, anonymous & otherwise with most of them enclosing a strip of newspaper, with so many hints on this subject that I am induced to submit them to my Council, which honors me with its support & assistance, for its consideration -

I have no time to read the news=papers, not to bestow more than a cursory glance & a much more summary inspection than I should wish upon the Extracts, with which I am thus favored.

I take at random, those which first present themselves.

One is a magnificent elevation, with my statue on the top, to be called the "Nightingale Hospital" of "Wing" of a Hospital -

Another is a "Home" for Nurses, with no Hospital at all -

One is advice to admit none but gratuitous services - "after the example of all R. Catholic Institutions - & of Pastor
Fliedner’s essentially “Evangelical” Institution on the Rhine at Kaiserswerth -

Another is a fulminating recommendation or rather threatening command from the “Avenir” to admit none but paid services. This includes a threat, if the obnoxious word “Sister” is allowed - a terrible warning as to the “cut of our aprons”, which are to be “large” & “white” - a caution as to “Celibacy”, which I was not before aware came at all into the question, excepting in as far as a mother in charge of her children at home cannot be at one & the same time a Nurse in charge of her Patients in Hospital - & a solemn Charge that the Nurse, after she is trained, is not to remain in the Hospital where she has been trained.

We are also solemnly assured that the “Apostles received a salary”, (how much was it?) & that the Nurses must lead an ordinary life. I thought the object was that they should not be “ordinary” Nurses.
One offers me “a clergyman and six sons”, & insists upon a service every day in the week – probably a son for each day & the father on Sundays –

Another insists upon no clergyman at all – no service but what I can conduct myself – & a strictly “secular” education –

One desires me to confine my operations to the Work-houses – another to the Hospitals – and a third recommends the training of Nurses for private families only –

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 I must immediately write to those wicked men, the Treasurers of “Bartholomew’s” & “St. Thomas’s”, warning them, in these their strongholds of Papistry, that, if they do not converted from their wicked ways of calling the Head Nurse of each ward, “Sister”, and 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 –

Florence Nightingale

Scutari

1/3/56
Repd to F.P.N & Mama 5

Due to Papa £10. 18. 6

Paid as per Cheque enclosed

Combe Hurst
Kingston on Thames
S.W.

Dear Papa

I enclose the amount of my debt to you, £10.18.6.
& beg you to be so good as to send me up immediately all the Bills I still owe you - I am winding up all affairs & accounts Glyn's, Mr. Bracebridge's, Private Fund, my own,' Government's & mean to separate them at once & for ever. It is a Herculean task, as I have to unravel other people's affairs who are incapable of business - besides my own -

Please do not delay, as I wish to do it now for once & for all. And never, so long as I live, will I allow any other hand than my own in Public Accounts, for which I am responsible
ever dear Pa
your loving child
F.
I enclose a letter for
Miss Sullivan to be enclosed
by you to S.G.O. accordg
to his desire.

8997/27 unsigned note, if., pen

Please let the Purveyor’s
people come in, to our Quarters,
inventorize & take
away all they
claim as their own,
both at the Barrack
& General Hospitals,
giving you a Receipt
for all -

8997/28 unsigned note, 1f, faint pencil

Call upon me in trouble & thou shalt praise me. We do the
first indeed, we cry, O God O God help us but when he
has helped us, do we praise him -
when we are ill or when anything happens to us, it is
that God has something to say to us unter vier Augen - let
us be still & listen - We have broken some law of his,
He wishes to tell us so - we are unhappy in this way he
tells us, by suffering -
How to train a Nurse
To Mr. Bracebridge

I have been favored by How to train a Nurse
I have been favored by Correspondents anonymous & otherwise
most of them enclosing a strip of newspaper, with so many hints
on this subject that I am inclined to submit them to the Council, which honors me with its support & assistance, for its consideration -
I have no time to read the newspapers, nor to bestow more than a cursory

My dear You have never sent me up your great book, as you promised with Extracts from “Times” in it.
There is a letter from Dr. Hall (out of “Times”) in it, which I saw at Embley for the first time, & which would be of great use to me now -
You said you meant to put some marks in the book to guide me -
I dine at Tremenheere’s
on Saturday Thursday to meet Sir John Liddell who wishes to talk with me on introducing Female Nursing in the Naval Hospitals.

This is done by Sir John Liddell’s own desire who wishes of course to do it see me as quietly as possible - & I have not mentioned it even to Uncle Sam. It may lead to much.

ever yours
F.N.
Jan 13/57

8997/31 unsigned, incomplete letter, 2ff, pen bundle 132

Great Malvern
Mar. 7/57

My dearest

1. I go to town Monday or Tuesday, & as the S. Smiths have given up their rooms in Albemarle St, have no alternative but to go to Burlington St.

My life has long since known no staying on "from day to day" anywhere - nor ever will it again. Whether this is a matter to be glad or sorry about will be a question for different opinions to settle.
I cannot say what my subsequent plans will be. How gladly would I accommodate them to yours - But how impossible this is - now - & ever will be. I imagine I shall take active service in about three months from this time. that I shall spend the remainder of March in London - with the exception of a few days, which I must be, some time or other, with Sir J. McNeill at Edinbro’ - & I must have 6 weeks water=cure alone somewhere before I begin active work - 2. I have arranged for Wm. Jones to go to school at Barnet with 170 boys & girls immediately. It was very good of Beatrice to keep him so long. I fear he has been very troublesome. This is a School for Soldiers’ & Seamen’s orphan children & they make an exception in my favor for Jones (who is neither) on payment of the same annual sum as the others -
3. I feel very much the matter of Lea School. It appears to me unquestionable that the right thing to do is to build, to put it under the C. of C., & have a certificated master & mistress. all of which is of little avail, if Beatrice does not give her daily attendance, I agree. If she feels pretty sure of herself, then it seems to me, that Mama ought to give the money for building - Beatrice only, if this be decided in the

8997/32 initialed letter, 2ff, pen bundle 132 [1:242]

30 O. Burl. St.  
March 20/57  
Dearest Pa  
I am sorry that you will not enter the House of Commons in this world  
But I am very sure that there is a H. of C. in the next - I hope one upon sounder principles - If that world is in advance of this, it must be - If not, we must go & “prepare a place” for them
Do you believe that God’s word is not “pray” but “work”. Do you believe that He stops the fever, in answer not to “From plague, pestilence & famine, Good Lord, deliver us” but to His word & thought being carried out in a drain, a pipe=tile, a wash=house,

Do you believe that mortality, morality, health & education are the results of certain conditions which He has imposed. Then you must believe that Houses of Commons, or similar institutions, are far more certain than Churches to exist in all worlds till we become like God –

I will write again – but I can now only ask whether you are likely to be in town,

soon, as the Election is contested in Derbyshire, – as I am going to Chatham to see the Hospitals there & would put it off till you came, if you do – ever dear Pa

your loving child

F.N.
Please read & send all the enclosed Sutherland’s by post, of course - But let them go directly. If Genl Storks does not like to give my note to Lord P. he may send it back to you to send.

Pray don’t be alarmed at my coming up by the Night train.. I don’t say I shall - But if I do, I do it because it is the least fatigue to me -

ever yours dear people

F.
Granton Ho.
Ap 9/57

{stamped} MORE
TO PAY
Miss Nightingale
30 Old Burlington St
London W.

{on side}
Mrs Anderson
care of Mrs Gray
3 Prospect Terrace
Douglas
Isle of Man
Dearest mother

Sir John McNeill does not approve of my being fetched up for this business - And I somewhat reluctantly yield, because I have never known Sutherland with sufficient stability of purpose to stand to his points. I have written them all to him - And I will write to you the day I am up.

ever your loving child
dearest mother

F.

8997/36 is a duplicate of /35, presumably with the not FN hand continuation

8997/37 initialed letter, 2ff, pen bundle 132

30 O. Burln St.
April 23/57

Dear Papa
I should like very much to come to Lea Hurst, (where you, it seems, are going almost immediately,) while you are there. We shall see - I am now printing my Report to the Queen & while this is doing, I must be in town - We are besides sitting in Commission on the alterations in Netley Hospital, which we have actually carried, though not all that
could have been wished. I am besides employed in making suggestions of improvement in the management of the old men at Chelsea Hospital. And in the scandalous condition of the wives & children at Chatham — Also, the reformation of the Rationing of the Army, together with abolishing Stoppages for a net pay is now under consideration at the War Department. I do not see my way at all out of London — especially as we are now committed to the Medical Commission, & Mr. Herbert, who has been ill, is not yet come back to town — I must have some water cure soon somewhere. I got through a good deal of work with Sir John McNeill — The place, even seen through the constant medium of a sea-fog, is like an
Wellcome 8997

Italian lake in beauty -
   I think that something is quietly being done for our Army, but not much. I hope I shall be able to see the right moment when I should leave off trying an hopeless task -
   Colonel Sir A. Tulloch is well & in great spirits. But that does not reform the Army -
   I should like dearly to come to you, if you will not come to me -
   I would have liked to have been with you all this time ever dearest Pa
   Your loving child
   F.N.

Hilary is gone to Paris

8997/38 unsigned letter, 1f, pen, cut off bundle 132

Burln St.
   April 29/57
Dear Pa
   I have written to Mr. Westlake & also seen him & engaged to do anything I can to assist him & his most praiseworthy & necessary object, subject to the restrictions of a time no longer at my own command -
   [Bottom of page is cut off]

   Pray give the goat away, if he is troublesome -
My dearest

I wish you would ask Mrs. Roberts

W.H. Brown’s Esq.

Lewisham

While I am away, she might have my bed-room,

I don’t think you could ask her to take her meals with the servants -

But it would not be much tax upon you to let her dine with you.

I think that, after having saved my life, which she unquestionably did, she

must feel hurt at having never received any attention from you.

I think I shall scarcely be back on Monday. But I will write

ever yours

FN

Good Friday [April 18]
30 Old Burlington St.

W. May 3/57

Dear Lord Panmure,

You directed me, last week, to make suggestions to yourself as to the organization of Female Nursing in Army Hospitals - The Director Genl, A.M.D. directed last week the expulsion of all Female Nurses but two from the Woolwich Artillery Hospital, & the substitution, not partial but complete, of the Hospital Corps -

May I ask if this were by your orders & if you contemplated, “after this manner”, the introduction of Female Nursing?

I have a little pencil composition, “to be dedicated, with permission, to your Lordship, exhibiting the order emanating from the S. of S. to introduce Nurses, & a simultaneous one from the Army Medical Board to turn them out.
I enclose a Memo -
(merely tentative &
experimental) as to the
duties of Nurses - I
cannot expect the
S. of S. to enter into the
details - Perhaps I may
ask to hear his decision
as to the ultimate steps
to be taken -
Believe me to be
faithfully yours
F. Nightingale

8997/41 unsigned letter, 2ff, pen {not FN hand} [3:498-99]

May 5
I am sorry to be obliged to call
your attention to the neglected
patients at Brompton Barracks
Hospital. There does not seem
to be exercised that attention toward
them on the part of the Chaplain
which the country has a right
to expect - I am informed the
Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper
has never been administered there
& there is a total want of those
bedside ministrations which I used
to see so well & so frequently
performed at Scutari -
I do not know the name of the
Chaplain & I will not stir in the
matter further at present if you
will be good enough to assure me
that this negligence shall not
continue.
There are upwards of 300 [800?] sick &
wounded soldiers there at present
& I think if you went down there
at once & enquired of them you would find that I have not complained without some cause. The conduct of the Roman Catholic Chaplain offers a strong & painful contrast in this respect -

30 Old Burlington St W
May 11/57
My dear Sir John
I have carefully looked over the plans which you did me the honor to shew me - and the suggestions which I would beg to offer merely is as follow
pivot the wards round - pillar the corridors, fill up the space with glass -
Ward Ward
14 beds 14 beds

[sketch here]

Corridor 12 feet wide

[sketch here]

I have damaged my own cause by not drawing it to a scale which would give a greater distance between
As you were kind enough to consult me I ought to explain what I said about Scutari, which is an historical instance of sufficient importance to furnish us with much absolute knowledge, no longer within the domain of hypothesis -

It is true that the Sanitary arrangements adopted brought the mortality down to 1.8 per cent in the latter year of the war - But on what condition? That of not allowing above 1000 patients in a building, 700 ft square, 3 flats in height. Had this building been differently distributed as to its construction, it might easily have accommodated 3000 patients with good recovering conditions. It is ruinous to build after this fashion - The question is to find a construction which will accomodate the greatest number of Patients upon a given area with the greatest facilities for recovery -

I do not hesitate to say that the causes of the great catastrophe of Scutari were want of ventilation "  " draining "  " cleanliness (too disgusting to detail farther) "  " Hospital comforts frightful overcrowding -

However good the construction & ventilation of the Corridors, if you fill them up with Patients, it is the same as building two Hospitals back to back. In all our experience, whether of healthy, or of sick men, such a construction generates disease - And our knowledge is now somewhat absolute on these points -

If it is objected that the condition of the men sent down from the Crimea &c during the first winter was such that they could not have recovered under any circumstances, I answer that the Land Transport Corp sent us down men in exactly the same condition the second winter, & that under different circumstances they did recover -
witness our ratio of mortality - 1.8 per cent -
But again, it was at the expense of limiting a
building upwards of 700 ft. square to an extravagantly
small number of Patients -

Our mortality from
“Diseases of Stomach & Bowels” was
\[\text{at Scutari} \quad 23.6 \quad \text{per cent}\]
\[\text{in Crimea} \quad 18.3 \quad “\ “\]

Why this fatal increase? The condition of the building
at Scutari is a sufficient answer. You will observe
that we lost at Scutari nearly 25 per cent more than
we did in the Crimea from this cause alone. And the
disease was chiefly generated within the building itself

I would furnish the amplist details on this all
important subject to any one interested in it officially
as I have already done to H.M. [end 16:252]

& I remain dear Sir John
ever faithfully yours
(signed) Florence Nightingale

May 17/57
I dare not venture to keep the
draft report which you so kindly
sent me longer when it may be
wanted by you this week -

It is a most able paper comprising
every point. - More than it suggests
could hardly be done at present
with equity - I mean as regards
abolition of purchase for the lower
ranks. But I hope the poor Majors
will come in for selection -
I heard with dismay last night
the resumé of Lord Grey’s evidence -
It seemed to resolve itself into three
principles -
  1st Selection is bad because you
can’t select -
  2. “As you were”
  3 Abuse must be immortal because
founded in the feeling of the nation.
The first would put an end to all
selection in any service Civil or
other. Besides public opinion in
the Army itself decides pretty correctly
on the merits of officers.. If I with my

superficial knowledge of the Crimea
army could give you a tolerably
correct idea of the fitness of general
& Commanding Officers there for
command is it credible that the
Commander-in -chief could not arrive
at a just judgement generally?
2 & 3 bear against all Reforms whatever
  I agree as to the doubtful value
of competitive examination - the
qualities which you really want,
viz self control self reliance habits of
accurate thought integrity & what you generally
call trustworthiness are not decided by competitive examination which tests little else than the memory. And the tendency of the Civil Service Examinations as to consolidating the Gov in a Bureaucracy to which it seems inclining ought to be watched with some anxiety -

Believe me

The Regimental System touches so nearly all that concerns the Sanitary & Moral Reform of the Army - its existence, as at present, would so materially prevent any measure to remedy our colossal calamity that I must be excused for taking a great interest in what does not strictly concern me

8997/44 unsigned letter, 2ff, pen

29 Burln St.
June 13/57

My dearest people

1. Papa does not go till Tuesday

2. You cannot have other rooms on the in 29, Burlington St., till Wednesday week, - in 19 Cork St. till Monday week - in 30 Burlington St till July 1.

3. It is quite impossible for me to move my papers again.

4. therefore, I shall stay in one of the Houses of this Hotel till the end of the Commission
4. It is quite impossible for you to live in our present rooms & preserve your health. The distance of our present ground-floor room in 29 Burlington St is greater from the bedroom & the access more disagreeable than that of the room you saw in 19 Cork St., which I still keep, as I must have two rooms.

5. As I know you don’t think of yourselves, I ought to say that the only result of your coming up on Monday would be to turn me out of the sitting room we have in 29. Because that in Cork St., if the windows are shut, is pestilential; if they are open, you cannot hear yourself speak for the noise.

6. I Parthe cannot get into my dressing-room, which is chuck full of my papers, which I cannot move – Papa’s dressing-room is too hot – And the back
stairs would be quite insuperable to you -
I mean, if you are to preserve health -
And the end would be that I should have to move again, which
is really impracticable.

7. Moral. That you let good Aunt Mai stay with me till I can announce other rooms to you - & that you stay either at Embley or at Combe till then.

I am sure my dearest people will not think that I state things harshly. I am too hurried. And I see it.{continued in the margin of the first page}

would be quite impossible for them to manage here, at present.
negative. I agree she is too young to give £300 away, but far better that she should, than let this great & most efficient interest drop. Do not let the child waste her young vis vitæ - [life’s strength GB] Look at poor Hilary. And of Hilaries, alas! there is enough -

A certificated master & mistress, of whom there is no lack, but not at less than £50 and £40 respectively, must then be looked for - & above all, the school placed immediately under the C. of C., which will give Papa the satisfaction of having part Education rate -

I do not know as to the what is best, viz of having certificated master & mistress before or only after building.

I hope the Rheumatism & Spasms are getting better - & will be well by the time you reach London -

ever dearest people

Your loving child

F.
Should you feel it too
great a hurry to come up
on Monday or Tuesday,
I shall have Aunt Mai
& Papa at the Burlington
& there is no need to put
yourselves to inconvenience
on my account.
   Au revoir, dear ones.

Au revoir, dear ones.

8997/46 partial copy of unsigned letter, 2ff, pen, not FN hand,

July 5/57  [14:517-18]

Dear Lord Grey

I am very grateful to you
for your long letter which was a
great help to me in various ways.
You are the only statesman whom
I have seen who really thinks the
destruction of our army a very
serious thing – who thinks that
their blood is calling to us from
the ground not for vengeance but
for mercy on the survivors.
   Secondly your
suggestions are of very great use
to me, both those which have
altered my opinion & those which
have cleared it up. For I know
that you will not think me
presumptuous in differing with you
still in some things – The only
point on which however I shall
venture to give you my reasons
for differing will be the Sanitary
question, because I think it just
possible that the facts I may be
able to lay before you may not
have come under your notice &
may perhaps modify your opinion.

The want of arrangement, the
obscurity & diffusiveness which you
notice I am very conscious of &
shall endeavour to correct as soon
as I have time -

What you say of Lord Raglan
is too true. But in me it would be

ungenerous & untrue to attack
him who is gone, while those who
misinformed & misled him have
all been promoted & rewarded
for the very acts for which he
is blamed -

[end 14:518]

8997/47 signed note, 1f, pen {arch: 22 July ‘57}

I want, please, the number of Deaths
from Cholera at Scutari in
November 1855, distinguishing those
of the German Legion & of our own
men -

F. Nightingale
July 22/57

list follows not in FN hand [JS?]
Dearest mother
   I am very glad you
are gone down to the
Hurst. How beautiful
it must look -
   I am resting in the
entire quiet here - & shall
not move this week -
   ever dearest mum
   your loving child
   F.
I am glad to be alone.
Bury Ho
   Gt Malvern
   Aug 25/57

30 Old Burlington St.
   London W
   Nov. 26/57
My dear Sir Harry Verney
   I return the letter
from Lord Palmerston,
which was sent by
my people to me -
with, as I understood,
your desire for any
suggestion
   I can only make
the same as I sent
down, viva voce, by
my Aunt the day
you were good enough
to call here -

The principal objection, stated by Lord Palmerston, against the plan of the Lariboisière Hospital is the distance between the blocks. but this is a mere matter of detail.

The difference in principle between the Lariboisière & Netley is a final one. The former represents the Sanitary science of the present age - the latter the Sanitary neglects of a century back -

Netley, as amended, is very greatly improved. But could we not adopt what is know to be best, rather than improve what is known to be bad?

The French are the only Hospital builders of the present day. We must copy them,
if we desire Hospitals
to be places of recovery -
As a British Hospital,
Netley is not bad.
As a French Hospital,
it would be detestable.
And, anyhow, it is no
fit monument of the
Crimean War, of the
Queen’s reign, or of
Lord Palmerston him
self, who deserves
more of us than either.
    Dr. Sutherland
re=echoes every word
fo this - faithfully yours
    Florence Nightingale

8997/50 signed letter, 2ff, pen [Not FN hand] dup of /49

30 Old Burlington St.
    London W
    Nov. 26/57
My dear Sir Harry Verney
    I return the letter
from Lord Palmerston,
which was sent by
my people to me -
with, as I understand,
your desire for any
suggestion -
    I can only make
the same as I sent
down, viva voce, by
my Aunt the day
you were good enough
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The French are the only Hospital builders of the present day. We must copy them,
if we desire Hospitals to be places of recovery -
As a British Hospital, Netley is not bad.
As a French Hospital, it would be detestable.
And, anyhow, it is no fit monument of the Crimean War, of the Queen’s reign, or of Lord Palmerston himself, who deserves more of us than either.

Dr. Sutherland re-echoes every word of this -
faithfully yours
Florence Nightingale

8997/51 signed letter, 2ff, pen

Dec 2/57
My dear Sir Harry Verney
With regard to Netley Hospital & Mr. Tite, the latter sent me his letter to Lord Palmerston, before it was sent -
The chief point of it was to urge a reference of Netley to London architects - and in proof of the desirableness of this, Mr. Tite sent me
a plan of the new part
of King’s College Hospital
by his friend, a London
architect, which is twice
as undesirable as
Netley. Netley, as
improved, is better than
any London Hospital.
And, if they will not
give us the Lariboisière
principle, they had
much better let it
alone - The defect in the
Lariboisière details, which
Lord Palmerston mentions,
we deplore the most

The principle we stick to -
I do not apologize
for writing in this
dogmatic manner, because
these Sanitary principles
are neither my discovery
nor my invention -
They are recognised by
all the advanced
Sanitary reformers of
Europe, of whom Mr. Tite
is not one - Nor any London
architect that I know of.
If we put sick in
Netley Corridors, it would
then be as bad as the
King’s College Hospital,
which he, I believe, advocates -
   I was very sorry to have to decline seeing your daughter - But I am unable to see any one, except on business. Very many thanks for the letter & the game - ever yrs faithfully
   Florence Nightingale
   Dr. Sutherland quite leads the forlorn hope of the Sanitary reformers and is a safe counsel in everything of this kind, which I have only learnt from a dreadful experience

Dec 2/57
My dear Sir Harry Verney
   With regard to Netley Hospital & Mr. Tite, the latter sent me his letter to Lord Palmerston, before it was sent - The chief point of it was to urge a reference of Netley to London architects - and in proof of the desirableness of this Mr. Tite sent me a plan of the new part
of King’s College Hospital
by his Friend, a London
architect, which is twice
as undesirable as Netley.
Netley as improved, is
better than any London
Hospital, & if they will not
give us the Lariboisière
principle, they had
much better let it alone.
The defect in the Lariboisière
details which Lord Palmerston
mentions we deplore the
most, the principle we
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Florence Nightingale

Dr. Sutherland quite leads the “forlorn hope of the Sanitary Reformers and is a safe counsel in everything of this kind, which I have only learnt from a dreadful experience
Hospital Floors
I am not quite sure that I understand what kind of rubbing Hospital floors is meant - the best way that I have found for Hospital Floors where I had it in my power to do it, & where it was a pine floor already laid, was to close the joints, plane the surface as smooth as possible, saturate the wood with bees wax & turpentine. Before this last operation it is best if possible to saturate the wood with what is called Drying Linseed Oil which means I believe Linseed Oil boiled over lead. This must be well rubbed in, of course, the floor will look better if it is stained, after it has been planed. Washing Hospital Floors is unquestionably bad for this reason. If you go into a room constantly inhabited & by no means only with sick, when it is being scoured you will observe a most offensive effluence, not at all that of soap & water. this is of course prejudicial to the sick - The rationale of it is that the wood becomes in time saturated with organic matter from the feet & the breath of human beings & only moisture is necessary to make it give off this effluence
This was one cause of destruction at Scutari. Enough bees wax should be used to fill up the grain of the wood. The surface should then be smoothed by rubbing with a brush which will polish it, but not make it slippery, the amount of polish depends of course on the brushing. List slippers (which ought to be always a part of Hospital furniture) prevent all risks if there be any of slipping. with regard to keeping clean afterwards, the French (& I believe it is the best way) tie a cloth over a brush, round the neck of it, it will be seen the cloth gets very dirty, & the floor very clean. If otherwise liquid is spilt, of course it must be removed with a cloth wrung out of soap & water - Soda lees is sometimes used by the French as a sponge, but soap is better than water & a sponge is a dirty thing. the surface must be immediately rubbed dry. If by dry rubbing is meant dry rubbing - it does very well on board ship, but is very ill adapted for sick wards, although prescribed I believe by our Military Hospital regulations. It is done with sand or with a sandstone & is never done sufficiently carefully to prevent the dust naturally injuring the sick. The rationale of it is of course to remove a certain amount of the floor itself. rubbing with a hard short brush is another kind of dry rubbing which is objectionable obviously because it does not remove the organic matter. There is no danger of a deal floor ever being made so slippery as our oak parquet because no deal (except the very fine deal used for musical instruments) likes a high polish. Mrs. Fowler is a very good authority dictated by F. Nightingale
Gt Malvern Dec? 27th 1857
is anything but an amateur - and she discouraged any such dilettantism -
Robert’s two eminent qualities are trustworthiness & facility in business. And I look forward to his being a professed Bailiff - (at Lea Hurst, I shall hope & trust)
His defect is desultoriness - And this must be overcome.

The disadvantages of the Chester School were all fully discussed at the time -
Chiefly, the danger to health, and the companionship of gentlemen -
But the first, I believe, is disproved - And the latter are not “gentlemen“ -
I think Robert is worth more than the position you propose to put him in. To
see him turn out a
“George” would break
my heart -
Jones has been
bound apprentice to
a watch-maker -
He is a bad boy -
And I was obliged
to remove him from
Barnet -
I should like to
know Shutler’s Regiment.
I have no intention
of keeping Robert more
than a year at Chester
ever dearest mum
Your loving child
F.

Mrs Nightingale
31 Dover St.

8997/55 unsigned note, 1f, pen bundle 132

Did not Andrew Smith’s
evidence yesterday answer
to this?
“I act upon no rule,
I
1. This seems to me like a dream & not my past Campaign - to see men playing the game of party politics over the graves of our brave dead & trying to prevent us from learning the terrible lesson which our colossal calamity should have taught us. Oh my poor men, who died so patiently I feel I have been such a bad Mother to you coming home & leaving you in your Crimean graves unless truth to your cause can help to teach the lesson which your deaths were meant to teach us.

2. The public has been on the whole very considerate of me. two or three of my friends have made great mistakes & been unable to understand that publicity must by injuring my cause be harmful & worse to me, & puffing always injures any real work, were it only by collecting round it elements of frivolity vanity & jealousy - on the whole the War Dept. has been very kind to me & forgiven me my popularity as well as it was able, tho’ it was very angry with a speech of Sr J. McNeill’s at Edinburgh which was made contrary to my earnest & written remonstrance.

3. The Hospitals of the East were at the end quite perfect as also the Sanitary arrangements I believe that this year the Barrack Hospital at Scutari was the finest in the world. the deaths in the second week of Jany/55 were 578 per 1000 in the army
(& this was not our highest mortality which was in the end of that month) the deaths in the corresponding week of Jany 1856 were 17 per 1000. the deaths from Epidemics were reduced from 70 per cent of those from all causes to 45 per cent & the sickness from Epidemics from 60 to 80 per cent to 16 per cent. this of course is attributable to the excellent sanitary arrangements introduced by the Commission as well as to those in the Hospitals the frightful mortality in the Barrack Hospital at Scutari diminished in like manner, during 54 - 55 we were literally living over a Cesspool & the Military medical officers ascribed the unmanageable outbreaks of Cholera which took place up to Nov 55 to a cemetery ¾ mile off!!

{In another hand}
to give you some idea of the way in which HM ministers are informed of the health of HM’s troops, the only authorized returns of Cholera (of course Ministers may have had private returns) sent home were & are of the Patients who are in Hospital from Cholera on Saturday (Cholera running its course in 3 or 4 hours) & the patients who are admitted the other 6 days in the week dead & buried. of them there is no other records than in the Death returns & not always there - the excess of Burials over recorded Deaths was 4000

{This preceding paragraph is the same as part of 8997/11 -GB}
The general argument used by Lord Ss to prove [14:518-23] that Army Medical Officers must look after the Hygiene as well as the cure of their own men is conclusive, a double set of Officers could not act & The conditions are so various in which Armies & Detachments are placed, that those only who attend to the sick can protect the health of the troops - A whole Regiment might be laid low with fever in a week, if the Regimental Surgeon did not understand those questions called by the name of personal Hygiene, which include clothing, diet cleanliness duties positions &c of troops - Such a thing has actually happened - If a choice were to be made of any one class of Officers exclusively to be put in sole charge of all that concerns the health of troops - undoubtedly it would be better to educate all Army Medical Officers as Officers of Health - They would treat disease all the better & have less to treat -

II The difficulty is with Barracks Garrisons Hospitals &c with existing buildings & future ones to be constructed & with towns & villages to be occupied by troops - The highest order of intelligence of education & of practical experience is required in an Officer of Health who has to deal with these - Need instances be multiplied.

1) Scutari Hospitals - the most hideous Sanitary evils were festering there - evils which each time that the number of Patients was doubled, raised the mortality per cent to more than double, viz from 3% to 10. For six months nothing at all was done to remedy these evils - Yet these Hospitals were seen by all (& reported on by most) of the Senior Medical Officers out in the East
Drs Hall Dumbreck Menzies Cumming Forrest
Linton Cruikshank Gordon -
These Hospitals had within their walls at various
times the men best informed on Sanitary Subjects
in the Army. and every one of them missed the evils
& failed to suggest the remedies -
More than this, these Hospitals were “favourably”
reported upon, “satisfactory”, as “flourishing”, as
“convenient for the reception of the Sick & Wounded”.
And this when the mortality at Scutari was rising
to 200 per cent per annum, & at Koulalee to 300
per cent per annum.
(2) Occupation of Balaclava - No effort was made
to establish a sanitary police in this little village
which came into our hands as clean & beautiful as
any village in Holland -
What it became after our occupation may be inferred
from the following facts

i. Large numbers of beasts of burden were daily passing
   in & out & no measures were taken to remove the manure.
ii. large numbers of cattle were slaughtered, when cattle
    were obtained, & no slaughter houses were arranged -
iii. 20,000 or 30,000 men were passing in & out daily
    & no arrangement for them -
iv. a burying ground existed at the head of the harbour
    into which the bodies of our men were thrown & lay
    almost in the water. Decomposition going on immediately
    below the surface & portions of extremities & red
    coats to be seen even above the surface -
    Yet no representations were made by the Army Medical
Dept as to the necessity of a Sanitary Police - The
    evil, when done, was it is said reported upon. But
    no precautions had previously been suggested in
time to avert it
3) Netley Hospital - The plans of this building had
received the fullest consideration from the Army Med Dep & its Officers & were sanctioned by the best men among them - Yet the Hospital can never be anything but a discredit to the country -

4) Supposing that a street in London were to be drained & a large sum to be laid out in draining it as is the case now with New Burlington St. should we consult the Physician attending us on the best method of doing so.

III To one who with some Sanitary experience & knowledge) who has seen Scutari Balaclava Netley the following conclusions appear inevitable -

1) A few of the most competent Sanitary Officers in the army may eventually be set apart for such duties as are involved by the above considerations - But the occupation of towns & of large buildings present insurmountable problems to ordinary observers. Such problems are specialities like those in our Barracks & Military Hospitals throughout Great Britain & her colonies at this moment. Our army mortality shews that excepting in Gaols in the last century no sanitary conditions exist or existed equal in permanent fatality to those of the Army -

With the Army Medical Officer new & hitherto unobserved conditions continually arise as he is moved from place to place in which he may be wholly inexperienced & uneducated. He may have to prepare a building or town for the occupation of troops, having been all his life entirely out of the way of any knowledge on such matters -

A most valuable practical lesson may be learned from the experience of Netley. The Engineer Officer who made the plans distinctly stated the evidence that he considered himself responsible only for constructing a building which would not fall - that he assumed the necessity of a Sanitary advisor to the Engineer’s Dept - now it is vain to say that there is one already. The best opinions & advice, the
Registering is essentially a different work from searching out & remedying operative causes nay more to be able to do the first is almost a disqualification for the second - witness the great actuary Neison’s mistakes as to causes witness Sir A. Tulloch’s invaluable Blue book, in which scarcely a word could be practically applied by a Sanitary Officer.
The Registrar is not a Health Officer
The contemplation of figures tends rather to fatalism, while a practical combativeness against operative causes is what we seek in the Officer of Health
And altho’ the latter must be furnished with statistics, the former need not essentially be furnished with sanitary knowledge -

Ladies
1. Mrs Shaw Stewart I should fear to
17 months in the Crimea - of which 15 months successively Superintendent of the “General” “Castle” & “Left Wing L.T. Corps” Hospitals in the Crimea
   I should fear to
   offend this lady were I
to say what my opinion of her is - Without her, our Crimean work would have come to grief - without her judgement, her devotion, her unselfish consistent looking to the one great end, viz. the carrying out the work as a whole, without her untiring zeal, her watchful care of the nurses, her accuracy in all trusts and accounts, her truth, - in one word, her faithfulness to the work as a whole, laying aside the desire ( inherent in all vain & weak minds) that it should be observed how much more she was doing in
her own particular Hospital than others were -
Without all her qualities, I believe that our
Crimean work could not have withstood
the invidious petty persecution, the laying
of traps, the open opposition which it
has received. Her praise & her
reward are in other hands than mine.
2. Sister Bertha (Turnbull) “Devonport Sisters
of Mercy” came out in Octr/54 with me
has served the whole campaign - chiefly
in the Genl Hospital, Scutari, & latterly in
the Castle Hospital, Balaclava, as Superin-
tendent.
All that I have said with of Mrs Shaw
Stewart with regard to moral qualities
relates, also, to this lady - She is not a
woman of such commanding abilities as
the former - Nor have I placed her in
so exposed a situation - But she has
never given me one moment’s uneasiness
as to fear of her not taking exactly the right course - and I consider her, after Mrs. S. Stewart & the “Revd Mother” of Bermondsey the most valuable person I have as Superintendent. I cannot estimate too highly the advantage which the faithfulness of these two to the cause has been to us - their total superiority to the praise of men - their utter disdain of flirtations spiritual or otherwise - their entire obedience to the law of God - Both are besides, excellent Nurses - so good that their great powers of nursing interfere, perhaps, a little, as frequently happens, with their duties as Superintendents.

3. Sister Margaret = “Lay” Sister - Devonport Sisters of Mercy came out in Oct/54 & has always followed Sister Bertha. As valuable as Sister Bertha in her different sphere - & different duties - an excellent Nurse & perfectly above all or any wishes but that of doing her duty.

4. Sister Stanislaus 5. de Chantal 6 - Anastasias - Bermondsey Roman Catholic “Sisters of Mercy” came out with me in October/54 - I have almost the {a page seems to be missing -GB}
Hospital, her qualifications as a Nurse were, of course, of an infinitely superior character to any others of those with me - She is indeed a surgical Nurse of the first order, of that race which is now almost extinct, since, in Civil Hospitals, dressers now do almost all that the “Sisters” used to do - Mrs. Roberts’ valuable Services have been recognized even & most of all by the Surgeons (of Scutari where she has principally been & where, after Inkerman, her exertions were unremitting). Her total superiority to all the vices of a Hospital Nurse - her faithfulness to the work - her disinterested love of duty & vigilant care of her Patients, her power of work, equal to that of ten Nurses, have made her one of the most important persons of the expedition.

Nurses 8. Mrs. Robbins came out in Decr/54 sober respectable kind & excellent Nurse, good and active cook for Hospital extras - 9. Mrs. Logan came out in April/55 - sober - respectable, kind & excellent nurse, (surgical) very clever at her business, industrious, & thoroughly trustworthy also good washerwoman & very clean
10. Mrs. Tandy came out in April/55 - this is one of the cleanest, handiest, most useful women I have ever had - excellent cook for Hospital Extras - good nurse good servant - clever in every way - One fault, her proneness to intemperance - mars continually her excellent qualities

11. Mrs. Tainton came out in April/55 perfectly sober & respectable - good & active nurse - trustworthy & truthful but much given to thoughts of marriage, which is inconvenient in a Hospital Nurse in the field, perhaps more so than in a young lady in a drawing-room -

Lady Matron 12 Miss Morton Last come out, but not least useful, - in the constant good influence exerted by her over the Nurses, in her unfailing desire to teach them & train them to good in her willingness to take any work which offered to be most useful - & which only her physical want of strength prevented her carrying out more fully - I have the deepest obligations to her for her

faithfulness to the work, for her tender care of the workers.
Ladies
1. Miss Wear (unpaid) This lady is a devoted untiring & most kind & conscientious nurse - But, from habitual inaccuracy of thought & expression, & from want of habits of order business or order is totally unfit for a Superintendent.

2. Mrs. McLeod (1) Miss " (11) paid 18/ per week each. These ladies are excellent but not useful - They are gentle workers - and the old Lady, though most amiable & attractive, having both age & delicate health in the way of her working, it is difficult to understand for what she was sent out -

3. Miss Ecuyer (paid) 18/ per week - excellent useful, laborious, active - devoted to nursing but from a peculiarity of temper, can only work by herself -

Nuns. i.e. Sisters of Mercy - 4 Sister Helen 5 Sister M. Martha 6. Sister M. Joseph (unpaid) - It is impossible to estimate too highly the unwearied devotion, patience,
& cheerfulness, the judgement and activity
& the single heartedness with which these
“Sisters” (who are from Bermondsey) have
labored in the Service of the Sick
Nurses 7. Mrs. Montagu 16/ pr week – perfectly
sober & respectable honest & trustworthy a
good Nurse & has also cooked for the
Patients –
8 - Mrs Barker 18/ per wk. perfectly sober
respectable trustworthy & honest & with
strong religious principle. (She is a Wesleyan
& somewhat peculiar) she is a good, tho’
not an experienced Nurse a laborious a
laborious & useful woman – Cooking & house-
keeping are her forte – And she has cooked
single=handed the whole of the Extra
Diets for one of the Hospitals in the front –
9 Mrs Evans 16/pr week a most eccentric
little Welshwoman – her manner makes
many wonder – whether she is a knave or
a fool – but none have been more useful,
laborious, honest, respectable, sober &
trustworthy than Jane Evans. I am
under great obligations to her for her
active zeal – and from her farming knowledge
she was able to keep one of the Crimean Hospitals
supplied with milk during the winter
10. Mrs. McPhersen 16/pr wk perfectly sober
honest respectable but habitually indolent
& giving in to flirting, although ancient
11. Mrs. Nesbitt 12/pr wk ideal, useful, clean
equally good cook & washerwoman – but
from the long established habit of intemperance
& what this brings in its train, I have never
been able to trust her from out of my own
supervision, without her disgracing herself –
I verily believe she wishes to reform – But I
fear it is too late. I have kept her on for
the sake of giving her an opportunity, under
myself, of trying her good resolutions, these
several times –
12 Mrs. Brownlow 16/pr week Though this
person is not strictly one of H.M.’s Nurses,
being the wife of a Pay Serjeant of the
Coldstream Guards, & having been originally
taken into
Mr. Herbert leaves town for good on Thursday
All that we want done must be done first
   He has asked me for assistance on
     8 points -
     I am to go to him today at 3
1. How to get up new Q.M.G’s Instructions
   for encampment
2. How to get up a new Book of Hospital
   Regulations
3. about the School
4. about the Barrack commission & who is
   to be the Engineer
5. about the Statistics & how they are to be
   managed
6. about the Warrant for Pay & Promotion
   You must think because I cannot
   We are to do the Digest of the Defects &
   Recommendations for the Report

Great Malvern
Jan 6/58
To my dearest Mother I apply
for ease & for help in my present
pressing & difficult circumstances
I will explain -
   My Father’s letter to Aunt Mai
asks “what next?”, in reference to
plans, & speaks of a “house in
London”. I ought not, therefore,
to delay saying that, if you are
so kind as to think of a house
on my account, it is a kindness
I am unable to accept, though
I thank you for the thought.
   I am obliged now to restrict
myself to one companion, or, rather,
I should say that companionship
can be no more for me, while my
work remains unfinished. In order to keep up to my work, I feel the necessity of having one person with me to perform offices which I am sure my dear Mother & Parthe would feel, each for the other though not for herself, that health would not permit. And, for myself, I should feel such anxiety in seeing either of you attempt the sort of life I am compelled to require in any the one person staying with me through this work, (who might not be in full health & strength) that it would overpower not help, me. I have no other plan, then, but to ask Aunt Mai to stay with me. I know she will do it willingly. Such power for headwork as I ever had, I have still, & with that remaining power, I feel called upon to do what I can to rescue the children committed to me from death, from disease, from immorality. This work is in such progress that I may have the hope of seeing it completed, if I can sufficiently save my remaining strength. The details are too small to particularize of what is necessary to do this. Yet they are essential. And I know not how to do without them. This help I can receive, without much anxiety, from dear Aunt Mai. But I could impose it upon no one else. The help & the ease then, which I ask from you, my dear Mother, is not to misinterpret what I am thus compelled either to say or else to give up my work. One person with
health for these small but necessary offices is essential to me. More than one I have not the strength to see - During the time I have been in London, I have seen literally no one but those whom the necessities of business have compelled me to see - For these I am obliged to reserve such strength as remains to me -

If I could give companionship or receive it, I would beg you to come & share it with me -

I enclose a little Nasturtium or something else which the good people here give me for nosegays - It makes the prettiest winter vase-ful. I do not remember ever seeing it. You ought to have it. [end 1:146]

ever my dear Mum  
Your loving child  
F.N.

On diagonal:  
I hear that Lady Dunsany is a quick worker
Gt. Malvern
Jan 16/58
Dear Papa

Dr. Sutherland wrote to me on Thursday from Wilton, offering to come to me here on Saturday from Embley. His letter, of course, reached me on Friday night, & my answer would reach Embley on Sunday morning, altho’ I sent a messenger off instantly to catch the Night Mail.

Business has been accumulating for him here, which it was impossible for me to transact alone - which, had he come here, instead of going to Embley, would have been done -

I can form no guess now as to the day he will come - But I do not see how, even should
he come on Monday,
I can be ready for
you till the end of the
week - As it is quite
beyond my present
powers to see more
than one person who
interests me.
And I believe it
will be more
convenient to you to
come later.
I wish you would
say to Parthe that
she does not know

the destruction it is to
me, of her asking inviting Dr.
Sutherland without
asking me -
How noble the Defence
of Lucknow - How grand
the death of Havelock -
We had no Havelock -
Otherwise, it would
remind one of our
own six months’ defence
of the trenches without
yielding an inch &
dying without a groan -
ever dear Pa
Your loving child
London
Jan 28 1858

Sir

Your words of affectionate sympathy & the expression of feeling from the Gentlemen, Colonists of South Australia, which you are so kind as to convey to us, have come home to the hearts of my fellow workers & myself. We have read your Memorial with grateful pleasure in having been thus remembered by you -

If we have been permitted a little to labour in God’s work, we may, not call your kind words our reward, because our Father’s work needs no reward - & to soothe such sufferings as we saw bravely borne, was a solace which could only make us grateful to be so employed.

But we will say, your words shall cheer us on while life lasts, in doing such work as may yet be permitted to us.

Since the defence of our Trenches before Sevastopol by your countrymen, you have heard of the defence of Lucknow
The first I saw, of the second we have every particular. There is nothing in Homer more heroic than these deeds - well may we be proud of our race -

The country you live in, Gentlemen, is indeed part of our well-beloved Country. England is one wherever her people dwell. That your hearts were with us in our struggles & will be with us always, we know with a gratitude which will not pass away -

We can do no more for those who have suffered & died in their Country’s service. They need our help no longer, Their spirits are with God who gave them. It remains to us to strive that their sufferings may not have been endured in vain - to endeavour so to learn from experience, as to lessen such sufferings in future by forethought & wise management.

God bless you all, we say with all our hearts - And that progress & happiness in all that is good & true may await the colonists of South Australia is the fervent prayer of their obliged & faithful servant

(signed) Florence Nightingale
To the Colonists of South Australia

8997/63 {exact replica of 8997/62}
30 Old Burlington St. [16:263]
April 13/58
My dear Sir Harry Verney
I see your motion
for tonight about
the Netley Report -
Perhaps you are
not aware that
Mr. Herbert is not &
will not be in
town till Thursday,

& that Genl Peel
has referred the
Report in question
back to an old
& adverse
Commission -
For both these
reasons, I would
ask you not
to press your

motion till Mr.
Herbert comes
back, as I think
the effect of it
now might be
that Genl Peel
would make a
statement in
the House, which
there would be

no means of
answering

Pray believe me
very faithfully yours
Florence Nightingale
Mr. Herbert will not be in town till Thursday. Pray don’t hurry up. Mrs. Clough takes great care of me & comes twice a day.

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

My dear
If you have anything to say to (or to hear from) me, will you come between 10 & 11 this morning; or if that is too early, between 12 & 1; or, if you have any engagement at that time, could Mama come then; or, if that is too early for her,
could she write?
But, if there is to be the going backwards & forwards there has been here yesterday & the day before, - you will find that I shall not only be unable to help you, but that I shall be unable to live till Whitsuntide.
ever yours
while I can help
FN
May 14/58

{upside down: printed:} Privy Council Office
London
June 22/58
God bless you, my
dear Pop - And
take my blessing
and my best
thoughts with you
on your marriage day
ever my dear Pop
your loving sister
F.N.

June 28/58
My dearest
This is only to say
that Lady Dunsany
is dead - not because
I think it a misfortune
but that you might
not hear it first
from the newspaper.
She died very
gently yesterday
(Sunday) morning.
She was unconscious
& quite without
pain -

Almost her last
conscious words were
“to give her love to
all her friends &
wish that they might
have the same comfort
of their faith in
death as she had” -
something to this
effect -

I think if you
were to write a few
words to Lord Dunsany
(I wish I could)
it would relieve
his sad hours -
She was very fond
of you -
ever yours
F.
My dear I do not think I ever said to Papa what you report him to have written to you - Because real love never hurt any body. But there is so much απερωτος ερως, unloving love, as friend Aeschylus has it - L’amour de ce qui n’est pas - as somebody else has it - If, for instance, I found myself loving gardens or houses or woods more than the wish of my husband in these things; more than pleasing him in these things, I should say to myself, You had better run away, I had much rather you ran away at once. It is doing less damage in the long run - Oh my dear do always like to please your husband first, do like this always better than anything else or never marry. I had much rather hear that you gave up covering the chair, as you say,
[in the top margin of the first page]
for 7/6 than
all the
fine words
about
“woman’s
love” & so on
ever yours
F.N.

[envelope] FN hand:
Lady Verney
32 South St.
[not FN: hard to read]
In answer to one of mine saying I
found it pleasant here to please H than to
do anything I wanted & that he did not
"spoil" me - that three
days love was
[can’t read rest]

8997/70 signed letter, 2ff, pen, bundle 133

30 Old Burlington St.
London W.
July 9/58
My dear Sir Harry Verney
I send you a
privately printed
document, drawn up
in anticipation & in
answer of one (in
favor of Netley) to be
presented to the
HO. of C. tonight
- in anticipation too
of your kind assistance,
whenever you leave home again -
   I heard from my mother this morn, in delight at all she had seen at Claydon, moral & material.
   Yours very truly
   F. Nightingale
The enclosed is to be presented to Genl Peel, who will not be able to understand one word of it. Perhaps you will help him when you see him again.

Great Malvern
Aug 1/58 Sunday

My dearest
   I have just received your note - Letters from Bucks go to London on their way to Worcester shire. I have forwarded it to London Aunt Mai, Hilary & the Spanish Troops were to come down here tomorrow. And I think Hilary would like very much to
stop at you’s. But
I doubt their getting this
note in time. If they
are at Combe or Ravens=
bourne, they will not.

I saw the architect
Bellamy before I left
town, à propos to
the new plans of King’s
College Hospital which
are his, which are
execrable & which
he brought me - [Farr
& Bellamy are my
darlings] I was so good

as to hold forth upon
Sanitary Architecture,
which he received as
from the mouth of an
oracle - [Of course he ought]
But the gist of this is
that he told me he
was to build the new
Winchester Hospital
for Sir W. Heathcote
& would be glad of my
advice [sic] Nothing is
to be done directly
but, as you gave me
some message from Sir W. Heathcote about it
once, I should be very
glad as Bellamy is the architect, to help & to make it the model of its set, an example for all time.

Two things I never expected to come to - to drink Aether & write in the newspapers - I am come out upon Netley in Examiner, Daily News, Lancet, Builder & shall be in Times & Saturday Rev-

I shall then write an article upon the beautiful unanimity & common sense of the British Press

ever yours F.N.

In margin:
My love to your belongings & many thanks to Harry Verney for his note.
Great Malvern
Aug 14/58
My dear - I never answered your note about Sir W. Heathcote. I would never undertake to give advice about the administration of any Hospital, unless I were able to go & look into it personally. Cela va sans dire, it seems to me - And this was what I understood from you, a long time ago, Sir W.H. wanted of me -

Plans are quite a different thing. - I could give a judgment about plans, both as to Sanitary & administrative points, by simply looking at them - And this was what Mr. Bellamy told me was what was wanted, with regard to Winchester. But he also said the plans were not even planned yet. If, when they are, Sir W.H. would like
to put me in communication with Mr. Bellamy on the subject, I am very much at his service - & have no hesitation in offering mine, because it is very evident, from recent shewing, that the subject of the Health of Hospitals is a totally unknown & unstudied one, & chiefly so to & by Doctors & Architects

Uncle Sam came last night. I have not seen him. Mrs. Sutherland is here - The Spanish Troops at Manchester. I like Mrs. S. the best of all my wives.

In the “N. British” for August is an Article, “Our Indian Army”, by Chadwick, extremely able & ill-written - the best we have ever had - with matter enough for two vols, & grammar not enough for half a page -

My love to all your belongings - ever yours

F.N.

seems missed bundle 133
Great Malvern
Sept 23/58
Dear Papa
Do you remember introducing to me a Mr. Westlake, of Romsey, who wished to establish a Dispensary for Ulcerated Legs in Bloomsbury? Out of a provincial tenderness for him, & knowing that half the suffering of workmen is from that disease, which is nevertheless never received into London Hospitals, I broke through my usual rule of never being Patroness where I cannot give personal assistance & became his President.
He is doing a great deal of good & has as many as 90 Patients. Under his treatment the Patients can walk about.
I understand the Dispensary is in want of money. I sent £5. An old lady of 80 has collected £54. If you would like to
give £5, please tell me. If you were to tell some of his countrymen in Romsey, perhaps they would like to do something too for him.

His method of treatment is thought very much of by Medical men who know: but will not take the trouble to attend such tedious cases - I think him quite disinterested -
I have sent you two letters from Sir H. Verney & Parthe - I am so glad they are going to Heidelberg.
I rather think I shall be up in town again by the 1st of next month. Shall I see you here or there?

ever dear Pa
Your loving child
F.
30 Old Burlington St
W
Oct 5/58
Dear Papa You will have today
or tomorrow 2 Copies
of my Report to the
War Office - one for
yourself - & one for
Robert Wildgoose Jun
& the men who came
to me about giving
me that desk -
explaining to them, of
course, that it is
strictly “confidential”,
& why it is strictly
“confidential”, & that
it is only for old
love’s sake that
I ask them to read
what I have been
about -
Yours dear Pa
ever lovingly
F.N.
30 Old Burlington St  
Oct 8/58
Dear Papa
  I think this School affair such a brilliant opportunity of introducing civilization instead of brutality that I have done a daring thing -
  I wrote to Rawlinson yesterday (he who Sanitized the Crimea & Scutari) the first Water Engineer of the age & saw him this morning.

  He was going down to the Liverpool Meeting on Monday - & said directly that he would sleep at Lea Hurst on Monday & do your business for you -
  He is quite the first authority in Sanitary water=appliances & has an enthusiasm for all these things - Any fee I will settle with him afterwards.
  Pray forgive him
for murdering the Q.’s
English. I think it
is so creditable to him.
He was the son of a
private soldier -
Let Beatrice ask
him how it is possible
to give boys & women
an enthusiasm for
keeping their own
out=offices clean -
And he will tell her.
Let him tell her
about Alnwick -
He will go down
on Monday by the
train which reaches
Ambergate at 2.30.
And I promised he
should be met there.
I thought Mama
would do it in her
daily drive - And
it saves strength & health
His is bad. And he
must go on to Liverpool
on Tuesday. Nevertheless,
if you do not like it,
could you send a
message to the Ambergate
Station Master to tell
Mr. Rawlinson to go
on to Cromford & that
he will be fetched there.
Not having time [black-edged mauve paper]
for a reply from you,
I have settled these
things with him.
    He is a man whom
I like & respect far
more than any one
I met in the Crimea
except Sir J. McNeill.
    - far, far more than
Sutherland.
    He has a passion
for Art & the country,
so will be very easy
for Mama to talk to.
He would like very
much to see the country.
    With regard to the
appliances, please tell
Beatrice that I do
not think expence
must be considered.
From a long experience
of large bodies of men,
I know that the
best things are the
cheapest in the end -
And I should be
very glad to take
my share in the
expence of proper
appliances.
    ever dear Pa
    Your loving child
    F. [end 1:244]
30 Old Burlington St  
Oct 9/58

Dear Papa

A fear came over me that I had expressed myself as if Rawlinson were a kind of foreman & that you would not know where he was to dine or sleep. [He sleeps with you on Monday night.]

He is just as much a gentleman as you or I. And I know I shall have all kinds of difficulties in making him take a fee - altho’ I expressly told him that I could only consult him profes= sionally & that - No pay, no advice.

He has ruined himself for ever with the War Dep. by standing up for the pay of the workmen & foremen who were sent out to the Crimea under the orders of the Sanitary Commission - altho’
Sutherland, who was at the head of that Commission, ought to have taken this upon himself.

I do not blame Sutherland. He has it not in him to do that kind of thing. But no one, who has not been so much mixed up with professional life as I have, can know how few have it in them — how few will, lay for the sake of right, lay themselves open to being called what Lord Panmure called me a “turbulent fellow”.

I commend Mr. Rawlinson to your utmost kindness — And I also assure you that his authority in all water matters is quite the first in the United Kingdom & may be safely depended upon —

ever dear Pa your loving child

F.

He goes on to Liverpool from you on Tuesday.

[letter continues in bundle 133]
Dearest mother

I was very sorry indeed to hear of poor Burton’s distress -
As far as my rather large experience goes, I am quite against operations - quite against the American System, which is only a species of operation -
A healthy, easy but by no means idle life is the best régime -
I should consult Sir James Clark again, if I were she, whom I think much the best. But he does not leave Balmoral till the 19th. If he is not in town or if he wishes her to see a Surgeon, I would consult Mr. Bowman
5 Clifford St.

But by all means be guided by Sir James ever dear Mum your loving child
F.
I have seen Parthe, - looking so much better, cheeks filled out & [Illeg scribble] red - I have not seen her look so well for years -
My dearest

There was no
“mistake” in the
Diagrams - Those of
my Report are
done area to area
Those of the Blue Book
line to line. I
prefer the former,
as being more
mathematically
correct - There is no
doubt that the
others are more
picturesquely
striking - But
there is also no
doubt that they
are open to (&
have actually
been subjected
to) mathematical
criticism - as the
only comparison
intended being
between the lines,
& nevertheless the
spaces being shaded
to bring out the
lines, ignorant
people conceive
that the comparison
is intended to be
between the areas,
& people who know
say, No, it isn’t.  
In all the later 
copies of the latter, 
I have inserted 
a note to explain, 
in order not to be 
taxed with inten=
tional exaggeration.  
    I have seen 
Mr. Rawlinson today  
& am to see him 
again with plans 
on Thursday, please 
tell Papa - 
    F.N.  
[continues in bundle 133]
30 O Burln St
Oct 26/58
I do not see that these “ordonnances” are meant to be taken together. Every month 5 days of the pills. Every 2 months 15 days of the Tincture. This is contrived especially that they shall not be taken together.
e.g. Nov 1 - 6 Pills
    7 - 22 Tincture
    29 - Dec 4 Pills
Dec 27 - Jan 1 Pills
Jan 2 - 17 Tincture

Pray thank Sir Harry very much for his very kind note about Liverpool - & say that I remember the two men Freeney & Aynsley perfectly - & was very glad to hear they remembered me - They & another (Wilson, who was my particular friend) were the three Inspectors of Nuisances in the Crimea & at Scutari. [Aynsley & Freeney in the Crimea & Wilson at Scutari] and were much more useful men than Airey, Gordon & Estcourt or any of that genus. Lord Shaftesbury sent out the whole concern, under a Civil Engineer of Liverpool. (Newlands) & they cleaned away
at us right well. [Sutherland & Rawlinson were the heads of the Commission] -

I have been wishing to thank Sir Harry for his kind letter & news of these men for some time -

If all the good the Civilians did & all the harm the Army men did were put in the same scales, they would about balance each other.

There is an attack out by Army Medical Men against me & my Hospital (Scutari) Statistics. It is without author’s or printer’s name - a blackguard thing to do -

I am going to answer it by shewing that, instead of overstating the Mortality, I actually understated it by 735 Deaths.

F.N.
My dear love When you told me that your youngest boy was going to Harrow, I had a very strong opinion on the subject. But I did not like to express it, because I did not know whether it was trustworthy - on comparing it however with that of men, of whom I am allowed to mention Clough, I find that other people’s opinions are so exactly like mine that I think it may be worth mentioning -

My The opinion is that Harrow turns out nice boys but not manly boys - that Dr. Vaughan’s is not a manly mind - that he is devoured by the love of appearances - that he has a timidity which stands him in lieu of conscience
- that he is an elegant scholar & most accomplished school master - but that vanities & not realities are his masters. The school is a far more aristocratic & expensive one that Rugby. Temple is Master of Rugby - I should like much to send a boy to Rugby, rather to send one to Eton, not at all to Harrow - I should expect a man

to come out of Rugby, a gentleman out of Eton, & a dilettante out of Harrow -

I ought perhaps to add that my opinion of Dr. Vaughan is formed from quite other sources than Mr. Stanley’s & that I don’t know what, if any, part he took in that matter -

I have no doubt that, if Sir Harry has made up his mind to Harrow, he has done it

{In the left margin of the first page}
on quite sufficient sources of information
Take this for what it is worth & no more.
    F.
Dec 6/58
My dearest I am
very very sorry to
hear of your failure -
But I think it must be a very
little one, as Mrs.
Candour says, &
therefore will not
count for much in
future prospects -
I do not make
out from your letter

where Bishop Potter
is. If he is with
you or in England
at all, I would
send him a copy
of my Report, as
being a much more
private thing to do
than letting him
ask the S. of State* -
At the same time
cautionsing him that
I have not sent
it to very intimate
* This the Social Science Meeting was put
up to do, by Mr. Bracebridge - But I heard
of it in time & stopped it.
friends in America, ,
for fear I should
get a cheap copy
back published
(for my gratification)
in a cheap popular form
for popular reading.
If he is in England
I would also send
him some M.S.
cautions about
Nursing Orders,
which I never
meant to shew to
any one, if you can
guarantee him to
send them back

without letting mortal
eye see them -
Conolly is the only
person who ever has
seen them -
Louisa has written
to me from Brighton,
In Lord Ashburton’s
name, for books &
information about
Egyptian hieroglyphics
& history - All mine
is (Not in my head
but) at Embley - Can
you tell me what
books I have there,
their titles, & anything
else to the same effect?

{in the left margin of the first page}
They start almost immediately -ever yours
F.N.
30 B St
Dec 17/58

My dearest Mr. Rumsey
is a very well known
man (all true
Sanitarians know one
another) and Mr.
Ceely need not be
at all afraid of
“seeming to puff him”
[He knows me & I
knows him!!] I will
send him the
Diagrams which I
suppose is what you
mean by the “Sanitary
Report”, altho’ you know
to a true Sanitarian
it is worthless, because
it in no way indicates
the remedies for such
a state of things -
I have been “out
with the hounds” again,
however, which I
always do in Mr.
Herbert’s absence -
& will send Mr.
Rumsey & you a
copy of the result.
I sent Bishop Potter
a copy of my “Notes”
to American Minister
Dallas’s, according to
orders - but have
heard nothing of
him since. I do not
at all desire to
shew him (or any one)
my M.S., & therefore
I am glad - But I hope he has not
received the “Notes”
without any intimation
as to their being a

confidential Govt= document - I sent
no such intimation of
course - trusting to you, who
asked for them ever yours

F.N.

Read the Article
upon us in
Edinburgh Medical Journal
for December
& in the forthcoming
Westminster for January

F.N.

8997/83 unsigned letter, 2ff, pen {arch: copy by Ly Verney of a letter of FN}
bundle 133

Embley
Xtmas Day 1858
I was very sorry to see you as
depressed about yourself. I hope
you will not let yourself die, not
that I think this a nice place to
live in, but that there are very
few true hearted ones left in it
for the good cause. They are all
falling away from it our party
who were out in the East. General
Storks & Colonel Tulloch are not heroes
tho’ I once thought the latter was.
Sidney Herbert is as ever a dear good fellow with brilliant powers & no perseverance. Col Lefroy cannot distinguish between truth & falsehood. Sir John McNeill is old & prudent tho’ true & faithful. The Duke of Newcastle is conscientious but ill tempered & personal. & as for Sir James Clark his weakness carries him to the brink of dishonesty in [?]

his conduct about Andrew Smith

While the blood of those murdered men calls to us from the ground not for vengeance but for mercy on the survivors I see less & less any chance of accomplishing anything & I do not believe in our party there is any left true hearted but you -

If you think I get excited about the East, please to remember that it is as different to see the men dying as they did in 54 -55 & to hear about it as it is to look at a picture of some Saint on the rack & to be racked yourself

[very faint pencil]
then comes the moral asking her to come for a month here to rest while we are away.
Florence Nightingale

to Mrs. Nightingale

Embley Park
Romsey

Please send immediately per Rail
to me (for Lady Ashburton starting
for Egypt) my Bunsen “Egypt’s
place in the world’s History”
Volume first in English,
Volumes first, second and third
in German; Also Lepsius, one quarto
volume; Also Wilkinson’s “Ancient
Egyptians”, five Volumes; Also “Gliddon”
two large folio & quarto pamph-
lets – and any other books of
mine on Egyptian history or
hieroglyphics. Turn over

Dearest mother

This message was to have
gone by telegraph – But, on second
thoughts, we think it better to
send Richard down to fetch back
the books to-night –
Bunsen was in the Bow=room
compartment left of door into
garden=hall –
Lepsius was in narrow
compartment immediately to the
left of fire=place
Wilkinson was in small
book=case, lowest shelf, between
the bow & the folding=doors –
Gliddon used to lie, two great
torn pamphlets (in, I think, yellow covers), on the book-case at end of Drawing-room
Perhaps Papa will help you to find these books -
I am extremely anxious to make the collection of books for the Ashburtons going to Egypt as complete as possible - and if you would send any other books I may have had in Egypt, I should be very much obliged. They start directly. They will return all these books to you - They have telegraphed to me for them -

ever dearest mother
your loving child
F.

Please send both the English & German Bunsen - the first Vol: exists in both languages

8997/85 initialed letter, 1f, pen, bundle 133

My dearest I did not know you were in England - I have been in town more than a week - The parents go to Remp=Stone next Saturday, to you on Monday after -
It is quite impos=sible to me, I am sorry to say, to see more than you - glad as I should be to see
Sir Harry. Before one or after six today would be my best times for seeing you. The Drs. have said in quite distinct words that for me to talk a word or see a person more than is absolutely necessary is hurrying the end of the days left to me - pro tanto ever thine F.

My dearest

If it can help you in any way to talk over this most important matter, come tonight at or after 7. But say when - ever thine F.

My dear

Do you remember at Edinburgh (of all places) a Vandyck (?) of a little female thing with a muff hanging to its side - Was it of the Pallavicini family? a large family picture. Could you get me a print of it now at once yrs ever F.
Oh my dear soul you
never wrote to Miss Ellis,
as you promised
And it has brought on
me such a peck of troubles.
If you had only sent
me those letters you brought
yesterday before you went,
it would have saved me
the trouble of writing.
As it is, would you
put the enclosed packet
into Sir Harry’s hand &
ask him to do his
best with them
I have written to Miss
Ellis, asking her to put
herself in communication
with Sir Harry -
the three points being
1. to effect a junction
between the two Associations
2. to withdraw my name
from the “F.N. Fund”, if
possible. But it has
already been advertised
everywhere. And I
suppose it is not
possible.
3. to make the Ellis
paper alter that
miserable sentence
about “defeat” if possible
Miss Ellis, not
hearing from you, had
routed me out at
Burln Hotel & 6 Whitehall
I have been writing letters about this untoward business till (what with illness) I am quite unable to do a stroke of W.O. business today

The main point is however

Can Sir H. effect a junction between the two Societies thro’ Count Zamayski

and he must deny to the Ladies that I gave my name to the others of which I never even heard.

Wednesday 12th/59

Dearest Mother

Thank you very much for your long letter with the better report of Parthe & for your long list of game sent. La “reconnaissance n’est qu’un vif sentiment des faisans futurs!” & I have a remarkably stupid old friend now sick in bed who would like such faisans much

W.H. Burrell Esqre M.D.
37 Hans Place
Sloane Street
London. SW

I am glad to hear that Burton was able to go through the
Christmassings & I think she will do well to keep on - I am glad too to hear that of little Peter so good a report -
We’re sitting with the window open at half past four - a beautiful afternoon & no chilliness - I do hope you have the same & that your attack of cold is going quickly away.
I hope Papa will come & see me on his way to the Hurst

[FN hand] ever my dear mum’s loving child F.N.

[other hand resumes]
PS
I have had a note from Sir Chas Trevelyan lamenting the necessity of leaving his family, but without any doubt as to his duty in accepting the governorship of Madras Lady Trevelyan keeps the house in Grosvenor Crescent open for their children. Hamilton the financial Secretary succeeds him as permanent Secretary & Hamilton’s place as it is said, has been offered to Sir Stafford Northcote. I am surprised at Trevelyan’s going, but I daresay he will do it well. Sir John McNeill thinks very highly of his powers of organisation but he must surely have ulterior views on Bengal or he would not accept Madras.# F.N. [end 1:147]
March 20/59
Dearest mother
  If the scrofulus spine has to go away from home, it may as well go to the Ormond St. Hospital as anywhere else - better than to Verral’s, the locality of which is bad. But no all the London Hospitals “can do nothing for it”. It is too early in the year for the Margate Infirmary. But there is where it ought to go later in the spring. The Middlesex is much the best Hospital in London & they “could do nothing for it”, you see - Apparently we shall take a long time to learn this truth.
  Thanks for the Photographs which are beautiful -
   ever my dear Mum’s loving child
     F.
Wellcome 8997

8997/91 unsigned letter, 3ff, pen bundle 133

30 Old Burlington St.
March 21/59
My dear Sir Harry
It seems to me very desirable if you would press further on Mr. Ingham that get the Comm. of the Ho: of C. to should force the Railway Directors to take all or none of the St. Thomas’s Hospital land -
The Charing Cross & London Bridge

Railway came on in Committee on Friday - tomorrow the Hospital opposition comes on -

[I think, from your last note, I did not make myself sufficiently understood that there is no danger of the Hospital opposition not being represented. Two thirds of the Medical
Staff, which is large, the Architect & Treasurer all appear as evidence in opposition. Unless the report of Mr. Ingham be to the following effect - that the Bill be carried, provided the Directors engage, if they touch the Hospital or the grounds thereof, [or that they, the Directors, be compelled] to take the whole at a fair & proper valuation the Hospital will be ruined. [Of course the price will be decided by Jury - about this therefore we need not squabble - The ground will be far more valuable to the Railway than to the Hospital because the former would sell what they do not want to considerable advantage -] All that the Directors of the Railway have as yet proposed to
the Hospital is to build it a cross ward (such a Railway idea) cramming up the Hospital ground yet a little more than before to the destruction of life. But the Hospital Committee entirely rejected this offer -
Highgate
May 26/59
Dearest
Would you order two copies, one for Claydon & one for Embley, of H. Martineau’s “England & her Soldiers.”
Smith & Elder - Would you also create a run upon Mudie for it - by writing yourself & making every one else write to Mudie for it -
We are told this is the way to make a book known - thro’ that “great fact” Mudie. Also, any provincial Libraries or Reading rooms, at Romsey or Claydon, should have it by your means - It is not at all infidel
Sir Harry was so good as to call here yesterday -
Yours ever
F.N.
Highgate
June 1/59  [9:91]

Parable - the unjust judge & the importunate widow.

Dramatis Personae
Ld Stanley - Unjust Judge
F.N. Importunate widow

Result of 8 months’ importunacy - as below

[clipping from the London Gazette]

From the LONDON GAZETTE of Tuesday, May 31

INDIA OFFICE, May 31,

The Queen has been pleased to issue a commission under Her Royal sign manual, appointing The Right Hon. Sidney Herbert, M.P., Major-Gen. Sir Robert John Hussey Vivian, K.C.B., Col. Sir Proby Thomas Cautley, K.C.B., Thomas Alexander, Esq., C.B., Col. Edward Harris Greathed, C.B., William Farr, Esq., M.D., James Ranald Martin, Esq., John Sutherland, Esq., M.D., to be Her Majesty’s Commissioners to inquire into, and report upon, the measures which it may be expedient to take for maintaining and improving the health of all ranks of Her Majesty’s army serving in India.

[end 9:91]

30 O. Burl. St.
July 7/59  [16:783]

My dear Sir Harry Verney

There seem to be three points to be attended to in the compensation (v. St. Thomas’s)
1. the value of the number of square yards of the Hospital land to be taken by the Company, which should be the same as the land in the neighbourhood
2. a sum in the name of “dommages intérêts” of the Hospital property, even if the Hospital were removed - For the Railway will damage the ground for building purposes
3. a sum to be paid for the total cost of removing the Hospital. There need be no controversy except about the amount to be paid. It appears to me that an ordinary valuer could settle the point £30,000 is certainly only a fractional part of what ought to be paid to the Charity; unless the Legislature intend to lay it down as a principle that Trust property & private property are to be sacrificed to the schemes of Joint Stock Companies.

If you can do any thing in this matter, I am sure you will be doing a national benefit.
I am doing my best yours affectely F. Nightingale

8998/4 reply to mother’s letter, 2ff, pen {written at the end of the letter} {arch: 16.7.[1859]}

Dearest mother
Thanks MANY for the £5.
Indeed you must not conclude any such thing about my going to Hampstead. You know I must send in
maids & furniture
anyhow there on the
21st.
I was just going
to ask you to conclude
definitely for your
two rooms for me
from 21st to 31st,
with stipulation to
take in all letters
& parcels left for
me - And I to be
able to take
the refusal in
addition of the two
rooms over & the
one room under,
in case I have to
stay myself entirely.
Do you really go
today? If so, I
must see you for a
minute? What time
do you go?
Please let me
know what day you
leave Ravensbourne,
whether you stay a
night in town on
your return (I could
give you a bed at
Hampstead - that’s
grand) you will have
to take the three cats
down to Lea Hurst
Dearest mother

What is going to become of you? And when are you going to Ravensbourne?

You could not lend me £5, could you? without the faintest prospect of its being returned for many months.

ever your

F.

My dearest

I think Sir Harry’s plan an exceedingly ingenious one - & the Architect’s an exceedingly abominable one -

I should fight for his with all my might: But I have suggested a few modifications which I should think an Architect would
adopt & a committee
vote - I hardly
know whether it
would strengthen your
hands or not to shew
the enclosed paper -
I should say
1. get Sir Harry’s
plan voted
2. get these
modifications adopted,
if you can.
3. I should be
very glad to criticize

any plans you send me,
before they are finally
adopted by the
Committee -
Yours ever
F.N.
Hampstead
Sept. 30/59
If I had a distinct
ground plan of what is
built already, which
I do not quite understand,
I should know which

of my suggestions in the
enclosed paper are
impracticable & which
would require modifying.
It appears to me
rather doubtful whether,
with £6000, you
could not build a
very nice Hospital
from the foundation -
I would furnish you
with a plan.
Hampstead NW
Oct 5/59

My dear Sir Harry
I should be very glad
to write in the "Builder",
(a discreet little paper
which always puts me
in!) for your Hospital
- and am only afraid
of setting the Bucking=
=hamshire backs up/
If, however, things should
go wrong, & before they
have finally bee gone
wrong, if you will tell
me & tell me also
exactly what you
wish to have said,
I could at any time
give Buckinghamshire
a “blowing up” in the
Builder, which might
make some
difference.
As to the width of
the wards, you might
make only the two
ends of the Pavilions
two feet wider than
the middle part - Or,
as you have plenty
of length, make wards
only as wide as they
are now & put the beds not
opposite but alternate

I I I I I to each other—neither
I I I I

plan is sightly but in either
would the sick recover.
   I should have been gratefully accepted [5:80]
your kind offer to read
a paper for me at
Bradford, as there is
a subject I wished
very much to start there.
- Hospital Statistics. They

are, as well as Workhouse
Statistics, at present an
unworked mine, both
in France & England -
And these Institutions,
created for the relief
of human distress,
positively do no know
whether they relieve
it or not - But my
facts are not all ready.
So that I have not
finished my Paper. As
I do not like to read up
or get up a thing, but
must have personal observation &
experience to go upon -
   [end 16:643]

Yours affectely F. Nightingale
Hampstead NW
Dec 13/59
My dear/ I think Bratby
a most valuable servant
& in every respect what
you want.
  Trustworthiness is
Mary’s name - As the
moral head of a
household I think
her unequalled. She
is the ONLY servant I
ever knew who placed
her honor in speaking
the truth at all times

& in every thing, about
others as well as herself.
[I say this literally &
not as a flourish]
  I do not think you
would find her useful
in any manual
employment. She
never was a good
cook, housemaid or needlewoman.
And “the little” goodness
she had “hath been
taken from her,” by
her poor thumb.
  En revanche, she
had has a curious talent
which I never saw
to the same degree
in any woman, educated
or uneducated, & which
is more like a clerk’s,
of knowing where I
had put any paper
or report, of always
bringing the right
book &c - This made
her loss to me an
irreparable one - And I
should think would be turned to account
in a large house - charge of furniture &c

There must be
many details as to what they will have
to do with you which make it
impossible for me to
give a more particular
opinion.

All the things you
specify, except the
needlework, I would
trust Mary to do
exactly as I would
myself. She is a really religious
woman

I think I never saw
a luckier marriage -
For the things Mary
is most deficient in
are those best done
by Bratby - And they
are the most inseparable
couple. I need not say

{continued in margin of first page}
that it would be a great relief to me, were

Mary well
settled.

F.N.
Hampstead NW
Dec 14/59
My dear It occurred to me after writing yesterday
1. if you are going to set up a needlewoman under the housekeeper,
Mary Jenkins Bathwoman
Dr. W. Johnson’s Great Malvern
has a niece, living at Oxford, a first-rate needlewoman, eldest
girl of a very large family, who wants &/or wanted a place. If she is at all like my good old friend, her aunt, she would be a very valuable servant - Perhaps her needlework would be almost too good for your place - I believe she is a qualified “Young Lady’s maid”,

tho’, when I heard of her, she had never been “out” - i.e. in service - Perhaps she has a place.
I think it answers very well in a large family/house to have as much as possible done at home, as little as possible “put out.”

2. You know Mary Bratby is almost too maternal
- I mean instead of you need not fear her thinking it a trouble to arrange

& manage for the boys, she would take almost too much trouble for them - especially if they came down without you - You know, on all the Health expeditions to the sea or elsewhere of Shore or of Beatrice, years ago, she was always sent with the sick sinner -

3. Bratby’s health necessitates some outdoor work. He is a very good outdoor servant. If he is left in charge of Claydon when you are in London, I should think it would suit very well - I suppose there must be some man left in charge.

yours ever
F.N.
Dearest mother
   I am afraid it would not be possible for me to see you on Monday Sunday. For my engagements thicken. I could see you for a few minutes now or tomorrow & be thankful - perhaps today better than tomorrow. I think you had better come to me at Hampstead - for one night than go straight through to Lea Hurst from Ravensbourne
   ever your
   F.
Mrs. Nightingale
I never can express what I feel of all that you have been to me & to the work in which we both were engaged. I feel it however presumptuous in me to say this as you were working for God & not for me - and you required no more reward than I did. But I always felt with you that you understood without my telling you from similar experience at home a great many of my trials which none of my other ladies did & which I never told to you or to any one -

And I cannot tell you what a support your silent sympathy & trust became altho I never acknowledged them - I felt that you knew the real difficulty of my position - The praise & blame which have been lavished upon us have been [illeg] so unknowing & so unintelligent - I have been so busy & so ill since I returned

My dear
   I should like to see Mr. Herford before he goes - & will come down to see him for a few minutes before he is obliged to go -
   Please ask Dr. Farr from Mr. Herbert whether he has any Statistics of comparative Mortality in relation to comparative height among Agricultural labourers
   your F.
Dearest Mother

Mrs. Sutherland was so sorry not to see you the second time you called.

What have you done about my pied à terre at No. 2? And how much will it cost?

ever your

F.

Please return the enclosed letter of Lady Amelia Jebb’s.

Ly Alicia Blackwood

My dear Sir Harry

I have written to Lady Alicia Blackwood at Middleton Tyas, Yorkshire - & can get no answer -

The Do you know where to find her? -

The case is rather important A very respectable Color Serjt of the Crimea could get a place in the Queen’s yeomen if I could give his wife a certificate - as I did in the Serjt. Brownlow case, which you may have heard of. I have no reason to doubt the wife’s story, which is that I employed her for 6
months in my Lying-in house at Scutari. But, during exactly those 6 months, I was absent almost entirely (in the Crimea) And Ly Alicia was in charge - I have sent all her papers to Ly Alicia - & cannot get them back - What shall I do? -

Color Serjt Phillips, 1st Batt. Coldstream Gds is his name. [end]

F.N.

Dearie

Could you send me, 1, 2, or 3, or even 6 bottles of Sherry to pay for, of course? and, if you have a home-made pot of strawberry or raspberry jam, to spare? Many thanks for the beautiful flowers & plants.

Dearie And could you order the shop, where Mama bought that beautiful photograph of the head of Guido’s Bologna Christ (which she gave me), to send me facsimiles from which to select two. It is for India. I don’t know where she got it. But I have never seen any thing at all all like it. Any
My dear
Please read the
two notes enclosed
And please go & see
Ferooza, early, so that
you may see her, if
you possibly can, &
bring me word about
them all. You see
she goes tomorrow.
F.N.

Dearest mother/ A girl
of 19, who was housemaid
to the Cloughs for 2 years,
& whom they parted
with to Lady Emerson
Tennent, merely
because they wished
for a better situation
for her, was overdone
with the too hard
work of the new place,

& had Prolapsus of the
womb - Lady Tennent
parted with her,
without any enquiry
as to where she could
go - And the Cloughs
took her back &
nursed her & she is
still in their house.
Her Doctor recommends
her to go into a Hospital
for 6 weeks, but
admits that if she
could have perfect rest in country air with some medical treatment, it would be better - I feel certain that, if she were cured locally in a London Hospital, it would be at the expence of her constitution, perhaps of her virtue, & that she would gain in one day in the country what she would not in two in London -

If I were going to stay here, I would have her here - I feel certain that, if you were to see her, you would like to help her - besides helping the Cloughs who have been so kind to her - She will go on Wednesday into the Hospital, if not otherwise provided for -

Now I thought if you would let her come down to Embley on that day for 5 or 6 weeks, it would be perhaps the difference to her of a painful helpless dependent life & of a healthy active independent one - She would require, I believe, to lie up entirely for 6 weeks - But Mr. Taylor would
probably see her &
direct what she was
to do -
  Nurse Watson, I
am sure, would look
after her while you
were there - and
Mrs. Watson, if you
went away -
  She is a most
properly=behaved
girl in all respects.
She is niece to the Cloughs’
faithful nurse=maid,
Emily.
  If you will have her,
I will take care that
she brings down with
her her Dr.’s account
of her case for Mr.
Taylor. But I believe
that fresh air, entire
rest upon a hair
mattress + good food
are what she
principally wants -
As she is so young &
unmarried , she may
get quite well with
care - She is not helpless
& walks about which she ought not to do, I believe. Please direct your answer to me to Burlington St. I will take care to send for it, if I am not there - in time for her to go, if you will have her.

` ever dear Mum
your loving child
F.N.
Hampstead NW
Jan 29/60

8998/19 initialed letter, 2ff, pen, bundle 134

Feb 29/60
30 Old Burlington St.
My dear Sir Harry
I should indeed like to see Sir John Lawrence whom, of all men, I, with all Europe, revere & admire - I am very glad to hear that present Ministers, if they stop in till December, wish him to be the next Governor-General.
But I should not think of troubling him to call upon me for the mere pleasure of seeing him - did I not believe that it might materially help forward the “Indian Sanitary Commission”, (which intends, of course, to take his Evidence,) if he would be so good as to give me some of his Instruction as to Indian Sanitary affairs -

The worst of it is that I am getting more & more helpless as to seeing people - I have such bad nights now & am so drenched with Morphia that I am sometimes unable now even to get up to see Mr. Herbert on business - when
he comes - And I feel
so unwilling to take
up the time of a
man like Sir J. Lawrence.
If you would say
something of this kind
to him tonight, ( as
you so kindly propose,)
& say too that if
he would allow me,
through you, to make
an appointment with
him some few days
hence *ad his libitum*,
I should indeed think
it a privilege - Yours ever
F.N.

Mar 2/60
My dear Sir Harry
I have taken the
law into my own hands
about granting rights
of translation of the
"Nursing Notes" - and
written to tell Harrison
so - Because, if he does
"sue me at the law," -
as he has already
taken away "my coat
& my cloak also", - it
won't much hurt me
Therefore, if Mlle
Bunsen is good enough
to wish a German
translation to be made,
I only too gladly put
it into her hands —
There are none I
should like better.

With regard to the
French, “il y a concurrence”
You have yourself been
good enough to forward
to me two proposals,
one from Mlle Bunsen,
one from Mme de Stael.
M. Mohl has been
written to to ask
his advice. And the
moment I hear, I
will let you know —

Parthe will like to
hear that I have had
an application from
an Italian publisher
as well — which I
have granted —
I have a high
opinion of the Italian
powers of nursing.
I thought the Sardinian
“Sisters”, generally, much
better than the French
in the Crimean War —
contrary to all my
preconceived ideas.

yours affectely

F.N.
My dear Sir Harry

In re translation (into French) of my Nursing book -
After consulting M. Mohl about “la concurrence”, I unhesitatingly opt for Mme de Stael, if she will be so good as to undertake it.

There are no one’s hands in which I would as soon see it.

Thank you very much for the enclosed.

I am sure you will be glad to hear that Sir John Lawrence was so good as to come here & to give a very important direction to the Indian enquiry. And I trust that the information he was kind enough to give in other ways and the views (in which as far as I can agree with “Hercules” I entirely agree) will be of real use in stronger hands than mine. I trust he will live to see the good
of his exertions for human (Indian) nature in all ways -

Neither Cuvier nor Darwin nor any Naturalist will ever make me believe that Sir J. Lawrence & Lord Wm Paulet, for instance, are of the same genus. For I see they are not -

Yours affectely
F. Nightingale

I should like the white [black-edged mauve paper] rose (him of the pot) very much -

I am very much obliged to my "half nephew" for his noble offer -
And as I am often employed in drawing plans for Hospitals, I may very likely avail myself of it with great gratitude.

I am just now about some noble plans
for a great “Pavilion”  
Manchester Infirmary  
out of the town.  
This is the more  
promising, as I hear  
from a man who has  
just been making a  
tour of the Provincial  
Hospitals that they  
are only fit to make  
the sick into incurables,  
to put poor men on  
the rates - & that the  
new are on worse principles  
than the old -f  
Mme Jenny Lind is  
much too great a lady  
for me to ask to come  
here. But, if she  
should wish to consult  
about her Swedish Nursing  
plans, & would let me  
know when she drives  
into town, beforehand  
I could not but like  
to see her - seeing I  
admire her character  
beyond most, & only  
think her a very  
great coward for  
leaving the stage. Let  
alone that I am very much indebted  
to her -
If you will give me her address, I will send her all my books, as desired, in neat & appropriate bindings, newest Editions. What can a man say more? May 9/60

The information I have received about Provincial Hospitals makes me the more feel that, without some knowledge of the proportion of Surgical & Medical cases, & of what cases, I cannot give reliable advice about the “Bucks” Infy.

I have a folio volume of information about all the Provincial Hospitals in the U.K.; which has been lent to me (Aylesbury is included) But, oddly enough, this most important information as to the average proportions of Medical & Surgical cases, & their character, is nowhere given. [end 16:644]

May 28/60
My dear
I have offers from ten of the largest houses in Lancashire for the Spitalfields weavers, capable of absorbing the whole population, if it will go - The mills at Blackburn alone
would take from 500 to 1000 hands.

If Mr. James Marshall would kindly write to me any proposal, I should be very grateful -

Of course we want no charity. Unless the hands are wanted, it would be no charity.

The whole thing will be done, if at all, in the most business-like way.

And I have a man at Manchester, one of the leading men, who will make himself our Honorary Commissioner, as he says - for Lancashire.

[Count Srszelecki knows nothing about the "hands". I wrote to him to ask him for Emigration advice, that was all. And his answer was, like Punch, Don’t]
Of course whether the Spitalfields people go to Leeds or to Lancashire, all the great owners who take them will require certificates as to character; & forms of agreement will be made - It will be done through Agents,

I learn from some of these Lancashire letters that “there has already been an importation of hands from Coventry & its neighbourhood”. I am very glad - Of course I was only in joke in my message to Mrs. Bracebridge. I didn’t care for Spitalfields more than I do for Coventry. It is no comfort that there is an opening for Spitalfields - if Coventry is starving -

If I were you, I would say nothing to B. but his message & that he had a real reason for not coming. I think all the talking is wanted at the other end.
May 29/60

My dear

It is about the worst case I ever heard. I never was so “shocked” in my life, except at King’s College Hospital being built over old St. Clement Dane’s Churchyard.

You come clearly under the “Burials Act”, [I hope you will be tried & transported for the terms of your natural lives, Freddy & all.]

The only thing to be done is for Sir Harry to write at once to Cornewall Lewis x (the slowest oaf, tho’ learned, I know) & say he wants an Inspector to be sent down to Claydon immediately, stating the circumstances – Grainger

x The Home Office works the “Burials Act”, as of course you know.
or Holland will be sent down - And will say what is to be done -
I have consulted Dr. Sutherland, and he says this -
[You have no alternative. For, if you don’t, I shall lay an information against you myself. I know the Burials Act Office very well. and Dr. Holland is my devotee.]
In my old age I take just the contrary course from what I did in my youth. I “protest” on every occasion & with all my might. Dr. Tait at Carlisle lost all his children (but one) of an epidemic
disease, by placing them over an old church-yard. The Bishop of London grants a licence (as no one protested on the first occasion) for placing that unfortunate King’s College Hospital over an old church-yard. For ever - Such are the effects of non-protesting.

F.N.
The purport of Sir Harry’s note to Sir George Lewis should be “the churchyard at the Claydons has become overcrowded and nuisances arise from it. Would you be so good as to direct an enquiry to be made with the view of precautionary measures being adopted?”

The Home Office takes all the resposibility - And directions are sent
down to the Burials
Act Office directly -
[And, if you behave
well to the Officers,
you are not transported.] You
must be prepared
of course for the
Church-yard being
closed, which it
will be.

If the Bucks
Infirmary plans
are what I like
& if the Churchyard

at Claydon is closed,
you shall have
£25 for the Infirmary.
If not, not. Not
a penny of my
money shall you
touch.

F.N.

8998/24 initialed letter, 2ff, pen bundle 134 [1:324]

June 10/60
My dear
I send Hallam
(£5) because you ask
me. Nothing can
prove, certainly not
£5, my respect
for dear old Hallam.
And I would rather
give to the living
than the dead -
Also I send
£1.6 as you ask
for the Ladies’
Sanitary Ass.
£1.1 for them
& 5/ for their
tracts, of which
I never saw one
that I would
not give 5/ to be
without.
This £1.6 I send
for “la raison contraire”,
because nothing can
prove my disrespect
for the Ladies’ Ass.
And so they may
as well have this,
as you ask it.
They can’t do much
harm with it.
I am going to
answer all your
questions without
waiting for the Reports -
Gas spoils
enough air for
11 (not 6) men.

I have put this in
my little book...
ever yours
F.
5. You have not sent back the cheque for Mr. Hallam - which I only mention - because you say so - (At least it was not in the note) - But burn it - It will do as well - And I will tear out the flyleaf from my cheque book. I have so much to do for the living that I cannot do for the dead. And I wish the same rule to be observed by me, when I am dead. ever your F.

30 Old Burlington St. June 26/60
My dear Sir Harry From your account of the Church yard at M. Claydon, it appears that the old ground is chiefly at fault. It does not appear that a new Cemetery would be at all required. The smell
from the old ground
admits of removal.
And, if you applied
for an Inspector,
there would not
necessarily be any
costs, except that
arising from the
operation of
preventing the
smell.
If I might
advise, it would
be that you should
go yourself to the
“Burials Act “ Office,
4, Old Palace Yard,
& ask for Mr.
Baker. He would
put you in
communication
with Grainger or
Holland, who
would probably
be able to tell
you what to do,
without a formal
application to
the Home Office.
From what you
say it appears
that the removal
of the new Church
Yard is not necessary
— And the having
an Inspector does
not at all entail
a recommendation
to close it.
Many thanks for your
concluding kind words
& believe me dear Sir
Harry, affectely yours F. Nightingale
30 Old Burlington St.
W June 30/60

My dear Sir Harry Verney
I find that, by
a recent Act, all
that is necessary
to do is to have
Claydon Church &
Church=yard
inspected. The
Secretary of State
can issue an order
to the Churchwardens
to abate any smell
& to take precautions
regarding health,
- quite apart
from providing
new ground -
And the
Churchwardens
can present the
bill to the
Overseer of the
Poor, who would
pay the cost out

of the poor-rates.
The worst of it is
that you are, I
dare say, Church=
wardens, Overseer
& Rate-payers
all in one -
From all I
hear from different
quarters, I do
believe that both
old Church=yard
& Church are very
Wellcome 9001 185

much in want of
this measure, which
will not necessarily
entail any other
Yours affectely
  F. Nightingale

8998/28 initialed letter, 2ff, pen bundle 134 [1:245]

30 Old Burlington St.
  London W
  July 12/60
Dear Pa
  The “International
  Statistical Congress”
  (of which I am a
  Member & for which
  I write papers)
  meets in London
  today & for the
  next ten days -
  delegates from every
civilized country
  come - QUETELET.

is the Belgian one.
  They meet at
  my rooms a good
  deal for business
  (I of course not
  seeing them)
  under Dr. Farr’s
  Presidency - and
  I am obliged to
  give them to eat.
  Lord Mayors,
  H.M.’s Ministers,
P. Albert & all
  the Institutions of
the country also give them to eat (but not, I suspect, for business.)

Now I want you to send me all your flowers, all your fruit, all your vegetables, in fact all you have got, for this great occasion - which is to "cement the peace of Europe"!!!!

Also, Oat-cake or anything, you think, of our savage productions will do to shew our "distinguished" foreigners.

If you did not dislike travelling, I should almost have thought it worth your while to run up & chatter French & Italian to them here, & take a brace of them back with you - ever dear Pa your loving child. F.
30 Old Burlington St.
    July 16/60
My dear Sir Harry
    The wise foreigners
come here to breakfast
every day this week
at 8 ½ A.M. - sometimes
there are too many
- sometimes there
are none -
    I need not say
that we shall be
glad to see you
any & every morning.
    yours affectely
    F. Nightingale

30 Old Burlington St.
    W
    July 16/60
[11:31]
Dear Papa
    I send you, as
you say you wish
for Metaphysics,
the first Vol: of
my “stuff”. the
first 131 Pages
are new to you -
I have had it
printed in a fine
print for you.

There is a 2nd Vol:
to in course of printing.
This is one of six copies printed on half=margin, on purpose for the reader’s written remarks.
It is being done also in a tidy 8vo.
form, which you shall have, when it is ready - when perhaps I may ask for this copy back again.
I have looked at your little green tract. There are some philosophical books, like Mansel, Sir W. Hamilton &c, which I read in order to see what I do not think. I look at this book in order to see what I do not feel - What I/one never shall feel, never could feel & never ought to feel - If God is like that, how much better not to “know Him”!

ever dear Pa
Your loving child
F. [end]
Dearest mother

I sent in my other envelope two of my Papers for Mrs. Wass & Mrs. Wildgoose - It is not that we want applicants. We have always more than we want. But when I used to attend Mrs. Smedley’s Eveng. School, I saw then the stuff we want for our work; viz country Wesleyans of a little higher than the rude sort. I send these papers to Mrs. Wass & Mrs. W. goose merely as a remembrance now of old pleasant times. It is refreshing to me only to think of Lea Hurst - But in course of time
they may see the kind of person who wants training to get her livelihood in doing good -
I should like to send the enclosed to the person at Pleasley (who gave me the Bible) with the same explanation if Papa will take it when he goes.

ever your loving child
dear Mum
F.

My dear
I hope Freddy is not too grand to read Mr. Clough’s little Plutarch - much better saints these than some of the “Saints” in the “Calendar” - & who have formed a much better English character than

the latter have done for a French.
I send it for Freddy’s consideration.

ever your F.
Aug 23/60
I do indeed feel
W.B.C.’s marriage
the greatest possible
blessing. it is the
best piece of news
I have heard for
a long time. You
know I have a
very high opinion
of Bertha’s
qualifications for
happiness in
particular, & life
in general. And

I do think W.B.C.
is worthy of her
& will appreciate
her, the more, the
more he knows
her. {6 lines scribbled out}
He is infinitely
superior to most
men & to most
women I know.
[You know A.H.C. is an angel & not a man.] But except Spottiswoode, I know no man whom I would as lief they gave their little Buffie to as this one - ever dearest mum your loving child F.

It is extremely distressing to me to contemplate my own death in the newspapers (always at the age of five) so often

In yesterday's there were three. The little Gwendoline Galton was here for a day or two for her health - a sweet little thing 3 times the age and a third the size of Prince Arthur. I did so long to put her up in a small parcel & send her back to God to be made up again.

{3 lines scribbled out}
Mr. A. Jackson’s
Upper Terrace
Hampstead
NW.
Oct 9/60
Dearest Pa
I hope that you
will not fail to
spend the longest
number of nights
& days you can
here on your way
South -
But: we should
be glad of a day or
two’s notice.
The fact is, our
one “spare room”
is sometimes occupied
by a Matron or
other person engaged
in nursing -
sighing for fresh
Air - whom I
invite.
But I would
see them a long
way off first
before they should
occupy the one
“spare room”, when you were forthcoming.

ever dear Pa
Your loving child
F.

Do you remember Miss Terrot, that silent original, daughter of the Bishop of Edinbro’, whom you took me to see at Edinbro’? She is coming to stay here from Saty till Monday, when she goes to St. Thomas’s Hosp as a Probationer= Nurse?

8998/35 initialed letter, 2ff, pen bundle 134 [1:324-25]

Mr. A. Jackson’s
Upper Terrace
Hampstead
N.W.
Oct 12/60

My dear
Did you ever think of Mrs. Sutherland as your Secretary to the “Ladies’ S. Ass.”? You might “comb out” the world, & not find a better.
But, you know Dr. Sutherland is so
extraordinary (in selfishness) that it is quite impossible to say whether he will consent. If you think well, the best way would be for you to write to him, (you who are a great favourite with him) I would explain to Mrs. S. (politely) why she is not written to.

If you have time & if it is good for Emily, would you drive down with her here some day? And would you tell me first what day, if any, that I may not tire myself too much not to see you? And would you spend £5 for me on something she would like to take with her?
It is not a very sentimental present (a fipun note) But I dare say she has “no end of ‘Church Services’”. And when I was a girl, I know I should have liked to have been “tipped” a “fipun” to spend on a Writing Case, or little Clock, or Travelling Bag, & to have chosen it myself.

ever your F.

You know all I think about W.B.C. & Bertha. I QUITE approve. But I wish she were not to live with Ly. C.

My dear

1. I think the way would be for YOU to write to Dr. Sutherland first - & say, (after your own “manner”) that Mrs. W. Cowper will call upon Mrs. Sutherland to ask her, if he consents. I think this would clinch the nail. Mrs. Sutherland to 41 Finchley New Road N.W.

2. The drawing is
not come (to me)
Perhaps you sent
it however to
Hilary.
3. I am very glad
   to hear of Sir Harry’s
   acceptance of the
   Lt. Colonelcy. He
   will do a great
   deal of good -
     If he wants
   a Clerk, I could
   recommend a
   Serjeant Major,
   leaving the Service

after 25 years’ good
character, with a
pension -
   But then he
has a family &
wants a place as
Steward in a
Civil Institution,
for which he is
competent -
   I only mention
this to shew
   1. his qualities
   2. the pay (expected.
I would send you
a specimen of his
calligraphy -
I have always multitudes of these kinds of men on my hands to recommend, as you may suppose, if ever you want them. This man is still in the prime of life - {4 words scribbled out} and is complete as to legs & arms -

Steward Hickie
Curragh Camp
Ireland
is his address - [end]

8998/37 initialed letter, 2ff, pen bundle 134

Hampstead NW.
Nov 20/60

My dear
I have been thinking & thinking to no purpose for a present for Edmund. Has he got a binocular field glass with case & strap to hang over the shoulder? All young Officers have these - If not, would he get one for me at Callaghan’s
23a New Bond St.
I am going to write a long letter to Sir Harry about the Hospital — merely as a protest. Mr. Carrington’s letter is very easily answered — I am going to send a plan. But I don’t hope for much from the Carrington —

ever yours

F.

Upper Terrace
Hampstead N.W.
Nov 23/60

My dear
Of course I meant George — And I know his name very well — Only my pen wrote Edmund —
If he likes to come down here on the 29th & have luncheon, (but I think it is hard to expect a youth to find time on the day of his departure
Wellcome 9001 200

to go to see an old aunt) we shall be very glad to see him.
Take care please that Callaghan sends the bill to me -
It should be a good glass - And for measuring purposes they have lines over the field of the glass - But for ordinary purposes, these lines are awkward.
ever your F.

8998/39 initialed letter, 4f., pen bundle 134

Dec 2/60
My dear
I am very glad you have Dr. Farre, who is by very far the first authority in Women’s Complaints, and who would be the Queen’s Accoucheur now (instead of Locock) I am told, if the thing were to be done over again.
You ought to give him a guinea each time, except for confinements. But as you have not done so, I would write him a civil little note before you go out of town this Wednesday, asking him what you ought to give him—and after, that, give him a guinea each time. Twice a week I once waited upon a private lady Patient, in a somewhat similar & much worse case, when he made an Examn & applied Caustic each time. And this is what we gave him. He cured her. I don’t know whether it will be a comfort to you (or the reverse) to know that in the large majority of the small number of my married friends suffer from nearly the same cause as you do—It appears to be now the commonest ailment—But most of them are cured—I should
say the uncommon case now is for a woman not to suffer in marriage. I liked George [1:714] much. Want of steadiness & vanity are written on his face. But, I there is more high purpose, more idea of doing the world’s work,

more knowledge of & interest in interesting things, than there was in all our boys at his age. I am afraid their highest idea, when they had one, was getting a high class at Cambridge. I thought him also

much more gentleman like than boys in general - even than boys in the Army, of whom I have seen a great deal. He asked me to write him any questions I wished to have answered, which of course I shall. Perhaps you will send me a proper direction.
Poor lad! he is going for 10 years. We have numberless Indian Returns already come in, of which he looked at some - ever your
F.

8998/40 signed letter, 3ff, pen bundle 134

Upper Terrace
Hampstead N.W.
Xmas Day /60

My dear Sir Harry
I am sorry that you are laid up - With regard to your Hospital kitchen: -
1. carry a tube or flue, one square foot in area, from the ceiling of the kitchen in the chimney stack up above the roof to act as a ventilator to remove fumes and heated air.
2: put a glass louvred ventilator ("Moore’s ventilator") into the upper window row of the kitchen window. It is of course better to put the kitchen where it can’t do any harm. And upon this principle we act in all our new
Hospitals.

But in old constructions we find this plan answer –

We have tried the plan for the end appurtenances of wards, indicated in your tracing and have not found it answer – Also the end bed is much disturbed by the passing to & fro into the Lavatory &c –

Something like the enclosed we are now doing. And I am going to send you a tracing of what we have decided upon for the new Woolwich Hospital upon the plan of the enclosed, which I think will prove perfect –

You have done so much in this new Bucks Infirmary that it would be a thousand pities not to have it quite perfect.

ever yours affectely

F. Nightingale
This is such a pretty letter I cannot help sending it you -
The rest is all about the Bucks Infirmary

F.N.

Xmas Day {arch: ?1860}
Upper Terrace
   Hampstead N.W.
   Dec 28/60
My dear Sir Harry
   I send you a tracing of the ends of our wards at the New Woolwich Hospital.
   - which, after many alterations, we have adopted as the best that could be contrived.
   Many thanks for your hamper -
   I sent the letters to Mr. Carrington and to Mr. Brandon, as desired -
   I am now doing a new Hospital at Lisbon for the King of Portugal to the memory of his Queen, by Pr. Albert’s desire. [The tracing I send you will be adopted there]
   I return Edmund’s letter, with many thanks. It is most
interesting.
   I hope that you will favourably consider a request, which is about to be made to you, that you will become a Member of the Council of the N. fund! It will not take up much of your time. And it will be a great favor, if you can grant it.
   I hope you are better ever yours affectely
   F. Nightingale

8998/42 initialed letter, 1f, pen black-edged paper bundle 134 [1:767]

Dearest mum {arch: 1860}
   It is quite impossible for me to see dear Mrs. Sutherland tomorrow at any hour. But would you shew her this note? -
   Nothing would induce me to take a maid recommended by Frances or any Bonham Carter - having had five of these "treasures" - who were absolute incompetents & worse.
   As Bertha & Beatrice have been in a perennial state of hunt for me, I don’t
anticipate much
from that.
Indeed & indeed, all
these have been
asked, & failed
over & over again.
But, as for poor
Frances, I positively
decline seeing any
body sent by her.
Marianne Galton is
the only person in the
family, whose
recommendation is
worth anything. Could
you dearest mum
ask her?
ever your loving child
F.

I never send anything but game, fruit
& flowers to Miss Jones - nothing, in fact,
except for her own eating - or pleasure.
All the rest is simply making a present to
the Hospital Treasurer -
Don’t you think it would be better to send
this/ your beautiful box to Mrs. Wardroper -
& then send what I have said above to
Miss Jones another time -
A parcel of game is coming here for me
from Lady Herbert which has unfortunately
gone thro’ London.
If you have any tenants to whom you
want to give game, & would take this & give
me game instead of it - it would save it
the third journey back to London.  
ever your
F.
I am so busy today. But if H.T. could come here at ½ past 6, I could at all events see her for a minute & appoint her again, when she could easily sleep here, if I like her. But I had almost made up my mind to keep the Bratbies ever yours FN Sat.

My dear

Please read this & send it on by this day’s post.

I think if you would enquire farther about Lady Rothes’ aunt’s maid, it would be well - ever yours

F.N.
My dear

Do not urge & press me about this -

You know I know

[illeg] very well

and I have now

seen a great deal

more of Neilson

than you can have

done -

I assure you

there are considerations

much too long to write

which make the

exchange proposed

impossible - with all thanks

F.N.

I think the chintz the prettiest

I ever saw -

I send a letter from the

K. of Portugal - which please

shew to Mama & send back
to me -

I don’t think it will
do for me to try any more

experiments with maids.

You see one knows as much

of an maid advertising in

the “Times” as of this one -

I want never te/ can only try again (not

because I want a maid

but) because a good maid

is to be had - if that ever

turns up.
Dear
I was waiting for you
to settle your day for
St. Thomas’s. If you will,
then write to Mrs. Wardroper,
& then come & see me
before - but not
tomorrow, as I am
busy. To-day, before
3, would do - for me.
I don’t think I
could see any more maids,
however, good - The choice
must lie between this &
those I have seen. F.N.

My dear
An excellent 2d. [1:325]
tract (in orange)
has been sent me,
by
Druitt “The
Health of the
Parish” which
tells people what
to do, how to do it,
whom to go to -
has been sent
me - in favor of

which I recall
my abusive
language against
the “Ladies’
Sanitary tracts.”
F.N.
Friday night
My dear
A Manchester
Statistical man is coming
here tomorrow to make/talk
acquaintance/ over Barracks at Manchester (Statistically)
with Dr. Farr & Dr.
Sutherland. I am obliged
to give him breakfast
at 10. And if you
would come (Aunt Mai
will not be here) to
make breakfast for
those three, while keeping
them to their business, for
which they come together, it
would be nice - yours F.

30 O. B St [1:325-26]
Sunday 14.
My dear
I am quite agreeable to try
the Cleopatra - if Mama is so
good as to wish to pay for it
and if I may reject it, when
tried, if found unsuitable.
I have been so pestered
with “treasures” of Invalid Chairs,
into which I could not get
& out of which I could not get
when I was in.
People seldom understand
that when I am incapable of
doing anything, I am in bed;
& that what I want, when up,
is an easy sofa, NOT on which
to loll but on which to do something - No chair or sofa
I ever had answers this require=ment - and the consequence is that I spend more time in bed than I otherwise should, because it is at once the place where only I am easy enough to do something. & where only I can lie when I can do nothing.

Please go & do the civil to Mr. Floris, the tooth=brush in Jermyn St, & thank him for his (really) beautiful flowers, which he will keep on sending me every week. They are many of them out=of=doors flowers, I think, because they have a scent

I should be GLAD to criticize Bp Potter’s Hospital =, if not too late. I never think I am too ill to do anything which comes in the way of business - Though I am much too unamiable to consent to people wasting my time in what some one else might do just as well.

I believe it to be the rarest (tho’ by no means the highest) talent, to be able to gather all the threads of a new subject, & put the knot on .them. In nothing has this struck me so much as in Hospital Construction - I have now received some hundreds of plans, chiefly by Architects, and said to be “founded on the principles
of my book” or to be “on the Pavillon or Lariboisière system.” The last but one (which was Bp Potter’s) was a Cathedral Church complete wards forty feet high, beds where the altars are in a R. Catholic Church [illeg] warranted perfect!!!! I don’t think it safe to be take a maid from the old Chieftainess But I am still on the look out And shall be glad to hear of any one safe. For many reasons I don’t think it will do to go on as we are now. ever yours F.N.

My dear I don’t know what to do about the new Sofa. It combines every disadvantage of a Sofa. The man will swear it is like the last - All I can say is, I had rather be without it. They say, Broadwood can never make 2 pianos alike. But I did not know this was the case with sofas.
I am afraid to try another, for fear it should be worse.
   I have put down its 4 major defects -
   You see, the defect of the original was that it was made to lounge upon not to work upon. But still it was so springy which this one is not at all it was very comfortable to my poor sore back -
   Now I can’t come down stairs to sit at all
   It is inconvenient to lean over all sofa arms to talk into Sutherland’s ear. But over this it is impossible.
   It is also equally impossible to sit or to lie upon it - to do anything. It shoots one off - It is stuffed so hard & so high.
   The legs could of course be cut down.
   But the back goes in at the bottom not enough to put a
pillow in & too much
to be any support.
   Besides just
what you want is
not to have to
arrange your/ any pillows.
   I am afraid it
is hopeless. It is such
an expenditure of my
strength to try new
things.
   Could he take the
old sofa & just shift
the arm? I don’t
care how ugly it looks -
Or I would have the
old sofa back to lie
on in my bed room -
that I may not be quite

{in the top margin of the first page}
so much in bed
   ever yours
   F.N.

Sofa
2 inches too high.
Stuffing not springy
but too much stuffed -
throws the Patient up
upon a hillock -
arm too wide, too
high, too large altogether
back, goes in at
the bottom just
where it out to go
out.
I am having a new gown made - precisely like the old one - an event which occurs once in 18 months - But if you should see a black silk skirt, suitable to me, without any trying-on to do, & would buy it for me, I am quite agreeable & grateful.

F.N.

I am told that the new Chapter “Minding Baby” in my 6d Notes on Nursing is very successful - I think myself it is the best thing I have done -

Sunday My dear If you and Mama like to come & see me today, name your hour - I am free all day F.N.

I have some papers of Sir Harry’s to return.
30. O B. St.

May 9

My dear Sir Harry

Could you lend me
or borrow for me

“Bingham’s Xitian Antiquities”

I should think

the “London Library” has it.

Please tell Parthe

that her arm=chair -

instead of being the

subject of my objurgation,

is the greatest comfort

of my bedroom

ever yours

F.N.

8998/56 list, 1f, pen, green paper bundle 134

pr week Nurse Smith

Wedy Nov 16

7 oz Tea

60 minims = I dram

= I tea=spoonful

1 oz. = two table spoonfuls

{upside down}

16 Nov Port 29 bottles

Sherry 38

Brandy 41

Hewer

Souls of the Sick

Seeley & Burnside

/6
green vine breakfast cup 1/9
tea 1/2
white & gold br 1/6
tea 1/
white embossed br. 1/6
tea 1/
Bedstead Iron &
Spring Mattress £3 16
Rheocline
without matrass £4 4
matrass 1 15
chests drawers (3) 1 5
(4) 1 13
Arm Chair leather 2 5
stuff 2 8
Hermetical pail £1 4
Pillow Sprake 7
Fisher 4/7

8998/57 unsigned note, 1f, pencil

A maid to wait upon me
& to take entire charge of
myself & of my tiny
household
   No person unused to
domestic service would
suit me.
30 Old Burlington St
London W
Jan 2/61

My dear Sir Harry

Please to consider
the tracing I sent
you (of the ends of
the wards) as a
bill for £25, which,
if not accepted by
the Committee, will
be dishonoured.

That blessed Commee.

is still haggling
about the “polished
Parian”. They want
to have oil paint.
Now paint requires re=newing, which costs
more. Paint is good,
varnished paint is
better, polished Parian
is best - I have
written to Mr. Brandon
about it; & asked
him to send on
my note to you,
for he, poor man,
I suppose, has no
power.
What you want to get into people’s heads is this -

Walls, floors & Ceilings may all be equally dangerous or equally safe - I know of no distinction -
People say, oh yes, the floors are walked upon - Not everywhere, not under the beds & tables.
Yet there is no Matron but would have these washed.
I would wash my walls just as often.

And the question is, how to make your walls & floors so that they can be washed with safety. Now paint is certainly saturable and damp-able - tho’ very much better than plaster. But to be safe it ought to be varnished - & varnish is very destructive - And In England deleterious substances are often put into varnishes & paints - Yours affectionately

[end]
F.N.
30 Old B St
Jan 18 {arch: 61} [16:590-91]

My dear Sir Harry

Mr. Rawlinson C.E.
and I are going to fight
the battle à outrance
for removing the &
rebuilding the Winchester
Infirmary.
I think I have
got the perfection
of a plan now,
which I invented
for one of our Regimental
Hospitals. It is on
the same principle
as your Bucks
Infirmary & as
a pencil sketch
I sent you & which
you have returned.
- but is, I think,
an improvement.
It consists of two
wings of two floors
of wards each -
with small wards
in front - but open
space between, up
to the door - kitchen &
offices pushed out
behind -
   Would you be so good as to tell me
the rough general estimate of your
plan, without the ground - and the
number of beds?
   This would help us much.
   Yours affectely
   F. Nightingale
Would you be so good
as to tell Parthe that
I have received a
request from a
celebrated man, Dr.
Ross, of Altona, thro'
a Dr. Lappenberg, of
Hamburg, to translate
my “Notes on Nursing”
into German - I
cannot help thinking
that poor Frances
Bunsen would be
very glad to be
relieved of it.
This is the fifth I
have had from good
German doctors -
I have forwarded
the letter to Mr. Clough
& asked him to
write to Parthe
Dearest mother

Would you send me up in the weekly box any spring vegetables, if it were only salad? Also, anything which Burton may have made for luncheon for that day - such as a fricassee, or a bit of chicken dressed in salad - or something sharp - (just as you would send to the poor people) only not rhubarb) & not potted meat)

Mrs. Gamp used to fold up a prong of vegetables like an umbrella & cram it into her pocket.

Such are the vegetables here -

Also, I should be ashamed if (in the worst of times) I had ever given my patients what they give me here - I am ashamed to write of nothing else.

ever dearest mother

Your loving child
March 13/61

My dear Sir Harry

If Count Zamoysky
wishes to study the
“Hospital & Medical
arrangements” of our
Army, the he might
perhaps like to look
at our new “Army
Medical Regulations”,
which have now
gone thro’ a two
years’ trial - and
are said to be the
first very best in
Europe -
I have turned
down the pages about
Hospitals, General
& Regimental - But
the Medical service
rules are on every
page -
And of our Army
Medical Service we
may now be justly
proud. I know
nothing like it in
Europe -
I also enclose
a copy of my
Confidential Report
to Lord Panmure -
the only copy I have
left. which must
excuse its dirt.
I have turned
down the pages
regarding Hospitals
in the fat Vol: The
thin Vol: is all about
Nursing & Sculleries
& such like - not
very interesting to
Count Zamoysky.
  He need not
return any of these
to me - the Regulations
he is quite at liberty
to do anything with.
The Confidential Vols:
I should be glad to
hear he had burnt
when done with.
  ever yours F.N.

{in the top margin of the first page}
If Count Zamoysky has any
questions to ask me, after
looking at the Regulations - I
should be very glad
to answer them.

8999/6 initialed letter, 2ff, pen, bundle 135, proofed and corrected here

March 15/61

Dear Sir Harry
  I have not a copy of the Army
Estimates by me - But the increase
of £40000 in the Hospitals is owing
to the part of the grant taken for
the new Woolwich Hospital.
  Pray do not oppose our Estimates
The fact is the choice has only
been between what we could
least afford to spare. We have
not had a single new Hospital
yet - Aldershot & Malta we
have given up both. And yet
a large part of our Mortality
has been traced to our wretched
Hospitals. But there were more
crying things still, such as Married
Women’s quarters &c. -
They were so alarmed at the size of the Estimates that the Comm. in Chief & others wanted to give up Woolwich Hospital. But Mr. Herbert stood firm & said he would have it. The old Woolwich Hosp. is the most beastly place - Any improvement in this respect is economy - For the life of the soldier is the most costly article - and of the Artillery soldier the most costly of all our troops - We are greatly disturbed by the small fight which Baring makes - e.g. as to our new grates last night.

I have only had a very good note from Mr. Brandon about the cost of the Bucks Infirmary - no Estimate. His note proves that a good County Hospl could be built for £80 to £100 per bed for 100 Patients - Because your lower floor might be converted into wards & your Offices pushed out behind, at a cost, my advisers tell me, of £1000 more. I should like to see the Estimate.

ever yours truly

F.N.

{arch: Mar 15v 62 -}
My dear

Mrs. Bennett was
the woman I saw who
struck me as so
capable, good &
managing. I would
have taken her
instantly if I had
been going to Hamp=
stead - But then
you know I have not
the least idea whether
she knows anything
about furniture or
about such a place
as yours - She struck
me like a person
who had not lived
as a servant de
bonne maison. But
she had long kept a
brother in law’s house
& family, who was
a Captain not in
H.M.’s service. And
the way she talked
about the children
was interesting.

Hilary knows her address & went to see one
of her mistresses I think
at Streatham and
would tell you more
of the kind of place
it was. She might
too be able to tell
you of others she
has seen for me.

8999/8 initialed letter, 1f, pen bundle 135

30 O.B. St
   April 10/61
My dear Sir Harry
   The Philadelphia Hospital
is a muddle of unintelligent
imitation. If not too late, I
would criticize it - But if it is
begun, it is too late.
   I send you one of the best
letters that ever has been written,
in which I have marked the
passage about “public schools”,
which Parthe alludes to. I
have quoted it in my no. 6 Edition
of Nursing (just out) p.11.
   Please to ask Parthe
what she knows of the enclosed
person - She said she came to
me from P. Please tell her
I don’t think the recommendation
of the Chieftainess worth much.
Please tell me Ld Dunsany’s
present direction.
As for Harrow, I feel just
as strongly as you do
about it. Everybody
knows that, if not
built on a hill, it
would be a pest house
In the same little no.6
book, I have said a
great deal about
public schools (towards
the beginning)
F.N.

8999/9 initialed letter, 3ff, pen bundle 135

30 Old Burlington St {printed address:}
W
April 20/61
My dear I shall be very
much obliged if you will
enquire after Mrs.
MacLeay’s person &
Sophy Barnes - 1. There
are no renseignemens
about S. Barnes at
all (in the letter) which
one could go upon -
2. Mrs. Ogilvy’s character
I should not think
much of by itself -
Mrs. MacLeay’s would
be the one -
With all my passion for youth, it is rather a jump from 50 to half that age - But I find there are no women of 30 this year I could see the girls (just to look at not to decide) if you liked it. Sunday about ½ p. I would do - It is quite impossible to me now to be interrupted either by letters or otherwise on the week day afternoon - I don’t know whether either girl is “to the fore”. Of course I don’t mean, “see them” together - 

Dear, if you “must observe that the hotel life complicates the question”, I must observe that the “having a place of my own” “complicates the question” also. Three
of my incapables had
to be dismissed for
no other reason than
that they were most
incapable when I had
“a place of my own” -
And one who was not
incapable, the most
hopeful I have seen,
dismissed me (on that
very account - viz. my being
in “a place of my own.”
There are 6 on one
side and half a dozen
on the other.

But I have no
passion for a “hotel life”

that I know of -
The sofa is lovely -
But alas! it is left=
handed. Its head is
the wrong way. I don’t
know whether to change
it (if it can be changed)
or to alter my place
in the room.

ever yours
F.N.
Dearest mother

I have sent you
by post two copies
of my new “Notes on
Nursing for the
Labouring Classes
Please give one to
Miss Daman as a
proof of the pleasure
her Verses have
given - & tell her
I hope she will like

the new Chapter on
“Minding Baby” - which
I was ordered to
write by a schoolmaster
of Peckham, Mr.
Shields, who had
made my book a
text=book for his
children - but and
said that the girls
went home and
removed dung=heaps
from before their
parents’ doors &
opened their parents’ windows at night, (to the great discomfiture of the latter -) but that the “strongest motive” was to tell the girls to do this for the sake of “Baby” - and so I must write a chap. about “Minding Baby”.

ever dearest mother
Your loving child
F.

A great part of the 2nd Chapter

“Health of Houses” and part of the first Chap. are also new = And I was thinking of the Lea Hurst cottages all the time I wrote them
F.N.

Ap 21/61

8999/11 signed letter, 2ff, pen [1:564-65]

30 Old Burlington St {printed address:}

W

April 22/61

My dear Sir Harry
I find that a kind intention has existed of suiting me with an apartmt in one of the Royal residences - but that, with a most entire ignorance of the work I am engaged upon, Kensington has been mentioned -
Without any kind of communication with me, (who am the only person, I suppose, who can know,) this place has been arranged - I might just as well have been given away in marriage without my own consent - for my work has been more to me than any marriage I have ever seen or heard of -

During the whole time of the sitting of Parlt. and of W.O. Commissions, I might as well give up my work at once as live at a place which entails nearly 8 miles (to & fro) from Whitehall.

During the remainder of the year, there are other spots near London which would suit me much better - as to health.

If the first question is returned to, I would state my requirements as to whereabouts I must live to work at all without, I am sure, thinking of begging from the Crown.

Please help me out of this scrape as fast as you can - ever yours sincerely  F. Nightingale
My dear Sir Harry

The Table with regard to Winton Hospital is an indictment on which the verdict must be “wilful murder”. Here are 24 poor creatures brought together to run the gauntlet of their lives, of whom 8 perish - This in 9 months - in a County Hospital - by no means the worst of its class of only 100 Patients. And this of disease contracted in the Hospital - the nature of the cases indicating the extreme risk run by the 16 who did escape with their lives - the being brought into

this fatal Hospital. The nature of the Table indicates that it is the ward construction & other causes which make foul the ward air, rather than deficient cubic space, which has produced this fine result. Depend upon it that other Hospitals, if as properly interrogated, could produce other Tables equally or more disastrous

That is one of the best tables I have ever seen. -

The question is - how what use I may make of it?

Because I might make such use, if it is not “Confidential”, that the Hospital authorities,
in order to avoid its being.
published against them, which
we might threaten them with,
would do anything we liked

Any how I mean to show it
to two or three great but
unbelieving Surgeons -
that Langdon is a very
clever fellow

ever yours
F.N.

8999/13 initialed note, 1f, pen, bundle 135

This was written to me
when the little Cloughs
left Hampstead. It
is due to you at
least as much as
to me. But I
never could find it
till today -
F.N.
April/61

8999/14 signed letter, 2ff, pen, bundle 137

30 O. B. St

Tuesday {arch: Jan. 1863}

My dear Sir Harry

I am very glad that you
think I am in no way committed
to the Kensington apartmt.
I had heard that the repairs
had been estimated for & that
it was not “etiquette to refuse a
Queen“. And the advice to me
was, Accept but don’t go if you
don’t like.

I think this would have been
an ungracious way of accepting;
and 2. from my indistinct remembrance
of the Apartmts, where I used
to go 100 years ago with poor Lady
Dunsany, I believe, from a very
rough calculation I made, it would be an actually greater expense to my father to have Kensington as my country house than Hampstead. For after Dec 1 both Sir Jas. Clark & Dr. Williams said (and I am of the same opinion) I should never be able to live another winter except in a dry London street. i.e. supposing I live in these parts at all. Therefore it curtails my residence at Kensington to four months at most.

I like your expression - the work which God has given me. It gives me strength to see that it is right to resist the urging of very dear friends for what I conscientiously & deliberately have perceived to be necessary for doing the work. - one the details of which no one can know, not even those who lived with me - They do not know how the accidental knowledge which comes to me from being always on the spot continually makes the most important differences in causing to succeed in what would otherwise fail. - How can I tell them what these “knowledges” are?

ever yours sincerely

F. Nightingale
A plague on all French & German translators! I wish it were Ash Wednesday that I might “cuss”-
Could you write to F. Bunsen & send by book post the enclosed, saying that “Minding Baby” is new & a part of “Health of Houses” &c - that Frau Hauptmann v. Sierakowski of Ehrenbreitstein wants to translate it, aided by her brother, a Doctor, Jocke of Coblentz. - that I tell her, F. Bunsen, in case she should want to get rid of it - but I shall simply tell the Sierakowski to whom I have given it. This is the fifth to whom I should have liked
to have given it
who has asked me.
Besides which I
could have had
it translated by a
German Doctor in
London, whose name
would have carried
it all over Germany.
I could have
written another book
with the trouble
this vain correspondence
has given me.
But I wished
so much that the
translation should
be done by a woman
I am just in
the same predicament
about my French
translation still.
While that good
little Sabilla Novello
got out my Italian
one a year ago
with no trouble
to me or to any one
F.N.
May 1/61
30 O. B. St
May 7/61
My dear Sir Harry
I send you two copies of my Statistical Hospital paper - with the additions of the Stat. Congress -
Perhaps you will be good enough to send one of these to Mr. Ceely.
They have been sent officially by the Congress to most Hospitals with a letter -
ever yours
F.N.

My dear Sir Harry
I should be very sorry, if Ct. Zamoysky thinks that I could be of the least use to him with regard to his Hospital arrangements not to do it.
Just now however it is totally impossible - I have only been dressed once during the last fortnight - and I have been forced to decline seeing even my "masters".
On Whitsunday IF Ct. Z were [May 19] in town, I might be better & would see him at 3 o’clock, if I could &
he wished it.

Please tell Parthe that I am sorry for all the trouble about the sofa - I feel quite sure that I had better have the old original one sent me back directly. For very soon I shall not be able to lie on sofas at all - This is almost the case now - And I have a great dread of trying a new thing again, which never answers.

The girl who came yesterday pleased me much. But she had evidently not the least idea of the kind of Invalid place mine was - Mrs. McLeay (now in the Hotel) whom she thinks an Invalid, is one of the gayest & most flighty hypochondriacs in London - in bed one day & at a ball the next.

Thank you very much for your help to Capt. P. Jackson. I wish Miss B. Coutts would have helped us with money.

ever yours
F.N.

8999/18 incomplete, unsigned letter, 2ff, pen bundle 135

30 Old Burlington St {printed address:}

W

May 25/61

My dear Sir Harry Verney

As my name has been dragged into a discussion before the Committee of Winchester Infirmary, with reference to a request that the fact (almost unparalleled in a Civil Hospital) of the enormous mortality from Erysipelas in that Infirmary
might be used as a proof of the absolute necessity of shutting up the present building as soon as possible - and as the Committee have declined to grant such permission - I feel bound at least to enter my protest against the continuance of such a state of things for one moment longer than necessary to provide new buildings.

The Table viewed in any way is a sentence of condemnation of the existing building. What can you call it but a pest-house, - when a number of people are exposed to the risk of fatal illness from a special Hospital disease, while several have been literally killed off-hand.

The Question for the County is - whether this is to be allowed to go on? Are we Hampshire people to go on tolerating an Institution which sends a number to their graves by a disease which I, with my Hospital experience, know need never appear at all in a well-constructed
30 O. B. St
May 26/61
My dear Sir Harry
I am most happy to be able to say that, before I received the Resolution of the Winchester Infirmary in favor of having Erysipelas within their walls, I had already shewn their table to most of the eminent Surgeons in London - & given it to the Registrar-General. I have arranged with him that he should only use it thus - He is to call for the Winchester Infirmary Deaths - which are just coming in. He will see that they are too many. And you will then be all struck with astonishment at the unfailing sagacity and at the unerring law with which he will make out the excess of Deaths from Erysipelas - & all upon your paper which he is not to see - I send you a note which you can forward or not as you think best to the Winchester people who prefer Erysipelas - I have had the Statistics of St. Thomas’s Hospital ransacked by the Resident Medical Officer who was also always in the wards besides. And I find that in this, one of the largest Hospitals
& one of the worst situations in London, the comparison with a small Infirmary in one of the healthiest Counties in England stands thus:

St. Thomas’s 1860 12 months
500 beds upwards of 450 constantly filled
Occurred in Hospital
Erysipelas 13 cases no death
Admitted 72 cases Phlegmonous & simple Erysipelas
of which (phlegmonous E.) 3 died

Winchester 1860 9 months
120 beds
Occurred in Hospital
Erysipelas 24 cases 8 deaths
And possibly they did not admit any, while St. Thomas’s admits 72 cases of this (said to be) most infectious disease.
It is you know wilful murder.

ever yours
F.N.

I am going to shew the Winchester Resolution in favor of Erysipelas to the Registrar General. It is quite as strong a case against them as the facts themselves - or rather it completes the case against them
June 3/61

Mother dear

Will you ask Dr. Fowler in what way to suspend my bed or sofa in a “swing”, since, if I am to be swung at all, it must be in my bed? & in what way to enable a person, who cannot bear even the shock of being shaken by the left hand, to bear the motion of a swing?

Truly it seems that there are others in their 2nd childhoods besides Dr. Fowler.

If I am to derive sleep from cowslip tea, I am afraid I must wait till next year, since cowslips are over -

Also, if from
bathing the head with cold water, I ought to have been asleep for years.
When Montgolfier tried his balloons, he used to send up his cat in them. I think I will try my cats first, specially in the “swing”.
Will you ask Dr. F. whether he thinks a person, whose sleeplessness is occasioned by spasmodic action of the heart - upon which, with very little effect, has been tried for two years - by the first Doctors: -
Opium -inside & out,
Codeia, Henbane
Jeremy’s Camphor
Battley’s Lettuce
Belladonna, Assafoetida
Hop
Morphia Aether &c &c &c
Sumbul &c &c &c
Chlorodyne Salvolatile
will be much
benefited by Cowslip
Tea?
Would Cowslip Tea
put a woman “in
labour” to sleep? the
cases are analogous:
 tho’ the spasm is
 in a
different part.
It all comes of
the extreme folly of
no one asking (and
no one does ever ask)
What are the real
symptoms, what
the cause of sleeplessness
or - as the case may be.

I am very glad you
have kept the little
Galtons -
That Gwendolyne
is a sweet little thing
I had it at Hampstead.
ever dear Mum
your loving child
F.
Mother dear
I find people
so totally ignorant
as to my condition
that sometimes -
once in a way -
I think it worth
while to explain it.
I send you
therefore the enclosed
please return
it to me by return
of post - please
shew it to Papa -
please allow no
copy to be made
of it.
ever dear Mum
Your loving child
F.

My dear Sir Harry
I hear that Col Gilpin & others are going to
assail the Sanitary
vote (Army Estimates)
in the House -
I think that these
men can hardly know
what they are about.
To assail the Sanitary
vote is to wish
that the men should
sleep in foul air - should cease to have improved lavatories, water=closets & cooking - &c
They cannot know how the Mortality is already diminished to nearly one half where these improvements have been introduced.
They cannot know that it is going against the sense of the House - expressed in answer to a motion of Lord Ebrington’s in favour of this Sanitary vote.
If it is against Capt. Galton’s grates, (ventilating & warming & saving fuel) the only objection that has ever been made to them is in course of being successfully obviated.
Can you help us? Or help Baring to fight the battle?
We have not neglected in the Indian Sanitary enquiry your son’s complaint about the (too) late drills, parades, & marches in the morning -
It was one of our questions.
And I send you a specimen of our
replies - (about a twentieth part)  [end]

You will see under Head VII
“Dress, accoutrements & Duties” - (Sub=head Duties) of each Station, the replies to the questions we put on this point. In most instances, the wise thing seems actually done. In no one instance is it not recommended. It is small comfort this, if it is ever neglected.

But we believe we shall be able effectually to put an end to this evil at least.

ever yours
F.N.

8999/23 initialed letter, 4ff, pen bundle 135

30 Old Burlington St
W
June 9/61
My dear Sir Harry
I think that you will like to see our Return from Umballa, as your son is there - altho’ in M.S. only. The Abstract, made as the other printed Returns I have sent you, is not come back from “Revise”. I must ask you to send me back this Return immediately, as, being an important Station, we mean to have the plans lithographed for our Report. You will see by a glance at the “Cantonments” plan that it comprises the best (the echelon) & the worst arrangement of Barracks -  [end 9:196]
I will ask you to let me have the pointed (sewn) copy at your convenience - I indeed congratulate you on the universal recognition of Admiral Hope’s merit. I remember having a tough battle with Lord Herbert about it some time ago. And I was pleased when the other day, without remembering this, he said of him just what all the world thinks about him now -

I cannot say what I feel about Cavour - the most valuable life in Europe - His was the cord which kept the stone on the mountain side. The cord is cut - There are none to succeed.

I hope that Sir James Hudson may take the great part & be as it were Prime Minister of Italy -

I should indeed like to see Sir Hope Grant - But on the eve of his departure can hardly hope that so great a man will give me a few minutes of his time - And I such a poor creature that I can hardly name a time -

I should like to be allowed to give him the printed Abstract of all such Stations within his Presidency as we have ready - Because these will certainly not be published for a year - And he can only have them now through me -

The results we have as yet obtained could be told him in five minutes: they are few & striking:

1. the necessity of combining in the Stations the requirements of Military occupation & of health. [People have accused the Indian Sanitary Commission of neglecting the
There are certain unhealthy Stations which must be kept, as e.g. Allahabad. But in these Stations everything seems to have been done, as by fate in a Greek tragedy, to make the Station as unhealthy as possible, even if it had been placed on Salisbury plains.

There are other Stations which must be kept - as in the Punjab - but where by moving the Cantonment, e.g. to the top of the bank instead of the bottom, health might be secured.

There are other Stations where a removal of 5 miles would make all the difference to health & none to the Military position.

It is principally in Sir John Lawrence’s (late) kingdom that we find Stations which must be kept (militarily) but which certainly much might be done to improve (Sanitarily) without moving them an inch.

2. The second point is this local improvement of Barracks & Cantonments, without moving them an inch.

The total neglect of all means of drainage &c is such that one would think each planner of these/Stations had fancied himself a Robinson Crusoe who might leave everything to drain off into the vast ocean around him, without caring a doit for any body else - there being no other inhabitant in the known world but Friday. And poor Friday, the native, comes off
very badly.

We meet constantly with this remark - “these queries apply only to Europeans. No reply.” It is not the least necessary for natives to have any of the requisites for life or for exercising any one of its functions in a healthy manner.

And when they have said “Caste” - tout est dit. “Caste” justifies the absence of air; water, light, drainage, cleanliness, care in Hospital &c &c &C

“P.G.” (Patrick Grant ) makes some very racy & stern remarks here & there, on the laisser aller of his Officers. no one of whom will ever allow that everything has not been done to make the Station “as healthy as possible”.

3. The third point which comes out strongly is - the necessity of bringing the Indian canteens under the same or similar regulations. of/as English canteens - of putting down the sale of spirits in the Bazar by the strong hand of power - which can be done & has been done.

4. the necessity of providing work-shops, covered grounds for athletic exercises, & every means to save the men from eating (!) drinking & sleeping away the hot & the rainy seasons.

5. the necessity of providing well-lighted & comfortable & attractive Reading rooms & Day rooms, &c

And how soon this “pays”! These five points, no doubt already well known to Sir Hope Grant, are really all that I should like his attention to be drawn to.
I will, if he will allow me, send him out the first Draft of the Report, when written. I should also like to be allowed to give him, before he goes, our (English) Barrack & Hospital Sanitary Report. It is not yet presented to Parliament, and I have only had 6 Copies as yet. But I am going to send you one & Sir Hope Grant one if I may. I wish we were going to keep him in England & have him at Aldershot. This was Lord Herbert’s desire, who is one of Sir Hope Grant’s most ardent admirers. But I suppose we ought not to grudge such a man to poor India.

Yours affectely
Florence Nightingale

30 O. B. St
June 11/61
My dear Sir Harry
The view Bp Potter takes of America is very comforting. I have heard it before from eminent Americans - viz that she was getting into a sordid spirit - & wanted rousing - & that this disruption was after all a blessing. The same view which was taken of us, when our Crimean disasters began & which I believe after all was true.
As for the Hospital, if it is to be pursued on that plan; it is quite hopeless - I have constantly experienced this - to have a plan sent me which I was told was made (part for part) after my “Instructions”
& which had not one single essential feature of them in it.

I will send them a copy of our Barrack & Hospital Sanitary Report - if you will kindly take charge of it.

But criticism is useless - the more so as they do not say whether the foundations are not all already in.

This change of wind is very favourable to your daughter - and I trust will take away all the risk of her return.

Yours affectionately

F.N.

8999/25 initialed letter, 1f, pen [1:708] bundle 135

30 O. B. St
June 14/61

My dear Sir Harry

I hear that Baring intends to bring on the Sanitary” Vote tonight.

I send a “tip” (£1) to my (step=) nephew Freddy - believing that “tips” give a great deal of pleasure - which people do not think enough of giving in this life - & do very little harm. If it were not so near the holidays, it should be more -

I hope your daughter is pretty well -

Please tell P. Yours affectionately that Mme Mohl is at 40 York Terrace, Regents Park now.
Dearest mother

Do you know that
Mme Mohl is in town
40 York Terrace
Regents Park
You will most likely
wish to ask her.
Could you send me
by next box my
little old poetry book
which used to be on
the shelf in your bed
room.
I will return it
to you - There is only
one poem I wanted
to look at.
Send me Forget
me nots by next
box. A beautiful
nosegay is Forget
me not, Scarlet
Geranium, White
Rose or Seringa
& reminds me of
Italy & our hopes -
They are her colours
- plus the blue,
which stands there for
eternity.  [end 1:149]

ever dear Mum
your loving child
F.

Are the water lilies
out?
June 22/61
I cannot forbear writing a word about [illeg] case, tho’ it is no use -
To manufacture a case of Scurvy in luxury in London requires such an inordinate amount of effort - so nearly unprecedented - that it seems worth a word -
And this woman aspires to superintend Nurses [illeg] College Hospl; & writes me dogmatic letters about nursing.
Tell her to “live cleanly”, as Shakespeare says - Living without vegetables is living uncleanly.
My dear, I come from scenes of miserable suffering, valiantly fought against: I have not one particle of sympathy or pity for suffering manufactured -
Scurvy is unknown in London - even among the poorest. Do you know why? Because they have the sense [illeg] has not. They take water-cresses with their tea -
It is absolute nonsense & stuff to say as she does: that she cannot take vegetables, lemon juice or acids.
It is her own fault or her cook’s or her greengrocer’s if she cannot. I am not so old a Nurse to be taken in in that way.
Many people have said that; & have recovered by eating raw salad - slowly - & without a load of food at the same time - at dinner with a little cold meat & a glass of wine
Or by taking a glass of
hot lemonade -
  Or by taking a bunch of grapes,
fasting, at 6 o’clock in the morning.
  Or by taking cooked fruit.
  Or by finding out that the
vegetables they thought they could
not take were not properly
cooked -
  But the bunch of water cress
at tea (with GOOD butter with
their bread) is the best of all

The universal reasons **which why**
people fancy they can’t take fruit
or vegetables are
1. that they take them with
too much other food
2. that they are not properly
cooked
3. that they take too much
   at a time.
4. that they take them at
   improper times, as at
dessert &c or with cream,
   trifle, or ice.

I told one of my Doctors of the
case, & told him that it was
a person who aspired to reform
Nursing.
  I never shall forget his ecstasy
“A manufactured case of Scurvy
I must see it. I must see it.
Do tell me where it lives. I never
saw but one manufactured case
of Scurvy - on board a Gang ship.
The most curious & interesting thing I ever heard
of.”

My dear, I would put such
cases in the Ho: of Correction &
make them eat what is put
before them or starve. But here
is a woman who has manufactured
a case of starvation.
   F.N.

Scorbutic Diarrhoea (which is what most
people fancy makes vegetables, for them,
unwholesome) is universally
cured by vegetables.
June 22/61
I should like to hear
more of your woman
the butler’s wife. I need
not tell an experienced
Matron like you that
the objection is: that
you have all your
gossip carried thro’
the husband into
another house –
A curious instance
of this happened to
me at Scutari; in
which it was discovered
that my dear Mrs.

_____ actually wrote
to her husband in
the Coldstreams that
I was in love with
Dr. McGrigor - and
farther that I went
back to Scutari from
the Crimea, when
Cholera broke out
at Scutari, because
Dr. McG. had it & died.
I have sometimes
thought that, should I
go back to Hampstead
I would set up with
Mrs. Bennett or some
such woman and
a girl under her -
to wait upon me.

But this plan,
which is usually
suggested to make
two ineffectives do
the work of one
effective, never
answers unless the
one at the head is
really effective.

The cruel failure
of all our poor little

household at Hampstead
will never be forgotten
by me -
I have sent down
to the W.O. to know
more particulars
about the death of
that Cold Guards
private on the March
to Guildford. Perhaps
if there is material
to put a question
in the House, Sir
Harry will put it.
Because this is a
case entirely preventable
by our "Regulations" -
And either Commanding
or Medical Officer is entirely responsible for that man’s death.

F.N.

The Floris brothers, tooth=brushes in Jermyn St, who send me flowers (I think they are R. Catholics) have each lost their eldest son by the upsetting of a boat last Tuesday. I wish you would drive there & say how much concerned I am - & how I wish to know how the families are - & I should like, if I may, to send them a print.

F.N.

8999/29 unsigned letter, 1f, pen, 2 copies in bundle 135

Friday
30 Old Burlington St {printed address:}

W

June 24/61

1. With what dress and accoutrements the Detachment of Guards was marched to Kingston, Guildford on its way to Aldershot?

2. The name of the Commanding Officer by whom the march was ordered & conducted

3. The name of the
Medical Officer in charge - with copy of representation made, if any, to the Commanding Officer, on the probable effect of the such march upon health of troops.

8999/30 initialed letter, 1f, pen {in another hand: Jun 24.61}

30 Old Burlington St {printed address:}

W.

My dear Sir Harry

Pray don’t trouble yourself at all about the unfortunate French translation of my “Notes”.

It does not trouble me in any way, except that I should be glad it were done - Mme Mohl is so conversant about the kind of thing that I think it would be better to take her advice, whatever it is.

F.N.
My dear Sir Harry
   I am going to write
about a strange thing
for me to do. But
I have tried the
War Minister in vain.
   It has occurred
to me that the “Society
for the Suppression of
Vice”, whose offices are
in Lincolns Inn Fields,
might do something
for us - & that you
would be the person
to find it out.
   Both at Aldershot
& at Chatham illegal
facilities to prostitution
are offered by publicans
to soldiers. E.g.
publicans sell a 1d.
drink for 4d., for which
the man receives a
ticket which admits
him to the superior
brothel, or 3d. which
admits him to the
inferior brothel both
on the publican’s own premises.

Or, publicans keep prostitutes as their domestic servants.

Commanding Officers are well aware of these facts & deplore them far more than our Cabinet Ministers do - But they are not generally men of much resource - And they say they cannot bring the magistrates to act against these practices - not because of the law, but because the magistrates refuse to act.

I suppose the Home Office could make them act.

I will not enter more into facts, till I know from you, what, if anything, can be done -

Of course the Parish interests arrayed in favour of these publicans are
very strong. It is a very thriving trade. It appears to me so shocking that the Government should be actually providing Lock Hospitals in order to enable its prostitutes to continue their profession - & will do nothing to prevent it - that I have thought whether private hands could do nothing.

It is a fact that I have been lately requested to make plans for a Hospital at Devonport, where Lord Herbert’s ten prostitutes and the Duke of Somerset’s fifteen, are to be comfortably accommodated - in illness - for the Army & Navy respectively.

Your affectely
F. Nightingale

And this when we have to beg & sue to get Hospital accommodation for honest wives of Soldiers.
30 O B. St  
July 18/61
My dear Sir Harry

I enclose a letter from Capt. Jackson - true evidence as to the state of Aldershot, - which may be of use to you in the interview with Sir G. Lewis.

I can corroborate Capt. J.’s assertion that there is nothing to compare among the young unmarried workmen of even the great seaports of England with the Army for immorality & disease.

Surely then something might be done - It cannot

be said, “It can’t be helped.”

Major Dishon at Chatham who commands one of the Depot Battalions there, would give you the best information in your enquiry as to the recruits.

Capt. Jackson is here in this house at this moment - and I enclose a fact he has written down, which is worth all the rest -

He would go with you to Sir G. Lewis, if you thought his evidence would be of any use -
I am so struck with the helplessness of our Clergy in this matter.
A clergyman at Aldershot has written in the "Times" & to me repeatedly on this subject. And his remedy is to found a Dispensary !!!! for these wretched women -
I will answer the rest of your kind letter tonight
Please return to me both Capt. Jackson’s documents at your convenience.

Yours sincerely
F. Nightingale

Berington’s Knapsack was recommended for trial by the R.C. on the San=y State of the Army. It was tried at several stations - but, by want of arrangement, the invention was not there to instruct the men in adapting it. He does seem to have been to blame for this, not as he appeared; but the trial was put off & took place without him.
The trials were made against another Knapsack - And the Reports are more favourable apparently to this other than to Berington’s. On being examined however, the evidence is by no means conclusive on this point.
The only thing to do is to have another trial, with Berington present. T.O.
Private

The principle of Berington’s Knapsack we all admit. But we do not think it efficiently carries out its own principle - tho’ better than the old one - We hope still for a better.

N.B. Berington is the Patentee It was invented by a Medical man.

I have a Statement about Berington’s knapsack for Sir Harry. which I will send as soon as I can.

I shall have two statements for him (Aldershot & Chatham) ready on Wednesday or Thursday, before he goes to Sir G. Lewis.

8999/33 initialed letter, 4ff, pen bundle 135

Hampstead [1:327-28]

London NW

Aug 7/61

My dear/ You see I am come here. It is very pretty & sunny & quiet. It is five years today since I began the work which my dear master’s death has ended -

Oh my dear master - my dear master. That he should have been taken & I left - He who could do so much with me - And I who can do nothing without him.

His last articulate words were for me. He said more than once,
“Poor Florence and our unfinished work”
Oh he was better than us all.
His was a great simplicity.
His family have been very kind, writing me all the particulars, several times — And SHE telegraphed to Williams (the very day) to come & tell me — But no one understood & knew him but me — No one loved & served him like me —
He did not die happy, as they said. He knew that he could not say, It is finished. He died with a cheerful resignation to God, which was heroic, because he knew that he had no more work in him. If he had died as they said, it would have been only selfish, to go to heaven himself & leave us in the storm. But his was the
purest ambition I ever knew - the purest heart. And I don’t think anyone understood this like me -
Up to the day fort=night of his death he struggled on - oh he was dying then - to do his work. His last official acts were to write the instructions I had written for him. And I did not see them till after his death - He tried at the last to do what I asked him. And it was too late.
But he never said, as they say he did, that he had “re=organized the War Office and a child could complete it.”
On the contrary
Disappointment that it was with himself not done nor even begun hastened his end.
I have written an article on him, at Gladstone’s request. I don’t know where it appeared - I have stopped all the newspapers
& not seen one since
his death. I knew
him so much better
than any one else did. I
cannot bear to see his
qualities & his faults
t travestied. And
nothing would distress
him so much as to
take credit for things
which were not done.

Oh what have
these two years not
ravaged in my life.
Unless Dr. Sutherland
were to turn into an
Ourang outang, I don’t
know what there is
left to happen to me -

Send this to Papa.
But don’t copy it.
You will see that it
must not come round
to his family in any
way.

F.
Do not ask about the
Article - Gladstone &
I have been corresponding
about him. And this
must not be known.
I dare say it will
come back to me. And
then I will send it
you -
I have also closed my paper for the Dublin “Social Science’ Meeting with a little tribute to him - oh how much more he deserved than all we could say - but I don’t think I could have finished my paper except to do this (at Dublin where he was so known & so well loved)

Also, at my request, the new magnificent Woolwich Hospital is to be called after him “Exegi monumentum aere perennius” he may say: I don’t believe any man ever was so loved -

Hampstead NW
Sept 12/61
My dear Sir Harry
I will answer Sir William Heathcote’s note first:
1. Mr. Rawlinson’s Report entirely settled the question of the Winchester Hospital - The sub-soil is tainted beyond the power of cure. The construction & internal arrangements are as bad - In 9 months in a Hospital of only 100 -120 beds, they
cause 24 unfortunate creatures to run the gauntlet of their lives with Erysipelas - of whom 8 die - a circumstance wholly unprecedented in my experience of Hospital massacres - excepting at Scutari during a short period. So that Winchester aspires to rival the most colossal calamity of history in its small way.

In a London Hospital of 500 beds, badly situated by the river, in the 12 months of 1860, only 13 cases of Erysipelas occurred in the Hospital and without a single death - whereas 72 cases of Erysipelas, simple & phlegmonous, were admitted in the same period, of which 3 only died (all of the latter severe form, when admitted)
To the tainted sub=
soil alone the
Winchester deaths
cannot be referred -
but to the other errors
matters of its
construction also -

The Winchester
Hospital Committee
is therefore going to
meet to discuss
whether they shall
try to do a thing
which is impossible -
or whether they shall
not rather do what
is in accordance with
common sense -

2
They are going to
consider whether they
can make a Hospital
which killed 8 people
by Erysipelas alone,
kill fewer in future -
or whether they should
not build a Hospital
where Erysipelas will
not shew its face -

Judging by what I
know about the present
building, I have no
hesitation in saying
that, if they try their
hands at “adaptation”,
they will fail & not
only throw away their money, but kill more Patients, before they finally make up their minds to give up a site & building where sick ought never to be placed - Hampshire should have as good a Hospital as any county in England. And why in these days men should even raise the question of preserving the present building passes my comprehension. I understand that Lord Ashburton will give £1000 towards a new Hospital if built upon a new site. If not, nothing. I would gladly give what I can out of my own earnings, which would be £50 & might be £100 - and I believe my father would give as much more - And I would
gladly revise & consider the plans for a new building, if desired to do so. But I should be guilty of that crassa ignorantia which lawyers tell me is a ground of verdict of manslaughter, if I helped the Committee in any way to repeat experiments on the sick poor -

Captain Galton is now building a Pavilion Hospital

3 (60 beds) for a Regiment at £70 per bed - with every modern appliance - the more extraordinary in cheapness as the number of beds is so few -

The Pavilions are end to end as in your new Bucks Infirmary - 2 wards of 28 beds & 2 of 2.

It will become cheaper to build good Hospitals than bad -
With regard to Sir W. Heathcote’s other questions

2. I send him by post today (to save time) a copy of my “Notes on Hospitals” 2nd Edit.

But will you tell him that I am at this moment employed by Parker to write a Third Edit. leaving out all the Crimean part - & adding to all the construction = & arrangement parts which refer to all Hospitals - And I shall be undone if he does not return me my copy (at his convenience) - as this Edit. is entirely out of print - And, strange to say, the War Office continually refer to me for information out of it.

The Report of the Barrack Commission, in speaking of Military Hospitals, really refers to all, as far as construction goes -
But I shall be most happy, when it comes to building, to say in what internal arrangements consists the difference between Civil & Military Hospitals, Hospitals where both sexes are, & all nurses are female, & Hospitals where adult men only are Patients, & all or most of the Nurses are men—Otherwise, that Report is a capital guide.

4

3. I know of no better “authority” than Mr. Rawlinson on the points on which he has already reported. And he “examined the Hospital on the spot.”

When it comes to construction, I am sure that Dr. Sutherland, either with Mr. Rawlinson or alone, will gladly “examine any sites which may be suggested & advise.”

I wish that Sir
W. Heathcote’s letter had come one day earlier - as Dr. Sutherland & Capt. Galton have just sailed for the Mediterranean Inspection. But I regret this the less, as, having fully discussed the subject of the removal of the Winchester Infirmary with Dr. Sutherland & Mr. Rawlinson, I am able to say that Dr. Sutherland declared that “nothing would induce him to have any hand in recommending any alterations in the present building on the present site.” And, if he “were to ‘examine the Hospital ‘on the spot’ twenty times” (he has inspected it) “he could not say otherwise.” I know no authority in Europe to compare with that of Dr.
Sutherland in the Sanitary Construction of buildings - & the inspection of sites.

He will be home early in November or before - And I will let you or Sir W. Heathcote know -

Finally, I repeat, I shall be too glad to advise, criticize & consider any Draft plans which may be sent me - but only for a new building on a new site.  

Thank you very much for all you have done for Robert Robinson. I have had a very sensible letter from him. And he seems to appreciate, as he ought, the advantage of learning under Lord Berners. who appears very kind & judicious in his management.

Some months ago, I received, I think through you, a little
book called “Village Sketches” by Mr. Whitehead, the clergyman of Gawcott, Bucks -  
  If so, would you be good enough to tell him that that chapter on Evening Clubs & on the necessity of making them easy-going, smoking, innocent-gaming places for the wild young men, because it is these you want to catch & not the steady married or reading men, is just our experience with the Regiments - & that we have been successful, just in as far as we have done this - but we find plenty of light & a little cheap decoration in the furniture way, besides tea & coffee, necessary to cope with the public-houses. (Our men pay) If £5 would be of any use to him to add to his games, I would gladly send it - And I will beg for another copy, as I have given away mine. [end 15:449]

Believe me
  affectionately yours
Florence Nightingale
Miss Mayo’s
Oakhill Park
Hampstead NW
Sept 17/61

My dear
I hope you will bring
Emily to spend the day here,
if you have time. Friday or
Saturday would suit me
very well - If Mlle v. Zeschau
or any body else likes to come
to; - it will not hurt me -
The house is large - And we
can give you luncheon -
And the heath is within a walk
of 10 min.
I did not know that Dr.
Williams was come back. But
of course you have ascertained
this.

Thanks many about South St.
The objection to me would
be the having to move - &
to move just at the time
when it is most difficult
to find a house. But I
may still be glad to avail
myself of your kindness -
tho’ not till November 1,
at all events.
Did Sir Harry have two letters from me about the Winton Infirmy - on/dated the 12th & the 14th. I must say I was "stumped" by Sir W. H. writing for "information & advice" - He just made me write all Mr. Rawlinson’s Report & my own book over again. Has he not read Rawlinson’s Report? I was very near advising that they should have Rawlinson down again. The whole matter was settled as far as it could be settled by "information & advice". then ever yours

F.N.

8999/36 unsigned letter, 4ff, pen bundle 135

Hampstead NW [16:599]
Sept 25/61
My dear Sir Harry
I don’t know that I have any more to say about these terrible trees. It is obvious that one ward will not be affected by them - but that the others will. But as they do not appear to grow
in a thick wall/line or Screen, & as they are to the North, it seems to me that, if necessary to cut down any, the cutting down of one or two at most would do - And I can only say again what I did before that I could not take upon myself, from what I know, to advise the cutting of these fine trees.

But that, in the course of the winter, I could send some body to look at them. And the Committee could then decide which, if any, need be sacrificed.

As I understand, the situation is an airy one - and rather exposed than the contrary. This makes all the difference.
Pray do not suppose that I said I had “rather Sir W. Heathcote should write to me.” On the contrary, I had rather he wrote to you, but for the trouble to you - As it is, I am quite agreeable, if he likes to write direct. That is to say, I shall be very disagreeable if he does not carry the removal of the Hospital

[2]

But what I want to ask you is this. A Meeting of the Ladies’ Sanitary Assocn. is to be called on Friday - to eject Miss Powers, if possible. But it is doubtful whether they will get a quorum - Of course, if Parthe could come up, it would be better - But, if not, would she do, as Mrs.
Cowper has done, furnish Mrs. Sutherland with a strong & business-like letter, expressing her opinion. The letter had better be addressed, as inclosed - when Mrs. Sutherland, as Co-Secretary, will open it; & there must be no delay in sending it.

Mrs. Cowper’s letter was to the effect that she hoped the severe, tho’ inevitable, lesson of dismissal might do Miss Powers some good. [She is really out of her senses] She began giving trouble last year. And this year she has done nothing for the Society - no work - but give trouble & write insane & impertinent letters.

It is important that Parthe’s letter should be strong &
business=like. For
Isa Craig, another
of the Committee,
has written the
weakest letter I
ever saw - wishing
to keep Miss Powers,
out of pity! for her
wild unreasonableness.
What I want to know is, Is the
object of the Association
to be a Lunatic
Asylum to “keep
Miss Powers” from
becoming “more
morbid than ever.”

8999/37 signed letter & envelope, 3ff, pen
postmarked : London 2 OC 7 61

Hampstead
London NW
Oct 7/61

My dear Sir
I have heard with
great regret that the
Manchester Infirmary
is being added to and
enlarged.
I hope you will be
able to tell me that
I have been misinformed.
I thought it was
agreed among you that the
ill=placed, ill=
constructed, ill= ventilated
Manchester
Infirmary was not a place to give the sick a fair chance — however improved — & that, if added to, it would be fatal.

Sold, it would make an admirable warehouse — being indeed fit for nothing else. And the price would be available for a new building out of the town —

But, if all this is out of the question, would you not renew poor Mr. Adshead’s proposal for a Convalescent Hospital (to receive also those sick who cannot recover in the Manchester Infirmary,) a little out of Manchester?

It is hard indeed, if Manchester, with her high civilization, with her magnificent public spirit, never failing in the utmost generosity towards her public Institutions — & with her advanced principles of progress — should fail in doing what the pettiest
Wellcome 9001

county town in England
as well as London is now planning or proceeding with.
    I am at this
moment engaged upon
propositions made
to me, & plans laid
before me for revisal,
from no less than
five of these Institutions
    - all to be built
upon your Pavilion
principle in country
sites, where alone
the sick can be expected
to recover.
    My health & time
will ill afford my
writing a single
extra letter. Yet
I could not but
appeal to you, upon
this bad news -
concerning a city I
respect so much -
reaching me -
    [end 16:628]
    Yours sincerely
        Florence Nightingale

{envelope}
John Roberton Esq
    Manchester
Wellcome 9001

8999/38 initialed letter, 1f, pen bundle 135

My dear Sir Harry
   I return the enclosed, as you desire.
   I have also had a letter from Sir W. H.
   I don’t think he understands the subject much - But I am glad he is coming to look at your Infirmary.
   yours ever
   F.N.
Oct 8/61

8999/39 initialed letter, 5ff, pen bundle 135

Hampstead NW
   Oct 8/61

My dear Sir Harry
   I like to hear of your Volunteers. I wish I could be with you. But my heart is with you all.
   At the beginning of this year we had 150,000 Volunteers. And already we hear, from the best Military authorities, that they /of these a large portion are capable of manoeuvring & executing movements with regular troops.
   To me who know the stuff of which the Anglo-Saxon is made (no man knows him better) this is not surprising.
   These Volunteers are of the same race with that handful of men who defended their trenches at Sevastopol - as the Greeks
Wellcome 9001

held the position of Thermopylae, & who, when dying of slow torture in Hospital, drew their blankets over their heads & died without a word, like the heroes of old.

Thank God! our Volunteers have not to undergo these slow agonies in the defence of their country. But I, for one (and I speak from / notwithstanding an experience of the horrors of War which no man has had) was not at all sorry to see the spirit of War brought home to our people’s lives & hearts which responded so nobly to it in the glorious rising of the Volunteers.

A country needs re=tempering sometimes. England, from her grand Mercantile & Commercial successes, has been called sordid. God knows she is not! The simple courage, the enduring patience the good sense, the strength to suffer in silence - what nation shews more of in war the like of this, in which war - than is shewn by her commonest soldier shews?

I have seen men dying of Dysentery, but scorning to report themselves sick, lest they should thereby throw more labour on their comrades, go down to the trenches & make the trenches their death=bed.

There is nothing in history to compare with it.

Other nations may do it for glory - But we do it for duty as the Duke of Wellington said.

2. I say, no one has seen the
horrors of War as I have. Yet I was glad to see the spirit of War rising in our Volunteers.

If both French & English statesmen have recorded upon their own observation, that the most intelligent, the most well-doing, the most respectable - in the best sense of the word - in any French village or district - are always those who have returned from serving out their time on conscription.

And if this is the case with those who have served a compulsory service for a Government which we English cannot respect - what ought not the men to become, the case with men who give a free service for a free country, like our Volunteers?

Say what men will, there is something more truly Christian in the man who gives his time, his strength, his life, if need be, - for something, not himself, whether he call it his Queen, his country or his colours - than in all the asceticism, the fasts, the humiliations, the prayers & confession which ever have been made.

And this spirit of giving one's life, without calling it a sacrifice, is found nowhere as truly as in England.

A poor woman in London, who lay starving, was found, with 7 children, in a perfectly bare room, without fire, without food, without bedding, without furniture, & almost without clothes, was urged to recall her husband, to support her.

“What,” she said, that he may be
worse than a slave." I am bound

to say this was not in a good cause.

It was in the cause of a strike.

But this is the spirit which

makes; (I was going to say heroes,

but I mean) Englishmen.

This is the spirit which

roused our Armies & our Volunteers.

3. But there must be more

drill - more discipline, in the

sense of teaching how orders are

to be obeyed - more acting in concert

to make our Volunteers quite perfect.

And our Volunteers mean
to be quite perfect.

It is wonderful how much
they have done already in precision.

On the saddest night of all

my life, two months ago, when my
dear master/chief, Sidney Herbert, lay
dying - and I knew that with him
died much of the welfare of the

British Army - he was too so

proud, so justly proud, of his

Volunteers on that night I lay listening to

the bands of the Volunteers, as

they came marching in successively

- it had been a Review day -

And I said to myself, The nation
can never go back which is

capable, of such a movement

as this - not the "spirit" of an

hour. But these are men who

have all something to give up -

all men whose time is valuable

for money - which is not their God,
as other nations say sometimes say of us.

4. One of the best appointments

my dear master/chief made was Colonel

Mc Murdo, the Inspector General of

Volunteers. I knew him in the Crimea,

where he executed a most
difficult

service, that of organizing the Land
Transport, with the utmost success.

No doubt the Volunteers have full confidence in him.

5. It was whispered to me, in Sidney Herbert’s time, that Buckinghamshire had been behindhand in her tribute of Volunteers. Is that the case now? I hope not - But, if so, it makes those who have volunteered more noble / worthy.

If I might venture, I would say, I would gladly ask you to offer them from me a bugle a pair of colours, or a rifle to be shot for. Probably however, they have all these. If so, I can only offer them from the bottom of my heart - the best wishes of one who has “fought the good fight” for the Army, seven years this very month, without the intermission of one single waking hour.

Florence Nightingale
My dear Sir Harry

I wrote to you yesterday about for your Volunteers, as you requested. But you would see that what I wrote was done in a very great hurry. And I dare say that you will not be able to make any use of it. Anyhow it would be much better rearranged by you. I should have thought it a great presumption to write at all to the volunteers, if not desired by you.

My point, if there was any, was to tell the Volunteers that one who has seen more than any man what a horrible thing war is, yet feels more than any man that the military spirit, in a good cause, (that of one's country), is the finest leaven which exists for the national spirit.

I have known intimately the Sardinian Soldier - the French Soldier - the British Soldier - The Sardinian was much better appointed than we were.
The French were both more numerous & more accustomed to war than we were. Yet I have no hesitation in saying that we had the better Military Spirit, the true Military/Volunteer spirit to “endure hardness” for the /our country’s sake.

2. When I say the true Volunteer spirit - there were men of high rank & large fortune who volunteered as private, soldiers with the French Army before Sevastopol Army. Among these the most famous was the Marquis La Tour du Pin. He performed deeds of valour, really equal to the heroes of Ariosto. But he never made the least attempt to lighten the sufferings of the private soldier; altho’ a man of fortune. He never visited the wounded; tho’ this I could have forgiven him for. A man who has to inflict wounds; perhaps cannot spend his days in seeing wounds. He spent his days in reading
French novels & memoirs
Such volunteering appears to me little better than volunteering to kill a pig. It was not even a trial of skill. For these men mostly fought with the sabre, not with the Rifle or Pistol.

I do not call this the true Volunteering: this [illegible] is not doing all for the country’s sake. Rather would I remember a Serjeant who, on picket, the whole picket being killed & himself battered about the head, stumbled back to camp, picking up on his way a wounded man & bringing him in on his shoulders to his lines, where he fell down insensible. Where, after many hours, he recovered his senses, (I am not sure that it was not after trephining) his first words were to ask, “after the comrade” “Is he alive?” “Comrade indeed!”
Yes, he’s alive. It’s the General.

At this moment the General, tho’ badly wounded, appeared at the bed-side.

“Oh! General, it’s you, is it?, I brought in God, bless your honor. I’m so glad I didn’t know your honor. But ____ ___ if I’d known it was you, I’d have saved you all the same!!”

This is the true soldier spirit.

3. Lastly, I would impress on the Volunteers the necessity of drill, practice, exercise, brigade movements.

Garibaldi’s Volunteers did excellently in Guerilla movements - They were completely floored before a fourth rate fortress regular Army.

We trust that our Volunteers will never know what real war is. But they must make themselves a reputation to be feared by the enemy in order not to see that enemy ever at their own hearth-stones.

yours ever

F. Nightingale

[end 15:327]
Nov 30/61
My dear
I was quite shocked to find that Sir Harry has spent a night & a day in England & had not come to his own house to sleep or to eat or anything – even altho’ he had to go to Paget. You know that his own dressing room, dining room & the spare bedroom could be made ready for him at any time. And I should scarcely know, except for my comfort, that he were in the house.
Yours
F.N.
There must be
some mistake
about my “causing
reply” to be made
to you, as you state.
I did not like
to turn you out
of your own bed=
room in your own
house, if you came
up to town. And
as I must look
out for my next
gîte I “caused
reply” that I would
gladly give, you
up your bed room
& try the bed rooms
in Edwards Hotel
close by where I think of going ultimately, coming
here for the day
to my work, which
I cold not move
backwards & forwards
That was the
“reply I caused.”
F.N.

Mr Gladstone made
me write this paper
for his speech.
Perhaps you
would like to take
a copy with you.
It is QUITE PRIVATE.
F.N.
Thank you so much
for your beautiful
house.
F.N.
Dec 5/61
My dear
It occurs to me that if Mama would offer Lea Hurst to Blanch & Miss Clough & the children, for the winter & spring, making such arrangements as would allow them space in the house, the only way to secure quiet to her (she has been very ill since his death) it would be the greatest boon to her possible. For she clings to Lea Hurst as the last place where she was with him & the children. Miss Clough has gone through more than any one I ever knew & she
is so like her brother. I have not the least idea whether Blanch would accept it. But I am sure that all would take the offer most kindly. I think you might determine Mama to make it in such a way as that it could be accepted - For absolute solitude would not be good for Blanch & Miss Clough just now - And they ought to be able to ask anybody to see them. And if the offer is made, let it appear to come from Mama & Papa direct & not at my suggestion. Blanch will be home not before Christmas - And
then she must be some time at Combe. so that it will probably not be till the end of January that she will consider where to go - Then I think Lea Hurst would appear to her like a haven of rest. For 3 years my Clough’s bi=daily visits of help & sympathy dragged me through the hardest work man ever did yet. Without him I could not have done it. Oh Jonathan my brother Jonathan I would I/we could repay something to his widow & children - ever yours F.
Would Freddy at Harrow like one of my little cats? And would it have any chance of a quiet life with the boys? I should send a Tom — Because the ladies are too delicate.

F.

Dec 9/61 Sir Harry is put upon the Executive Committee of the Herbert Memorial

32 South St
Dec 12/61
Dear Papa As you ask me about the food, I have set my wits to think [I have not known the taste between flesh nor bread since my poor Clough’s death] I think, then, that I am tired of the sight of the purée & the Rissoles — good as
they are. The gravy soup we generally make into gravy for my dinner, which it tends greatly to render savoury. And the other soup we generally make into Dr. Sutherland’s lunch. This is very appropriate.

I don’t know what to ask for instead of the purée & the Rissoles. For Burton knows better than I what will keep. so as to come up good. I may eat anything that I can eat, except sweet preserves. - anything pungent, not salt. Fruit & vegetables are particularly recommended. If then Burton could send up a different variety each week of any little dish she may make - spicy or otherwise?
The papers do not come up in a very good state, I am told.
But it seems ungracious to be criticizing.
Tortoise shell Pussy is gone to rejoice
King’s College Hospital
There are three left.
I believe Claydon is to have one -
We are over head & ears preparing War Establishment to go out to Canada - ever dear Pa your loving child

Everything is being sent out to Canada raised to War Establishment - even the Military Train. And I have been employed to do all in our branch as Sidney Herbert would have done it. Sir G. Lewis is engaged on the Astronomy of the Ancients!!

now. Also I have not the least intention of "corresponding" with Simms. I should only see by his first set of questions whether he is worth anything.
In general, we set down a Doctor (who wishes to begin with a special Hospl) immediately as a quack. And
in general we are right.
   Also I have never found that any of these Drs who wanted to see me wanted anything but to make me say or write my own book all over again - which I am quite incapable of doing
now - ever yours  
   F.

8999/45 unsigned note, 1f, pen bundle 135

   Dec 12/61
My dear I should be very glad, if I could hear [three lines thoroughly scribbled out, illeg] about
Lea Hurst & poor Blanch - [illeg] I have had two Doctors' consultations upon me & they say that now the spine is implicated, 'cause of worry, & that every
worry I have & especially every letter I write,
leads me straight to the end, which may not be Death, but may be Paralysis preceding death -
I think I will not send the little cat -
Because Mme Mohl says, never give these cats to servants Alive or not I don’t think I could see Alan Herbert I am quite past making dilettante philanthropy

32 S. St Dec 18/61
Dear Papa I send you the enclosed which please return to me. It was sent by Palgrave with the observation “how “deeply it would have “interested him who “is now beyond the “reach of all human “persecution.” Thank you for the news of Winchester. They must carry it
The loss of the Prince is incalculable - The P. of Wales is nobody. Albert was the only man about the Q. the only influence to which she deferred. On Sunday Ministers were quite appalled. It was thought she might turn out a Joanna of Spain. But she has rallied & is actually doing business. (My news comes from Ld de Grey)
How little characters [folio break?] are known. Here is this nervous anxious fidgety woman behaving with a firmness which would dignify a hero. And others I have seen this year completely off their balance with sorrow, whom I should have pointed out as types of the highest kind of character.

I think you must not expect to hear from Blanch - And better she should not make up her plans at present. She leaves Florence not till 26th.

"Pungent" means "made dishes" - things made with pepper & mustard & so forth. - or with seasoning or stuffing - or what children call "hot" or "spicy" - something with a stimulating taste. I would tell you a great deal more about the Prince but that we are so busy about the Expedition to Canada ever your F.N.
32 S. St
Dec 21/61
Ah shortest day
of this miserable year!
Like a child, how glad
I am to see
thy face no more,
as if another world
bring better!
Dear Papa
I sent £10
in your name to
Professor Jowett’s
Subscription - If
you do not receive
a receipt, please
tell me – as there
may be some
miscarriage. I
sent it by hand,
but gave your
address, not
mine.
I have been
deeply disappointed
not to subscribe
myself. It seems
so cowardly. But
my friends say it
would not “do” to give
my name – ever your F.
32 S. St.
Dec 22/61
Dear Papa Would you kindly send up a box of Christmassing, hollies with berries, (if there are any) evergreens & what flowers you can, to dress a Christmas tree for the child= Patients at King’s College Hospital. Mrs. Watson has so much taste that she would choose them.. And I think if Mrs. Burton would send up some mince pies, I could find some clients whom they would not hurt - The box had better come here - And then I will send it on. It ought to set out on Tuesday the 24th. Nothing will come amiss. [The tortoiseshell kitten is gone to this Hospl.] I should like some body to enjoy this sad,
Wellcome 9001

sad Christmas of this miserable year. which has broken so many hearts, already too heavy laden.

My dear Clough! I should like you to know that he said to me with regard to you (he who so seldom used strong expressions) "We ought to pray for your father's life"! He said this in allusion to the management of the people of Lea Hurst & Embley. He felt so strongly the shortcomings of all the Sam Smiths, except Beatrice tho he had a very high opinion of Shore's nature.

One of the causes which brought on Albert's illness & about which he talked when delirious, was the shortcomings of the P. of Wales. The Queen continues to act like a hero. She sent for Lord Palmerston who could not go, because of the
No: dear Hilary I
told you expressly that
I would not go to the
expense of buying
silk for a bedroom
curtain. I only fancied
a breadth of our old
drawing room curtains.
Because I was so fond
of them
If that won’t do,
I will have calico,
which is much cleaner
- white, with a
Vitruvian border, which {a convoluted scroll pattern -GB}
might be sewn on -
or pink with covered
with white (curtain) muslin.

But I will not
trouble you to buy these.
30, Old Burlington Street. [printed address:]

W.

Please ask Mrs. Watson to send me one of her beautiful bouquets (with long trailing wreathes of leaves) in the box. Dr. Sutherland says my nosegays always look as if they were “drunk” — partly because M.B. has no knack of making them up & partly because the person who cuts the flowers has no ideal in his head — & there are no leaves proper to set them off, sent with them.

F.

Dearest mother

I hope to see you soon. May it be some day next week? And may I fix the day?

ever dear mother

Your loving child

F.

Friday
Dear Papa - I say nothing about myself. It would have done me so much good to have had one drop of sympathy. I, who for 4 years, have never heard one word of feeling from my own family!!!! tho' I am sure they have never seen any one strained to the utmost pitch of endurance of body & mind, as I am.

Adieu

No key from home F.N. of my Lea desk.

Would you tell Parthe that I have answered her letter, by writing to Sir Wm Heathcote direct by this day’s post? & Mama that her visit yesterday did me no harm but good.
Dearie

It is quite impossible to me, I am sorry to say, to see any one whatever today, which is besides Indian mail day.

Sir J. Lawrence is seriously angry, tho’ not nearly so much as we deserve, at the unwarrantable delay of W.O. and I.O. in sending out his plans - I am exceedingly glad that he is angry, tho’ it all falls upon me.

I am very sorry for Mlle. v. Zechau’s loss. but glad of the Pr. Royal’s gain. We owe that Princess something And she is so lonely, now Stockmar is going.

If Mlle. v. Z. has time to spare on the 18th., write me word. But I cannot sacrifice the bird in the hand, Sir J. Lawrence, for a bird not even in the bush.

I shall hope to see Emily for ten minutes before she goes anywhere for the winter - to judge for myself of her - tho’ small good will that do her - & to hear when Dr. W. has given his opinion if she is in town again But
who “has not had” low fever this last year? It is universal. Little Mary Herbert is now, they fear, dying of it at Constantinople. - George & Maude have been sent home - I have not been a day without an attack - [end 1:331]

[following paragraph crossed through]
  I sing for joy every day at your government. But I howl for our small response to it. It is not every Governor General who would ask us for plans & sanitary suggestions -

8999/56 initialed letter, 2ff, pen, black-edged paper bundle 135

My dear I am so sorry that Sir Harry is not well but very glad he is come home - Did I tell you that Dr. Williams is very anxious Emily should consult Dr. Bennett at Mentone? I have heard a great deal of
Dr. Herbert from Sidney Herbert - who was deeply interested in him. And I searched history for him & found only one of noble family who had ever been MD before - the more glory for this one -

[There is no love lost between lady Carnarvon & Lady Herbert. So it will not interest Ly C. to tell her how much Sidney Herbert thought of her son.]

But I cannot see Mr. Simms without knowing more about him than this. And I entirely deprecate Special Hospitals. The only reason they which militates against the immense evils of having Hospls is at all is
to have them General
  But if Mr. Simms
chooses to write me
questions, I will
answer them in
writing -And I
shall then see
whether he is
worth seeing &
telling general
principles to -
  Even now, were
I to answer all
the letters & see all
the people (who apply)
it would take MY

{written in the top margin of the first page} [black-edged paper]
Whole TIME & that of
one clerk. I think
your house beautiful -    [end]
  ever your
F.N.
My dear
  I am so sorry
that Sir Harry is not
well but very glad
he is come home.
    Did I tell you
that Dr. Williams
is very anxious
Emily should
consult Dr Bennett
at Mentone?
    I have heard
a great deal of
Friday
My dear I did not
know that your “biggest
boy” was going to leave
you on Sunday. I
thought it was Monday.
Could you look in upon
me today just after
your lunch (the first
thing when you go out)
for a few minutes?
ever yours
F.N.
I know nothing of the
enclosed bill. And as it
is directed to Mama, I suppose
it is hers.

I am very glad to hear Sir Harry
thought Sir G. Lewis’ answer so
explicit (in the Ho:) If when he
sees him, he does not find him
equally explicit, we think a
notice of a motion, something
like the one (on the other side)
suggested, would carry the day
Sir G.L. is beyond all
patience aggravating.
Papers, between 3 & 4 inch
deep, were sent me yesterday
upon the “Day Room” subject,
which have been “hung up”
on his table for 5 months in
So says the War Office.
I don’t know that any one
believes a word he says, tho’ all
think him “an honest man & a
gentleman”. (Poor Sidney Herbert’s last word
to me about him)
Notice of a Motion
To ask the S. of S. for War whether
a proposition has not been
received from a private
individual offering to take
the Iron House at Aldershot
Camp for which a sum of
£3000 was granted expressly to purchase
it for a Soldiers’ Club or Institute
& to convert the same into a
Club for Officers, provided it be
granted rent free for 6 months
And in what manner he
intends to deal with the
proposal.

My dear Don’t make Ruth cook
for me something distinct at 5 o’cl.
All cooks object (& justly) to doing
this when they have another dinner
to do. You know I never have / eat any
thing but Réchauffés.. So it is no
grievance to me. Embley sends me
a small rabbit pie every week / Thursday
which lasts me 3 days. If I have
a bit sent from your dinner, it will
do for tomorrow - therefore

Winchester Infirmary
Existing Site & Buildings
worth to sell say £3500
Alterations as estimated 6000
£9500
for an old building - patched up - on
A FOUL SUB- SOIL, x in a crowded
situation & with only two thirds the
requisite cubic space
For a new Hospital on A VIRGIN
SUB=SOIL, with air & prospect,
sun & cubic space, & offices
complete as now made
for 112 beds say £12000 [12000 is correct]
x “a sub=soil so tainted as to be
“beyond the power of cure.” This
is the Report on this Infirmary.
Suppose you ask Sir Wm. Heathcote to send me a copy of Mr. Rawlinson’s Report - this is a way to “entrer en matière” - altho’ nothing can make me think the place worse than I do - I will return Mr. Brandon’s letter to Sir Harry.

£7250 for 50 beds - I do not think by a rule of three that £12000 for 112 beds is an unlikely proportion - Of course the smaller a Hospital, the dearer it is.

A Regimental Hospital for 112 beds would cost us from £80 to £90 per bed. Civil building is dearer - say £100 per bed. That is, for the two Pavilions in line plan [end]

8999/61 incomplete letter, 3ff, pen

It does not “bore” me at all to look at the little book. But I am afraid my criticisms will “bore” you.
P. 4 It was not by “want of air” [6:521-22] but by poisoned air that the men in the Black Hole died. They died of typhus, aggravated typhus - not of asphyxia. This the history proves. And the gist of the story to my mind is the type=specimen: of - the blood being poisoned by bad air to that degree in 24 hours, of typhus being generated by bad air of that intensity in 24 hours that all but 23 died. Some died after they came out of typhus, I know. But whether of the 123 or of the 23 you probably remember better than I do - You perhaps may think that my criticism is of little importance - But I think the story is a very critical / typical one
both as breaking down the current superstition of fever coming by contagion - & of it as being such a pungent exemplification of the fact that we ourselves poison our own air & do ourselves more harm than anything else can do us - And I should be loath that the story should sound like an asphyxia by charcoal - 
I doubt whether “the heat” had much to do with it. Query a baker in a baker’s oven endures a much higher amount of heat? And the Esquimaux suffer immensely from their shutting themselves up without air in their cold hovels?

2. P. 5. The “monkeys” died of consumption. - human tubercular consumptn. And this is important - as shewing the origin of consumption, in the vast number of cases.

3. P.7 I would insist more upon
their opening their windows at the top - than upon their opening them “quite wide & keeping them so all day”. This would be impossible in some places in winter.
P. 8 You cannot “air the part above the window” even “with a great draught.” If there is a great space between window & ceiling, an Arnott’s ventilator into the chimney or air bricks at the top of the room are quite necessary - both, near the ceiling.
P. 8. I think I would not say the air can”strike” a man dead. Because they will either say: it is not true - or that you mean, “strike a chill” which is just what you want not to imply - viz. striking a man dead with cold
P. 10 The gas=fittings must be properly tight & every gas=burner must have a ventilator. It is
not enough for “more air” to be admitted generally “where gas is used”. Each gas jet must have a ventilator of its own. [omit “in an hour”]

P. 4 1500 cub. ft of air per hour per man we now consider necessary

4000 cub ft. of air per hour per Patient are not too much.

So much confusion reigns about this - owing to people not considering the quantity of air we spoil for each other, not only by our lungs but by our skin. If your air were conveyed thro’ a tube to your mouth & nose, the you would not require anything like this amount - And therefore I think the expression “consumes air” open to objection, because you have not only to replace (by fresh air) what you “consume”. To keep an inhabited room sweet, you have to renew all the air you & others have spoilt.
not only by your breathing - I think you could never
dwell too much upon this: we
spoil for each other more air
than anything else does. And
this is the answer to your question, why the country, with all its
damp & dirt, on an average
always kills fewer & gives
longer lives than the town.
You see this is a question of
figures. And the Registrar Genl
is quite right.
In my lilac "Confidential "Report
there are 3 passages bearing
on your little tract I should
like you to read. And I will
send you a copy, if you like it,
marked, whenever you have time -
For I presume you don’t carry a copy
about with you -
32 South St.
Jan 2/62

My dear Sir Harry

I am always afraid
of putting things off
And therefore
I forestall –

The enclosed is
the account of the
progress of the
Day Rooms (Soldiers)
written to Mrs.
Herbert at the
request of Lord de
Grey. [Please return
it to me] It came back to
me with some
official papers
from the War Office

Since that, the
Military Education
Council have
approved the Reports,
saving one clause.
which we shall
carry too.

But Hawes &
Lugard reign
uncontrolled at
the War Office,
which the W.O. Sir G. Lewis
ignores altogether.
He does not even
“see” the business.

E.g. we had carried a clause that each company of each Regt should have an annual grant of 50/ (£2.10) for books. And Hawes & Lugard have sanctioned this, on condition that the Librarian’s pay shall be included i.e. shall be paid out of it. Which pay amounts to several pounds more than the granted grant per annum for the whole regiment.

No one would even believe these things.

This however we shall set right.

But the subject of my note is as follows:

The Iron House, at Aldershot, mentioned in the enclosed, “is to be purchased” for
£2000 (This is in the Estimates for next this year)
But the Horse Guards have carried it (with that “muff” that it is to be for an Officers’ Club
Would you, either by yourself or others, object in the House to such an appropriation of it & urge that it be made a
---------------------
Soldiers’ Institute?
[In the W.O. itself there is a strong indignation about this mal-appropriation.
And Sidney Herbert may be safely quoted, that he never would have done such a thing.]
Please remember to be so good as to order for me the colours for the Bucks Volunteers as they would wish them to be. [I am still so much of a soldier that I can cry at the sight of my colours]
Many thanks for your desire that I should not be hurried about the house - I hope to be able to move in a fortnight. And I do not think there will be any difficulty in taking one of several sets of rooms I have had in view.

Your ever truly

F. Nightingale

32 South Street
Friday Jan 17/62

My dear Sir Harry,

I feel more than I can say your kindness about the house, but it would make me a great deal more unhappy to keep you out of yr house or any part of it, than it would you to be kept out & I fully hope & expect to be able to move in Sunday next week to the house in
Wellcome 9001

South Audley Street. You
know I cannot easily
express what I feel about
your having lent me your
beautiful house so long.

Dear Sir Harry - thus
far is dictated by your
"affectionate sister in law"
& written for her by
yrs very faithfully
J Hilary Bonham Carter [end]

31 Dover St, Jan 31/62

My dear Sir Harry

It is a strange
ting indeed for me
to say, when Sir
George Lewis is so
good as to wish
at to see me, that
I cannot.

Poor Sidney Herbert
used to say that
if he had come to
me on War Office
business & found
me in my coffin,
I should have got
out of it to speak
to him.

[Alas! it is he
who is in his grave
first].

But it is now
6 weeks since I
have been able
to see my own
War Office habitués.
And you know
what that is for
me to say.
I may get better.

And then it would
be the greatest
pleasure I could
have to see Sir George
Lewis. But I am
afraid then he will
be too busy with
the Session.

If however there
is any question he
would be so good
as to ask me
about Sidney Herbert’s
War Office plans
(now in writing),
I believe I may
quite safely promise
to answer it in writing as clearly & shortly as possible.  

Let me thank you once more for the 3 months I spent in your beautiful house - And believe me, dear Sir Harry 
Yours affectionately 
Florence Nightingale

My dear Sir Harry, 

I have no letter from Sidney Herbert about the destination of the Iron House at Aldershot, for he did not know of Captn Jackson’s Report upon it, before his death. Captn Jackson never having been able to comprehend that his cause must rest not upon its intrinsic goodness but upon the willingness of the chiefs of the War Office & therefore I urged in vain, that the slightest report before Sidney Herbert’s death wd be of more use than the most solid one afterward. 
When it was all over, he used to come bothering to me at Hampstead; every week for 4 mortal hours urging the undeniableness of his case
as if any one did deny it, & as if that were any use with Sir Geo. Lewis.

But the official fact remains that Lord Herbert was so anxious about the day-rooms at Aldershot that he sent for the Resolutions of the day room Committee before they had finished their Report in order to found upon these resolutions the official plea for sending Captn Jackson to report upon the facilities at Aldershot, which was his last act before he went to Spa, where 6 days afterwards he resigned.

However, it may be better not to mention Lord Herbert’s name at all. I leave that of course to you who know the Ho. of Commons so much better than I do.

I have only wished to put you in possession of the facts while I could.

You will see, when the Army Estimates come on, what is best to be done. We do not yet know
even in what words, the
sum for the Iron House
is asked for in the Estimates.
but probably it will be
easy to ask a question &
raise a discussion upon it
when that part of the
Estimates comes on, &
either Galton who is
very keen about it, or
Sutherland wd put you
in possession of any new
facts that may have
arisen by that time, if
I can not.

dictated by Florence Nightingale
J Hilary B.C. [end 15:455]

9000/5 black-edged paper, bundle 136, signed letter, 1f, pen

31 Dover St
Feb 4/62

My dear
I was just going
to ask you to see me
tomorrow, when an
appointment comes
for that day on
W.O. business, the
first I have been
able to make for
6 weeks, & which
I must receive, if
I possibly can -
Yes, I have a
very decided opinion
about the place for Sidney
Herbert’s statue -
Westminster Abbey
certainly. I have
already said this
to his poor wife &
to Strzlecki.
    I should like to
have heard about
the christening -
ever yours
F.

9000/6 signed letter, 1f, pen, black-edged paper bundle 136

31 Dover St
Feb 5/62

My dear Sir Harry
    My father asked
me "for the last Edition
of my 'Notes on Nursing'"
for Sir W. Heathcote.
I think he meant
the "last Edition" of
of my "Notes on
Hospitals."
    It is not done -
not even begun - tho’
promised to Parker
above a year ago -
    And Now my
first strength must
be given to the Indian Report - of for which there is not a bit of my “Evidence” yet written.

But if Sir W.H. would like my old copy, or rather yours, of “Notes on Hospitals”, for immediate Winchester purposes, & will return it to me (he has had it before) I will send it him -

ever your affectly

F. Nightingale

9000/7 initialed letter, 1f, pen

31 Dover St
Sunday Feb 9/62
My dear If you could come to see me today at ½ past three, I would give you to tea
But don’t of course put off any engagement. for me, if you were going, e.g. to Westm. Abbey with Sir Harry

I had begun a letter to him George a long time ago - to thank him for his which was really excellent

I am afraid it never will be finished now. I send it to you, in case you like to fill it up & send it - poor boy

Yours ever

F.N.
My dear By all means, as the old D. of Cambridge said to the “Let us pray” at church - By all means let us read Stephen on Provence - I for one never take up Stephen or Macaulay & can lay them down again till I have read to the end. The genuine spirit with which they inform their Creations - Creations though they be - tho partial enthusiasm always for the right - honest in Macaulay - is it always quite honest in Stephen? - make the charm of both these (?) historians

But as the good German Theological School, Ewald & Co:, say that Oxford has not yet the first element of historical research into theological matters - in which I quite agree, (I can’t, for the life of me, read Jowett & Co: tho’ I try all I can, I do indeed) -- so the real historians abroad say that there is not the ghost of a historical research about in Stephen - I am too ignorant to say. But as for taking Stephen’s authority against Fauriel (who is “poor (!) Madame Mohl’s” authority, as you call her)
upon such a subject as Provence, of which Fauriel is acknowledged Sovereign & sole dictator -- I should as soon think of letting the authority of the Six hundred Army Doctors be taken against mine as to the state of Scutari. And I did not. I beat. And the six hundred fled - (I mean in the Commission, after I came back) Magnus esse - veritas, as Smedley says - Therefore I say, “not in drink” but in anger. What is Stephen to Fauriel? I like Mme Mohl’s Provencal and 11th Century chapters better than her whole book put together.
If you send Stephen to Papa, you must send him this note too -

The Dean of St. Paul’s (urged by you) was so good as to send me Sir G. Lewis Hey diddle diddle
Please thank him for it - If I can, I will write myself. It amused me very much - But there is one thing which puzzles me. And that is what makes un homme sérieux. No one ever gave Sidney Herbert the credit of being one. His conversation was so brilliant - For people who like anecdotic conversation, 1000 times more brilliant than Macaulays’ Yet he would as soon have thought of doing such a thing as this, while at the War Office (he who had More wit than they all) as of dancing before the Queen on his head with juggler’s tricks. Every one calls Sir G. Lewis an hommes sérieux. Yet he can play juggler’s tricks in an Office which killed his predecessor. I understand he does no work at all - but contents himself with saying that he is “very anxious” to carry out all his predecessor’s plans.

When I think now of a man like S. Herbert who for a quarter of a century and been devoted to social & to political
life, in both of which he was so successful & in both of which he enjoyed his success so much - devoting himself for 5 years to sitting by my sofa writing day Regulations with a set of almost technical men, as little capable of understanding him as Sir G. Lewis is of understanding his work - I think it is to a man like this that the palm of Saint & Martyr is to be awarded, ending as it did in death.

ever yours
F.N.
P.S. “Viewy, an old Oxford word introduced by John Henry Newman, now I believe in disuse is what Stephen was as an historian - And I among serious historians he will never have a higher credit than this. For me I read him as De Maîstre (not Xavier but the other) said he read Voltaire, once through every year, C’est un plaisir que je} me donne à l’imagination.} Feb 18/62
Six months S. Herbert has been dead
Three months my Clough-
Twenty four years to day Uncle Carter has been dead
Twenty nine years to day Bertha has been born -
Twenty five years this month I have given myself up to this work -
Dearest. From 8 to 9 in the morning is my only time, except for my proper work. “Tu conviendras” that it would be rather difficult for me to call a Levee at that time.

I would have answered Lady Cranworth’s kind letter yesterday. But it was quite impossible.

I have heard of Lady Canning’s Meml Fund before - Some weeks ago, a lady wrote to me, desiring me to draw up a plan.

But (and Lady Cranworth shares my feeling entirely) they give no defined statement, they have no definite idea of how the thing is to be done. They have not considered what is meant by “training Nurses” nor the funds required.

I enclose all the papers relating to St. Thomas’ for Lady Cranworth, & the only one printed relating to King’s College - less as an illustration (which is no little use in India) than because she has been so kindly interested about the subject. The whole of the income of the Fund (called by my name) is now appropriated by to these two objects. It is something above £1400 a year. The accounts of St. Thomas’ (one year, also enclosed) will shew how small the number of Nurses who can have a thorough training even in so large a Hospital.
on so large a sum.  
    But this is not the main thing.  
There are no means of training Nurses  
at Calcutta. There is, it is true, a  
large & bad General Hospital. But who the  
Matron is we do not know - It seems  
to me that the first thing is to  
ascertain what are the capabilities  
for training at Calcutta & to show  
them to be satisfactory. They will  
probably have to get a Matron  
from England, or what would  
be much better to send one home  
from Calcutta, chosen there, to  
be trained in England. Then  
they should make some kind of  
guess at what kind of sum they  
want & what they are likely to raise  
Also what kind of subjects for  
training they are likely to find.  
    [The poor flighty woman who  
wrote to me had not an idea  
on any one of these subjects &  
actually wanted to take Soldiers’  
Wives for training]  
    How difficult it has been  
to find good subjects, even with  
all England to choose out of -  
    Lady Canning’s “Home” is a  
useful comprehensible scheme -  
But in its present state the  
training establishment proposed  
cannot be said to be comprehensible  
And I cannot see how any good  
would come of it with any number  
of names. First get a good  
workable scheme - then an  
estimate of the cost, & probable  
income. People will be sure  
to support it. At present there  
is nothing to support.
You may depend upon it that Lady Cranworth thinks all this herself - & that she is the person who will carry it through to a useful well-digested scheme, if it can be carried through - I shall be most glad to give any little help in my power (for the sake of so good an object) when it has assumed the form of an object. But Lady Cranworth knows how little that power is. And she kindly says that I should not be expected to collect subscriptions or anything of that kind.

ever yours

F.N.

I was very glad to see Lady Cranworth’s handwriting again. I heard she was ill.

My dear Sir Harry

You may like to see this letter of Dr. Parkes, tho’ only the three last pages are for to your purpose

Please return it to me I rather repented having left you in an error about the Reading room Committee. It had nothing to do with Capt. Jackson - Ld Herbert did not even know his name when he appointed it at my request. It was I who afterwards brought Capt. Jackson before it & before him. And the way I first knew of him Capt J. was, that Mrs. Gaskell wrote to me to tell me what terrible debt he had got into - & could I help him? I got £500 from S. Herbert for him, & a subscription Please burn
Nothing but publicity will influence the Horse Guards - no private persuasion or information - for they don’t want to be informed.

The Portsmouth Reports with Genl Lord William Paulet’s letter upon it, “RATHER” recommending it, has just been referred to the Horse Guards. But Ld Wm Paulet proposes to the Horse Guards that the house Capt. Jackson wanted for the Institute should be fitted up as Offices for Artillery Colonels !!!

To move in the Ho. of C. for the Report of Genl Eyre’s Commission on Libraries, Day= and Reading Rooms for Soldiers. To move for a copy of Captain Pilkington Jackson’s Reports to the Secretary of State for War on the Soldiers’ Institutes at Aldershot & at Portsmouth.
My dear Sir Harry,

I put into Parthe’s hands a paper of what I thought wanted most to be done on the Army Estimates. These were:

- to ask whether the Iron House at Aldershot, put down in the Estimates, was to be for Officers or for a men’s club-house.
- to move for Capt. Jackson’s Reports on Aldershot & Portsmouth soldiers’ clubs:
- to move for Genl Eyre’s Report on Reading & Day Rooms for Soldiers

Generally, I think the great point is to keep them up to the Sanitary improvements & to prevent any tampering with our work on the score of economy.
You know of course much better than I do when & how these things should be moved for or done —

I am afraid I have inconvenienced you by not answering your kind note of the 4th before. But yesterday I was quite incapable of doing anything. And I was obliged to get up, which did not make matters better.

I am very glad that your son is going to such a good & interesting Station as Vancouver’s Island. {arch: E.H.V} I believe the D. of Newcastle sent my circular about Colonial Schools there, as well as to our other Colonies. But I don’t suppose they have any children yet there.

I hope to see Parthe before your son starts

ever yours affectely

F. Nightingale

9000/13 envelope only, 1f, pen

{postmarked London MR 14 62}

Mrs. Nightingale
Embley
Romsey
Thursday 20th March 1862

My dear Sir Harry:

I send you the letter of this plausible humbug because it contains much information about Vancouver’s Island. I never promised to give him money, [which is unsafe - unless report greatly belies him;] but to give him books & things for his sappers - However you see he will have money. I wish his letter had arrived before your son went out, If you would kindly undertake to answer this letter in the way you think best, either thro’ your son or otherwise, I would send you £10, if you think that desirable Please return me the letter.

I think it quite indisputable that Mr Cowper’s plan will not do to put Sidney Herbert’s statue out of doors.
It is notorious that nothing but bronze will stand it & I for one should resist with all my might. The fine Arts commission did make a proposal to admit it within the precincts of the houses of Parliament - the only fit place for it in my opinion. Westminster Hall would be the second best. If the Fine Arts Commission have withdrawn their proposal, it ought to be urged upon them again.

Mr Cowper’s argument, that private works should not be admitted within public buildings is considered nonsense. The Herbert Committee have nothing to do but to turn over the Statue as I understand to the Fine Arts Commission when finished, whereby it ceases to be private property or Herbert Committee property.

My information principally comes from
Lord Palmerston’s letters to Mrs. Herbert, but this of course you must not quote, altho’ you may quote the information if you think fit. Lord Palmerston positively wrote to Mrs. Herbert that the Fine Arts Commission wd admit the Statue within the Houses of Parliament. Please remember not to repeat this. Of course I give up Westminster Abbey: but I cannot agree with Mrs. Herbert & everybody else who seem to think it a kind of low place like Cremorne or Vauxhall [end 15:336]

written for F.N.
J Hilary BC.

9000/15 initialled letter, 2ff, pen [1:767-68]
& order in common work
so that she shall not
need some one always
standing over her, or
two dustpans of dust
will accumulate
under an ordinary
carpet - a thing I
have just discovered
here in a room
supposed to be
thoroughly cleansed -
  There is no fine
housemaid’s work to
do- as Mrs. P. Ward
put away every
thing that was worth
anything.

  Many thanks for the
prints, framed & unframed,
the curtains & all
the rest out of the boxes.
We shall look quite
grand -
  Perhaps next time
Burton will make us
a pigeon pie. And
could you send us next
time a sod with grass
for the cat?
  Are you going to have
any kittens?
  ever dear Mum
  your loving child
  F.

9000/16 note on a letter, 1f, pen

No thank you. I will
not trouble you to enquire
farther about this
housemaid. {Besides I
think her former places
were too fine for me}
Out of five candidates
on my list, I have two,
Mama’s & Mrs. Bohn’s,
between whom I have
real difficulty in
choosing - both so promising.
Friday
Dearest Mother
   The box was lovely & duly
admired, especially by the little
Patients of King’s Coll. Hosp.
   I partook of Mrs. Burton’s
rabbit pie myself -
   Would you ask Mrs. Watson
if Mme. Thomas is going to have
another family & how soon?
For they (the kits) are to come to me,
you know - I am afraid
I shall have to borrow Mr.
Thomas for my present Puss.
   I am at present bent on
ornamentation to hide the
dirt in this most filthy house,
which will cost us far more
than its worth in the most
necessary repairs & cleanliness.
   I understand now (too
late) that my landlady, Mrs.
Plumer Ward is notorious
for beastliness (I beg pardon
for this ugly but only appropriate
word) & that people, who know
her, refuse to let their houses
to her, because of the incredible
accumulations of filth she
leaves behind her.
   I am going to have my
bedroom which was hers whitewashed, as
the only means of cleansing it.
Not one window in the house
opened at the top when I came
in - many not at all - the
sky light at the top of the only
stair case was battened down-
And for four years the stair
case air had never been
renewed -
I have been obliged to have
every window in the house
re: hung, to open - a new
sky light made, to open - &
a light made over the front
door, to open -
What to do with the walls
I know not, because they are
papered - tho’ in some places
the pattern is quite undetectible
through filth.

If it were a Barrack or
Hospital, we should instantly
give orders to move out all
the men & have the whole
place “cleansed & limewashed”
from top to bottom. every
As for the carpets, I am
giving to turn them out
bodily - rugs the same.
I wish I could do the
same with the chimneys,
all of which smoke -
And I wish I could
marry filthy Mrs. P. Ward
to dirty Mr. Hall, of the
Burlington, for her punishment
All this is with an eye
to business. What filth I cannot
[2]

remove, I want to cover. Would you send me up my framed prints of
Guercino’s Ecce Homo & Mater Dolorosa
Delphic Sybil
Two Marias at the Sepulchre
which I had at Harley St.
& which are now, I believe, in the Gordon Hall -
not any of the portraits -
(I cannot bear any portraits of those I have so loved & have lost)
If you have any prints in portfolio’s, which you would lend me to frame, such as Correggio’s Parce Somnum Rumpece

his Magdalen, or Raphael’s Vision of Ezekiel, I would be very glad. But I don’t want to denude your walls.
Or the little oil sketch of the blazing sunset at Athens. If when you go to Lea Hurst in the Summer, you would let me have the statuettes of Sophocles & Lorenzo dé Medici, instead of packing them up, I would faithfully return them when you returned - But this is a long time ahead to reckon upon. I might even ask then (when you pack up the house) for the copy of the Cenci
[7:486]
ever dearest mother, your loving child F.
P.S. [black-edged paper]

I heard a gentleman put his head out of window in the street this morning, with very bad language, shout, amidst a great variety of agreeable expletives, to a wretched Italian organgrinder, (who evidently understood nothing but the tone) “If you don’t stop that infernal noise, I’ll send for a policeman”. This is just what I should like to say to Mrs. Plumer Ward, substituting for “noise” the word “filth”. And she would understand me just as little. But then the gentleman did send for a policeman. And I can’t. Because the laws of my country are defective.

I want Papa, when he comes from Lea Hurst, to bring me the desk
Lea gave me & the Bible Pleasley gave me, & the bunch of grass from Inkermann. I don’t know whether there is anything to hang on the walls which I could beg, borrow or steal from Lea Hurst. Would you send him on this whole letter?

It is three months next Monday that I have been for all practical purposes confined to my bed. And to be another three months staring at the stains of filth on my walls in this small close room does, I confess, rather appal me.

It is so curious how everybody asks of me, & nobody gives to me, who have toiled myself into this state, for them. But don’t fancy this discontented speech ever applies to you or Papa - F.N.
9 C St
April 2 [1862]

My dear Sir Harry

We are very much obliged to you for having pinned Sir G. Lewis. Depend upon it that it is entirely owing to you that the Iron Ho: is carried for the men. Sir G.L. had told the Horse Guards that “he would discuss it with the Commander in Chief at next Saturday’s meeting” - Now why “discuss” it, if he had “determined”? Sir G. L. is so (I will not say ignorant but) forgetful of all details - save those belonging to the “Roman Book trade” under the “Empire” - that the Commander in Chief or Sir B. Hawes can talk him over _always._
2 – I hope the American minister’s judgement will incline to employing the magnificent Peabody gifts 1. In Model Lodging Houses 2. The rents should be devoted to extending the class of accommodation.

England gives enormously (voluntarily & compulsorily) to every means of improving the poor man out of “home” – the Workhouse, the Reformatory, the School, the Hospital, the Church. She gives hardly at all to improving his condition at “home” – I wonder, if all Poor Rates had been paid devoted to improving poor dwellings, whether a Workhouse would have been needed at all now – in all the breadth or length of the land.

There is plenty of ground, especially in the E. where the houses are all cottages, with large useless unhealthy courts.

The buildings should be in floors.
The American Minister will have, I have no doubt, no lack of professional assistance offered him.
But should it come to lodging houses, & should it come to plans, & need hardly say that I should feel honoured in obtaining for him every kind of such assistance, free of cost, in perfecting the plans, as to all Sanitary requirements. We have been so long engaged on these subjects.

For my part, I believe that, in all European countries, more sickness, poverty, mortality & crime is due to the state of our poor men’s dwellings than to any other cause - And I would rather devote money to remedying this than to any institution. For I believe that the “home” is the main source of practical improvement (moral & physical) & that this, the Centre of all national civilization, is what is least cared for - in national efforts.

Ever yours affectly
F. Nightingale
Yes: I would gladly look over the plans, if Mr. Laird will understand that I can’t see him, & that I can’t be hurried. I must have the plans for 2 or 3 days, so that I may take advantage of my better moments to look at them. I was obliged to keep the Devonport plans (the last I had from the War Office) since I have been in this house - a fortnight.

My dear Sir Harry

Mr. Laird is doing a most generous thing in building this Hospital. But, in doing so, his object is to obtain the very best building for the sick that his money will supply. The area is too small to allow of this being done. For although two acres per 100 beds is enough, this rule applies to large, not to small Hospitals. Because, however small, the Hospital wants Administrative Offices. And these Offices will do for a large as well as a small
In this case the offices cover almost as much ground as the wards. At the new “Herbert” Hospital they occupy about a fifth or sixth of the ward area.

This plan is very crowded. And there are things about the building much better away. While the plan (forced by the ground upon the Architect) is very much the reverse of realizing my principles.

I would enter more into criticism - But that my first advice would be that sufficient space be given over to the Architect to enable him in sketching new plans, to apply the principles more fully. I would then most gladly help. At present I cannot.

Birkenhead has magnificent capacities for a Hospl of the very best construction. If the present site is kept, 4 plots instead of two, will be necessary.

Of course a Hospl of this size costs very much more per bed than one of 4 or 8 times its size.

If you ask me what are the main things I think injurious to Patients in this plan, I would instance, among others:

1. The plan is in fact a closed court, open only to the North.

2. The Accident Ward (accidents requiring, to give them a good chance, the very best of all conditions for recovery) has the very worst place in the building
3. There is a closed Corridor from end to end, on one side of which these unfortunate Accidents lie.

4. In a new building the Nurses’ Rooms & Sculleries should be put in convenient places. i.e. the Scullery on one side the entrance to the Ward, the Nurse’s room on the other, so that, day & night, she commands her whole ward by a window looking into its whole length. [In this case she might as well get up & look thro’ the door.]

I hardly think the Architect has understood some of the applications of his principles.

Ever dear Sir Harry
Your affecte
Florence Nightingale

I don’t know where I have said that a ward should be “23 ft wide”.
I said “not more than 30 ft wide.” We have however built wards of “24 ft wide”. They are rather narrow for convenience i.e. for placing moveable dressers down the middle of the ward. Besides, I have said that the bed’s territory should be 12 ft.(12 x 2 = 24) gives breadth of ward. [end 16:635]
9. Chesterfield St
   April 7/62

My dear Sir Harry
   Sir G. Lewis is such a muff
   that he will do nothing. Lord
   de Grey perhaps may.
   I have long been convinced
   that nothing but such measures
   as I have put on the other
   side would do any good.
   *Altho' Day Rooms & Clubs
   we must have too* to fill
   the men's minds with good, while removing
   the temptation from them to evil.
   Ever yrs affly
   F.N.

With regard to the abominations
alluded to in Capt. Jackson's Report,
the following steps should be taken:
   1. the attention of the Home Office
directed to the Report & copies
sent to Magistrates calling their
attention to it & to putting the
law in force.
   2. if Magistrates won't act,
Government to apply for a
Mandamus
   3. if powers not sufficient,
an Act to be immediately introduced
to extend Military jurisdiction
over all public houses & other
places of entertainment within
(say) 1 ½ or 2 miles of camp
limits.
Lock Hospitals & Soldiers’ Clubs would just be as inefficient, per se, to stem this evil, which is one purely for the Police to deal with, as it would be to build Day Rooms for thieves to prevent them from thieving.

9000/22 initialled letter, 2ff, pen, black-edged paper bundle 136 [8:427]

Private The Pigsty

My dear Sir Harry
I find a strong impression in the War Office that you had better do what you think fit in the House of Commons
1. about directing attention to the state of vice in the Army
2. about the Iron Ho. at Aldershot -- for that otherwise Sir G. Lewis will do nothing.

At last Saturday’s Meeting, the Duke of Cambridge pressed him very much to give the Iron Ho: to Mr. Pridmore for the officer. And Sir P.L. only said, Le Roi s’avisera. And the Horse Guards still, expect to get it!

About the other thing, he is still less likely to act: unless forced by the Ho: of C.
So, they tell me -

Lord de Grey sent to me (& I have done it & sent it) to write a Minute upon Day Rooms to put it forward in the W.O., and upon the other thing.

In answer to what the W.O. often urges about for adopting Lock Hospls=, & the French system, I should like ye to write to you - Some day the overwhelming evidence

we have 1. that Venereal disease is generated by vice, not only communicated by infection_ 2. that the French system, as is acknowledged by themselves, fails even in averting the disease, which is all they use it for_ 3. that Lock Hospls= scarcely check the evil. For it is vice which makes it, not infection. ever your affectly,

F.N.
Cost of York (Military)
Hospital — just completed
£4160 60 beds
or under . £70 per bed
This does not include
  land
  Parian cement
  or oak floors
(the floors being of deal)
  or washhouse
But it does include
a great deal of made
ground, some 8 feet
at one end, an expensive
enclosure wall &c &c
And it is certainly the
best Hospital in Europe

at present existing.
    At the cost of £75
per bed, every thing
might be included.
Ap 12/62
My dear Sir Harry

Inside Parthe’s portfolio is a pamphlet of mine for Mr. Laird, if you will kindly send it him.

The Hospl of which I sent you the details of cost (£4160 for 60 beds) is the same as “Plan of a Regimental Hospl” in said pamphlet, but without the first floor of wards - with the central first floor. The staircase is fit only for a nobleman’s house - But you can carry a Patient at full length up it, without the slightest danger of shaking or alarming him, in case we should ever build our first floor of wards. The small ward, 1, is turned into an
Operating Room, when required; & is quite good enough. The Nurse’s room, 2, would be too small for a woman, but could easily be increased by projecting the side. The Day Room is most cheerful & pleasant. Some of the other dimensions would be too small for a Civil Hosp. Hot water is laid over the whole Hosp & arrives boiling at the lavatories at the end of the long wards, so that question is solved.

By the end of this year we shall have five Hosps as good as or better than this, in the Army.

Ever yrs affectey F.N.
Col: Bertie Gordon is one of those true soldiers who care for their men & who feel the evils of being hampered by those who don’t –

He was hurt by our criticism on this latter class, because he inferred that we criticized his work.

He had excellent materials to work with – and it is a very different thing to command a corps like the Gordon Highlanders from a corps indiscriminately organized.

With a Regt= tied to its traditions, a Command= Officer has much better chance –

There is not much in the letter to our point – viz. The effect of soldiers’ day-rooms, occupations, trades &c

All Col: Gordon says is that the men were well conducted & that discipline was maintained, notwithstanding (?) the common-sense course he adopted for amusing them.

So far, so good: but one would have liked more detail.

Lock Hospitals he misunderstands the objection.

Nobody objects to
simply receiving these -
poor creatures & treating
them:

The objection is to any
System which does more -
E.g. no law can recognise
as lawful both prostitution
& marriage, without
introducing such
confusion as to sap
moral distinctions.

This is no theory. It
is an ascertained fact
in countries where it is
done -

The objection is to any
System legalizing both.

But any system
placing prostitution
under the ban of public
law, yet trying to save
its victims morally,
physically or both, is
not open to objection.

But that a no Govt= should
cure a woman, merely
to turn her out again
to sin - if it chooses to
do this - and it stands
in the place of the
Church in this matter.
It ought to provide for
both ends.

If only the physical
cure is made, & if, for
this end, the law is
relaxed as regards
prostitution, more
harm is actually done
than good, even physically
For moral self=control
is relaxed.
The abomination in India
is not venereal disease,
nor Lock Hosps=, (nor the
refusing to have Lock Hosps=)
but the licensing of lal
Bazars.

Syphilis in the Indian
Army is the result. And
all the Lock Hospitals
in the world will never
cure it.

Soldiers’ Marriages
I have always been of
Col: B. Gordon’s opinion.
If a soldier enlists
at 18, his ten years’
service are over at 28.
If he marries then, he
marries earlier than
most (provident) men
of his class
Let him always marry
then I say.

There ought not to be
that in the soldier’s life
which makes earlier
marriage necessary.

It would go far to
remedy the evils mentioned
by Col: Gordon at Calcutta,
if the State allowed
the men not to marry till then.

But anything so
dreadful as what he
mentions cannot be
charged against the
practice of marriage.
It must be charged
to the wretched
incompetency of the Army administration
When such things
Wellcome 9001

happen, it is the public servants who should be called to account.

Sir J. Lawrence prevented them.

There is not much to help us in this letter.

We are right: and we have evidence that Soldiers’ Institutes have prospered, that the men support them, that sobriety & good conduct have increased & crime diminished when they have been fairly tried - And this is their best argument.

9000/26

Private Good Friday {arch: 1862}

My dear Sir Harry

I have often heard the remark made by your Frenchman. And it is true. The police here ought to repress all indecent exhibitions in the streets & all (repressible) temptations to young persons, as they do in Paris.

Paris is the most decent city in the world.

But I have also heard the best physicians, physicians
who had gone into the
subject not only
with science but
with heart & soul,
(and not English/) –
say “Better 1000 times
your London vice in
all its frightful
openness than our
regularized legalized
Paris vice eating into
the national soul.”
And I agree.

England looks
upon vice as theft
or murder or any
other criminal action,
as the crime to be
repressed, the criminal
to be saved, if possible.

France looks upon
vice as birth or death
or any other natural
action not to be
performed in the
streets, to be provided
for as comfortably
as possible under
cover, & the suffering of it to
be averted as much
as possible

But to this last
God has said “No”.
He has arranged its
punishment. And police cannot avert it.

The one thing which I think more horrible than either French or English system, is the Army system here - where a poor stolid country bumpkin of 19 or 20, just enlisted, goes into a publichouse to rest & “have a drink”, & of has temptation pressed led to upon him in a form which the Prince of Wales, alas! Could not resist. How can this poor ignoramous be supposed to do so?

9000/27 initialled letter with envelope, 1f, pen, black-edged paper {envelope} Lady Verney 32 South St My dear Sir Harry [8:428]

If it would interest you to glance over the enclosed paper, which I have prepared for Lord de Grey, pray do. But I must trouble you to send it me back in an hour. Ap 17/62 F.N.
From the house of the Fever-compelling Erinnys
9 Chesterfield St W.
My dearest Pray read the enclosed & put it into the post for Mama

[black-edged paper] bundle 136

Your miserable F.
Ap 19/62

The Pigsty 9 C St
Easter Eve {arch: April 19 1862}
Dearest Mother
Your weekly box gives pleasure
to many little eyes,
besides mine - viz in
King’s College Hospl
I like the Sarah Fletcher
very much. She is clean & steady. And I have
no doubt we shall hang together till she
marries or I die.
The “nuisance” was not removed till Wednesday
not Tuesday, (vide letter which I enclose & which please return) On
Wednesday we mustered
strong on my side Uncle Sam, Dr. Sutherland, Bratby, & my Messenger. And the Pig of Pigs’ maid, agent & his three or four men on hers. She had written another insolent letter about me to her agent, positively refusing to have the little interior room, (called in the letter to Papa “cupboard”) cleared. [She has locked up every “cupboard” in the house]

TWO VANS FULL of dirty bedding, foul linen!!! dirty stuffed furniture & carpets, we got rid of. The men were carrying down stairs the whole of the day. All agreed, even her own maid, that they had never had such a dirty job. And the men said they had never carried anything which “stank so”! Dr. Sutherland said, if I had not persisted, we should have had Typhus (of which her own husband died, through her dirt) The men would have left the second van load till next day – but that I declared, if they did, I would whitewash
over all they left. I had the whitewashers ready. And they came in & instantly began whitewashing. But alas! the workmen are still in the house today (Saturday) which day I have been here 7 weeks - so that nearly 2 months of my five are gone, & have been spent not in a house, but a Pigsty and Workshop I have been made so ill by the noise & contention of Wednesday that I have been obliged again to suspend work. Nothing but the sake of the servants & my duty to them would have induced me to go through the agony of the last 7 weeks. If it had been only me, I should have encamped in this room, never gone out of it. And it would have been far better for me to have left the rest of the house as it was than to have gone through what I have in living in a Workshop
& in struggling with this wicked woman.
   It seems as if I never were to be quit of her. Today I have an Attorney’s letter summoning me to pay Board Wages(!) to the dismissed housemaid. [Papa will tell you what this means].
   Of course I won’t.
   And now I do hope my family will not go about & say that I “make too much of this grievance,” that “all London houses are like this,” that my
   “Sanitary ideas are exaggerated” & c & c & c & c Les absens ont toujours tort. And I have found, les malades ont toujours tort. Because they cannot go about & tell their own story. And if my family tells my story for me in this way, people, in their idleness, are too glad to believe it. Yet this is the way that (non) Sanitary destruction to life & health is achieved & continued.
Mrs. P. Ward is of the sort who destroys Armies
(as she did her husband, fortunately she had no Army to destroy) F.N. is of the sort who saves Armies. Europe has thought that F.N. knows a little more about these things than other people. Yet there is nothing on which her own family lectures F.N. so much - as if her experience were some wild delusion. This is not the way to support truth. It is the way to encourage such people as this Typhus, begetting (Jove) Fury (ever dear Mum your F. [end 1:156]

9000/30 (2) initialed note, 2ff, pen, note: 2 letters id 9000/30 but nothing 9000/32

Sir Harry Verney [15:456] should return this to Sir George Lewis & say he is surprised to see that he (Sir G. Lewis) does not appear to recognise the pledge he gave in the Ho: of Commons to Sir H. Verney, viz. that the Club-house should be appropriated to a Soldiers’ Institute. Also say that Sir H.
Verney must ask
a question on that
subject in the Ho:
of Commons, as several
Members of Parlt
distinctly understood
that Sir G. Lewis
gave that pledge

I have consulted
with the War Office.
And the above is
the course they
recommend. [end]

F.N.
Ap 26/62

At the Fever compelling Erinns
9 Chesterfield St.
Ap 22/62
My dear Sir Harry
I think I smell something
good giving away (in Ld Shaftesbury’s
card) Could not something
be given to Fliedner’s Deaconesses
at Beirut & Sidon - their
Orphanages &c ? I have heard
nothing more from Sir C. Eardley.
All the missions I have
seen in the East (specially the
German) are beneath contempt -
All the Schools I have seen in
the East (specially the German)
are admirable Christian in
the grandest sense of the term -
ever yours F.N.
Dearest mother

I expect to have

an Analytical description

of each of the 3 little cats,

whether tabby or yellow -

If Thomas was with

his wife, Thomas may have

killed two of his little
cats.

I forget how long

the Cat’s Monthly Nurse

thinks they (the babies)
ought to stay before they
are weaned. But I think
it is 6 weeks.

It is better to send

me the two biggest
first. And the third
a week after.

Cats coats are

most often spoiled by

their being separated
too young; so that they
cannot be licked either
by mother or sister.

The mouse=colour

which Mrs. Sutherland has
(please tell Mrs. Watson)
holds her own against
a Maltese dog, a spaniel
dog & a large immense
Tom cat.

My present Pussie
has been married twice.
And no signs of little
cats.

Ever yours dearest Mum
F.
My dear Sir Harry

I have considered very deeply the letters you have done me the honor to send me - And when I say honor, I feel it so.

My first impulse is to say “go.” But then you know, I am what Ld Panmure called me, a “turbulent fellow”.

There is not the least doubt that the post is worthy of you & you of the post.

There is not the least doubt that Governors of the adventurer class have done our colonies much harm - that what they want is an English gentleman of a high moral standard - that of all the men they are likely to get, there is not one who would do so well for them as you -
Had England understood her true interests, she would have got parts of land in our Colonies for her younger sons, instead of making them hangers on of the Government Offices & of the Church. And our colonies would then have been very different places from what they are now.

Melbourne understands her own interests well when she says she wants a gentleman & not a professional man.

You certainly would do great good there. And so would an English lady.

The climate is one of the healthiest in the world & would far out-balance any harm the voyage would do Parthe - As far as human foresight can see, you & she would probably come back no older than you & she are now.

I do not think the consideration of leaving her father &
mother or sister ought
to weigh with her,

tho’ it will grieve her,
as also, it ought not,
I am sure, to weigh
with them.

You have of course
consulted your brothers.
Ask him to weigh
very maturely the
saving (of money) it would
be to you. This is the
point I doubt most.
Colonies are very
jealous, as indeed
this letter states, of
having the whole of
the income they give
spent in them. I
could tell you an
instance of a man
I know very well (&
quite the best
administrator I know)
who is unpopular
from this cause alone.
He saves the income of
his Governorship.

What you would
save would be simply
the cost of living in
England & the rent
of your house -
Your younger children
are provided for as
well as, or better than
most younger children
of their rank -
I confess this would weigh with me much less than the moral reason for going; & would not weigh at all against the sacrifice of leaving English Society for 6 years -

The post of a Governor, worthily filled, as you would fill it, is on the other hand, a very noble one - And I wish it were more the custom for men of your moral rank to accept these posts.

We shall miss you very much in all moral subjects connected with the Ho: of C., the Army & the Charitable Societies.

These seem to me the main considerations. If Parthe would like to come & talk things over with me, I could see her tomorrow at 12: instead of waiting till Sunday. Unfortunately I have tomorrow afternoon a Meeting of Men here about the removal of St Thomas Hosp1=, which, tho’ I shall not see them, I cannot put off

Ever yours
F.N.
Private 9 C St  
Ap 29/62
My dear Sir Harry
Lord de Grey
thinks that the best
course to secure the
Iron Ho: at Aldershot
is for you to ask
Sir G. Lewis in the
Ho: of C. about it,
alluding to his former
promise, and that,
if it could be arranged
that R.M. Milnes,

Genl Lindsay etc
could cheer or
support the proposal,
it would pledge
Sir G. Lewis to act
at once.
   The Horse Guards
have proposed to set
up a small Institute
in the camp. But
the best part of the
War Office say that
this is meant to
“swamp the plan for
using the Iron Ho:”
   It is needless to
say that Ld de Grey
takes the same view
that we did as to
Sir G. Lewis’ answer
to you.
   Perhaps you have
done something
already. But I
think not. As I
have only this moment
received the above
suggestion from Ld
de Grey.
P.S. My facts have
shaken his views
with regard to Police
Regulations (French)

9000/34 initialed letter, 1f, pen, black-edged paper, bundle 136

9 C St
Ap 30/62

My dear Sir Harry
   Thank you very much
for your letter & Notice
of Motion from the Ho:
of C. last night.
   I received this
morning from the W.O.
a letter, of which the
following are extracts:
   “some step must be
   taken at once
   about the Iron House.
   The Horse Guards have
   written a letter to
   urge the building
   being given up as
“Lugard is anxious
“for the club. Hawes
“objects to every thing
“Ld Herbert proposed”

x x x

“It is purely a
“question of pressure
“If Sir G. Lewis can
“be prevented from
“using the building
“as an Officers’ Club,
“the soldier may get
“it in time.”

I do not suggest to you -
You are a much better
judge than I, of the Ho: of
C. I only wish to keep you
informed of what the W.O. thinks. ever yours F.N.
[end]

9000/35 initialled letter, 1f, pen, bundle 136

My dear I have written
to Mudie to say that I
keep “Mountaineering” for
another week. So don’t
let Freddy be hurried
with it. And let it be
sent back to me here
when done with
F.N.
May 3/62

9000/36 initialed letter, 2ff, pen, black-edged paper bundle 136

May 2/62 [16:636]

My dear
I send back Mr.
Laird’s plans, with
criticism. I assure
you it grieves me
much more than
him to criticize,
when the good man
has taken so much
pains (& understands
nothing at all
about it). And yet,
as it often happens
to me to be obliged
to say, you had better put the Patients under the hedges than in such a building as that.

However in this case the present ground will really admit of a beautiful Hospl...[end]

If Freddy has quite done with “mountaineering”, please let me have it, as Mudie has sent for it, it being a new book. But, if not, let him keep it another week. Or I would gladly give him a copy of his own...[end]

Am I to keep on your beautiful little flat glass vase with the Azaleas?

F.N.
9 C St  

May 5/62  

[15:458]  

My dear Sir Harry

Sir G. Lewis admitted to Mr. Ewart that the Portsmouth Home would do good, but said no use would come of asking a question, because there was no money.

If you or Lord de Grey would apply to Capt. Galton or Lord de Grey for an authoritative statement that the £3000 for Dayrooms has been voted & that £1100 can be obtained from it for the Portsmouth Institute, Sir G. Lewis might thereby obtain some information of what he has put on his own Estimates.

But the only way to do this so as to carry weight is for you or Mr. Ewart to get the information at the W.O. & then to inform Sir G. Lewis that the money exists.
- then, if he makes any hitch, for you or Mr. Ewart to give notice of Motion for the question. And Lord de Grey must then inform that pendulum x (Sir G. Lewis) officially that the money exists & may be spent in this way

Yours
F.N.

x He is not even a pendulum but a shuttlecock

9000/38 initialed note, 1f, pen, bundle 136

The article favourable to the removal of St. Thomas’ is in the Medical Times of April 19

It is quite within my remembrance since an Article (like that) saying that anything but Medicine and Surgery signified for Medical & Surgical Patients, would have ruined a Medical paper. And it is inexcusable in
the "Times" to be behind
a Medical paper
which we used to
think the lowest
vehicle of ignorance.
    Even now, Dr. Guy
is advocating that
dirt is healthy & that
King's Col. Hospl
(the worst of all the
Hospls) is the healthiest.  [end 16:786]
    F.N.

May 9/62

9000/39 [8:168] initialed letter, 2ff, pen, bundle 136

             9 C St W
             May 14/62
Dearest Mother
    I was so shocked with
Miss Jones', of King's Coll. Hosp,
wear\=out appearance
on Monday, (I have seen
such terrible catastrophes
of men failing, failing,
unobserved even by
their own families; &
then dying in the prime
of their usefulness,
wear\=out, & old men
at 40 and 50,) She
seemed to me so wear\=out, body & mind, that
I told her she must
go somewhere for absolute rest; & that soon - And I wrote without her knowledge to her Dr., & told him that God would take her into his own hands, if he did not.

She is quite the most valuable woman I know now existing. Would it be possible for her to go in a week or ten days to Lea Hurst for a month? and could she be "done for " by the woman there? I would gladly pay for a woman, if this could not be, & pay for Miss Jones’ board down there. I believe it would save her life, meaning Miss Jones’ Entire solitude & the beauty of the place is what she longs for. I understand Papa does not go down till the end of June - Not that she would mind him so much as he her. ever dearest Mum your loving child F.

I never answered you
about Miss Fenton’s protégé.
I have taken my name
off all the places I
subscribe to & I never vote. Because
it was quite impossible
for me ever to receive
the applications for votes. But
the R. Hospl said if I
took my name off, it would
ruin them. But they took
my address off. And now
people write to my friends
for my address. I had a letter the other day from
a man in Russia I never
heard of in my life, asking
me to get an Epileptic
boy (in Russia) I never
heard of in my life, into
a London Hospl. This cost
me the writing of 20 letters.
And I have done it. [end 6:627]

{written vertically along the side of the first page, the ends of the lines not on the film}
You know I have been so liberal to the R. Hosp.
giving them
plans & £50. And
I might
well be spared
“voting & “interest” ing
My dear Sir Harry

About the Iron Hos; at Aldershot:
The arguments used against it by the Horse Guards: men there, are the very ones which we consider conclusive for it.
1. its position: to intercept the men on their way to those horrid places.
2. its magnificence, which is the only way to rival the attractions, often magnificent, of those wicked places.

This is an argument used by that sober man, Col. Lefroy, who says you must have sensuous attractions for the uneducated - They want them far more than the educated.

3: the Officers having paid originally entrance money £1 each, constitutes no claim upon the property. the place has failed twice as an Officers’ Club. In civil life this would be considered as their share as shareholders.
And the business has failed; that is all. But this is the Horse Guards all over.

4. I hate the argumentum ad hominem. But Revd Huleatt says he "knew me at Scutari". Yes & I knew him (for an empty headed coxcomb) And the best people at the W.O. opposed his promotion to Aldershot. But the Horse Guards carried it. He has made his fortune by a wound in China, incurred by going where he never ought to have gone.

Col Simmons is the best Engineer Officer we have & the worst judge as to the wants of the soldier. He has opposed institutions of far greater importance than the Iron Ho: for their benefit.

The Horse Guards have already urged on Sir G. Lewis the establishment of a smaller Soldiers’ Institute, for the sake of getting the Iron Ho: for the officers (Which the Officers never would support when they had it)

And the best people at the War Office {written vertically in the margin of the first page} told me this very thing with the greatest indignation against the H.G. A thousand thanks for the beautiful flowers from Claydon which cheered my poor old birth day very much ever yours F.N.
9 C St

May 16/62

My dear Sir Harry,

I only write today to thank you for your note about St. Thomas’ & for your enclosure of a letter to me (from Dr. Edwards) I found the enclosed in the latter, evidently not intended for me, so that I think I have lost something which ought to have come to my share.

Sir B. Hawes’ death, had it happened one twelvemonth ago, would have allowed the W.O. to be re organized & all would have been saved.

Now I can scarcely tell whether it will do us good or not.

The only man who can reorganize the W.O. is certainly Ld de Grey.

Since Albert’s death, the C. in C. is quite unruly, lost to every moral influence. Yet, if Sir G. Lewis follows anybody, it is him.

It occurred to me that, if the Horse Guards do seize upon the Iron
Ho: (and it would be tantamount to this, if the Military Authorities at Aldershot are determined to make it fail as a Soldiers’ Club) **could we not**

“go for” a Supplementary Estimate for building the Central Soldiers’ Home near the Permanent Barracks on condition & make a favour of letting the Iron Ho: go to the Officers?

You know it was never intended by us except for a Branch Soldiers’ Home.

ever yours F.N.

---

I have no recollection whatever of any Nurse of the name of Jones. If she were out “in the Crimea” with me, it must have been under a different name.

I have had forwarded to me (by lodging house keepers principally) innumerable applications of this kind - lodgers having passed themselves off upon them as having been my Nurses

F. Nightingale

---

My dear Sir Harry

It was only, if it were though wise, in order to conciliate the H.G., to give up the Iron House on condition that a Central Soldiers’ Home should be built near the Permanent Barracks, - it was only in this view that
I wrote my note to you.

As to the other suggestions in your note, Govt has already remitted the matter to Capt. Jackson. And he is the only person to decide. Neither he nor any one else are competent to decide upon those other questions which have been already reported fully upon.

But this afternoon & after I began this note to you, I have had some communication with the W.O. And they are decidedly against my proposal.
of yielding about the Iron House. They say Parlt has decided & they shall carry it out - probably sending Capt. Jackson for 6 months to Aldershot (putting him on the Supernumerary) to work it out..

But they say that, if you are going to propose the Officers’ question as well, they would build them three or even four Raquette Courts, which is what they are supposed to want most, if you could turn their views to that.

They say, as to the Officers’ Club, that twice the Officers have allowed it to fail, & that the Duke of C. is playing it with rather too high a hand now in trying to force the W O. to support a club for the Officers.

And this between ourselves, the D. of C. has been leading so scandalous a life since Albert’s death that, if it goes on &
becomes more public, the measures will have to be taken to invite him to resign.

Albert kept him in order. No one else could.

Could or would Mr. Calvert speak to Sir G. Lewis about the following?

Had Hawes’ death happened but one twelvemonth ago, the W.O. would have been reorganized & all would have been saved.

The plan of reorganization which was in fact Lord de Grey’s & which he could carry out now - the principal obstacle being removed - includes some important modifications in Hawes’ own office.

Into this modified Office Sidney Herbert meant to have put Capt. Galton, R.E. (not filling up Hawes’ office in fact - perhaps calling Capt. G. only Assistant Secy at first)

Were Capt. Galton there, Ld de Grey could carry out the chief part of the reorganization S. Herbert did
propose his plan of reorganization to the Cabinet in the latter end of 1860 (and it was accepted) and to the Treasury in the early months of 1861; (it is supposed that the answer came, if it did, after S. Herbert was too ill to attend to business & that Hawes burked it)

I do not tell these things for them to be repeated to Sir G. Lewis. which would not “do” at all. The part about the Cabinet he of course knows already) but to put you au courant.

If Mr. Calvert could or thought it wise to do anything, he would say only what was wise to say - which probably would be simply mentioning Capt. Galton.

ever yours

F.N.

9000/44 unsigned letter, 2ff, pen, black-edged paper

Dear Sir Harry [8:437]

I am very much obliged to you - I have heard twice from Gladstone who is evidently impressed by my facts against the French system, for which he was before in favor.

Ld de Grey has told Sir G. Lewis, at my request, that there is money for the Portsmouth home. But I doubt anything
coming of it.

Capt. Jackson has received orders to prepare the Iron Ho: at Aldershot for the men & to report.

Col: Higginson is going to open a Soldiers’ Institute at Montreal, Canada. He wants help very much, he says. As for Sir G. Lewis, I will do nothing. It is said that everything must be forced upon him by Ld Palmerston, & that without this he never does anything.

As for the D. Of Cambridge, he has gone to the bad entirely, since Albert’s death.

A very objectionable official, high in the Horse Guards, has remained a year after his term of Office had expired, by his own order to himself – there being nobody to assert even the Queen’s Regulations & tell him to go.

[illeg 7 lines upside down of too faint to read]
My dear Sir Harry

After a great deal
of consideration, I
have thought it best
to write myself
direct to Sir G. Lewis
& to ask you to take
the enclosed to Lord
Palmerston if you
will be so good.

It is the current
opinion in the W.O.
that sir g. Lewis
does nothing but
what Lord Palmerston
tells him.

I have of course
dwelt much more
on the re-organization
plan n my letter
to Sir G. Lewis. Lord
Palmerston knows it
well. And it would
not be my
recommendation
that would recommend
it to him.

I return your
letter & will write
to you upon it
tomorrow or tonight
if I can

ever yours

F.N.
May 19/62

My dear Sir Harry

1. With regard to the letter about soldiers’ gardens.
   There never was a doubt in the mind of any, except the H.G., as to their great advantage for the men’s health & morals. All soldiers should be cultivators. The French held out against Scurvy - so did the English for 2 years at Malta - by cultivating vegetables in the ditches.
   We are recommending the introduction of Soldiers’ Gardens throughout India (in our Indian Sanitary enquiry)
   It is just because the H.G. are what they are that it has not been done long ago.
   There is no difficulty about the division of profits. All that is necessary is to attach garden to station & not to Regiment: Every thing else follows
2. The question about the Iron Ho: is where it was.
   The H.G. are opposing.
   It is just because the W.O. is what it is that this opposition is possible.
   If Capt. Jackson is sent to Aldershot to organise the Home, it will succeed & the Officers will be none the worse -
   All they are doing now is what the dog in the manger did.
   ever yours
   F.N.

9000/47 initialed note, 1f, pen bundle 136

My dear
   Sir Harry brought me a pad sketch book with an exceedingly pretty wash-in of Palazzo Holford & some peacock feathers. But as inside was this note, I am doubtful whether it was intended for me -
   F.N.
May 22/62
Lord P. has forced upon
Sir G.L. the reorganization
of the W.O. which follows
from the non-filling up
of Hawes’ place & the
appointment (made
yesterday) of Capt. Galton
to the modified place,
under the name of
Assistt Under Sec -
   Sir G.L. wrote yesterday
to the Queen
   Galton resigning the
Army, which was made
the one condition
   Ld de Grey can reorganize
the WO. with
Galton.

Dearest
I think upon search,
that I had two Nurse
Jones’ with me “in the
Crimea”, one who went
out with the 1st party,
one with the last -
both discharged after
a short time for
misconduct -
   But what is very
certain is that I have
no means of tracing
either -
   And if it is the
last that is meant, she married in a disreputable manner & went out to Australia, (by her own account) or India (the latter I believe) I am quite sure that I have no reference to her whereabouts nor to the other’s - And it is respectively 8 & 6 years ago since I lost sight of them both

ever yours
F.N.

9000/50 signed letter, 4ff, pen, black-edged paper bundle 136

9 C St W
May 28 (arch: 1862)
My dear Sir Harry
I would very strongly second your own opinion not to speak to Dr Butler but to the Commissioners about the ventilation of Harrow School. I know from other sources that Freddy’s account is within the truth. Dr. Butler, tho’ (in my opinion) an infinitely better man than Dr. Vaughan, is
quite impervious on this subject.

Once convince people that Scarlet Fever, instead of being a “current epidemic” among children, is as much an accident, as a Railway accident, as direct a result of something wrong in the ventilation or drainage, or both - as the broken limbs on the Railway are the result of a collision - a result as preventable in the former as in the latter case. And you will have no Scarlet Fever. But I should think it better to convince a Commissr= than a Schoolmaster of this.

The poor Bp of London. (altho’ - or because a Schoolmaster) when Dean of Carlisle, as directly murdered his children by Scarlet Fever as if he had put a rope round their necks. He then adjourned to London & did the same thing for King’s Coll: Hospital by granting them a license to build over an old Church yard.
It is quite a grief & trouble to me that I cannot in some measure requite your hospitality by offering Parthe hospitality here. But I am more than usually busy - more than usually ill. And even those who were good enough to live with me once & devote themselves to me, always prevented in some degree my business & my power of sleep.

Blanch Clough’s house
21 Campden Hill Road
is vacant. But I suppose this would be quite too far for Parthe.

Oh; I see papers “to be let” up still in a window here in the narrow part of Charles St. Of course I cannot tell whether they would let for a few days or even whether it is furnished. But I think we could

send in from here food & drink & even a bed & linen, if otherwise it would do & if she brought her own maid.

You have of course tried our old haunts, Dover Ct & Burlington Hotel - & the place where Mrs. Bracebridge goes, in St. James’ Place (?) ever yrs affectely F. Nightingale
P.S. It occurs to me that the poor Galtons,
12 Chester St.
Belgrave Sq.
Are not at home.
She is at the Hotel at Norwood with the children & the widowed mother.
It is just possible that (to a relation) they might let their house for a few days, just as it is. At least on Monday I sent to inquire after health & children & the servants said they did not expect her back yet, that Capt. Galton called at the house every day but did not sleep there. Even if he did, I imagine that would hardly interfere.

June 18/62
Dear Papa
Tom & Topsy arrived in perfect preservation. They are more like human beings in a low state of civilization than animals. They said they were neither hungry nor thirsty, tired nor dirty, shy nor wild. They were only curious, particularly about a new spring bed of mine, the construction of which they had never seen before - & into which they mounted, immediately on arrival,
examine the springs. They behave as if they had known us & this residence all their lives - greatly to the horror of big Pussie, who does nothing but snarl at them. I think Tom & Topsy the greatest beauties we have had yet - particular Topsy. I must compliment Mrs. Watson upon their excessively tidy habits.

Have you any blue Forget me Not this year? Scarlet Geranium, blue Forget me not, White Teringa make the most beautiful nosegay. FN

9 Chesterfield St. W
June 20/62 [16:786]
My dear Sir Harry
The St. Thomas’ Hospl Bill is now before the Lords. It is intended to grant the Railway Co. a title to sell the site of the Hospl. Nothing can be done until it is seen what the Ho: of L. will agree to.

Mr. Whitfield came here to ask me to speak to Ld Redesdale. & to assure him that
Mr. Baggallay (the Treasurer) did not mean to make the
Surrey Gardens the permanent site of the Hospl but to move it into the country.
   Of course I said that Mr. Baggallay must be testimony to his own truth before Ld Redesdale
And that, if he were not believed (which indeed I am not surprised at, after his blundering) it was not I who could make
his testimony believed.
   As to Bethlehem, that site was already discussed by St. Thomas’ & found to be entirely beyond the disbelieving Apostle’s means -
It is enormously expensive. Besides which, the building would have to be entirely gutted & rearranged. If the Hospl is to remain in London, Bethlehem is the best site in those parts, but shares the disadvantages of all the S. side of London
But, tho' I am decidedly for the poor Bethlehem Patients being moved into the country, yet, of the two, I had rather give this chance to the Patients who are sane rather than to those who are insane.

The Times is excessively unfortunate in all its suggestions about Hosps; which I attribute to those articles being written by Simon (the St. Thomas' Doctors have issued the most preposterous &
The “Times” once advocated Chelsea Hospl, one of the unhealthiest buildings in London, being turned into a Hospl. I don’t know that any smaller grief ever distressed me so much as Sir G. Lewis’ conduct to Capt. P. Jackson. For it was entirely his doing. And his private Secy, Mr. Stephenson, made a most unmanly & unmannerly lie to Genl Lawrence, & actually asserted that Lady Herbert had “gained over” poor Lord Herbert in his last moments to authorize Capt. P.J. to do the “home” at Aldershot.

Of course we are now trying to do the best we can about the Iron Ho: without P.J. But nothing is yet decided. And I, for one, believe it will be a total failure
As to Devonport, P.J. must try to get up a local interest & draw up a plan. And then both the W.O. and I will help him. It is all we can do. But at least I can promise that he shall not suffer pecuniarily in any Devonport plan.

As for Sir G. Lewis, he is born, like the last King of Prussia, to bring his throne (or office) into disgrace. He was made for a Professor & nothing else;

like that King. And like that King, he breaks all his promises, even written, without even remembering that he has written them. He has in 10 months dragged down the W.O. to the same level of contempt, out of which Sidney Herbert and I were five years dragging it up. He may be an honest man. But I cannot call his accepting such an office honest. He is no match for the Horse Guards, which do the most impudent things unchecked. [end warwo]

I am very glad your Bazaar has made so much money.

Ever yours

F.N.
My dear Sir Harry

With regard to your letter of June 20.

1. Ld de G.’s plan of “leaving the Officers to manage the Iron Ho:” is just to ensure its failure.

2. The “Solicitor at W.O.” obviously knows nothing about the matter in giving his opinion in favour of Horse Guards. The Iron Ho: has lapsed. The entrance fee was paid, the Officers had their money’s worth out of it. And the speculation failed. What have they to do with it now?

3. Capt. P.J.’s Report “ought to” “have been published”, as it was. And tho’ P.J. has been sacrificed, it has done much more good than if the whole thing had been kept under the bushel.

4. Capt. P.J. shall be encouraged [bundle 136] to get up a Home at Devonport under the General as mover.

5. It would be dangerous to P.J. to “bring the whole matter before the Ho: of C.” because Sir G. Lewis is up to any mischief. He will do anything unjust or cruel. And his obvious answer in the Ho: of C. (which he is quite capable of making) would be that he & the C. in C. did not consider P.J. a fit person to employ which would ruin P.J. for life in his profession [end]

ever yours

F.N.

June 23/62
This is a very good letter & contains the soundest Sanitary doctrines - all except about the Canteen -

The theory of barracking men in smaller Bungalows as preferable to larger buildings - the theory about Cholera, about drainage - the fact told about Mean Meer (Lahore) - are all in the advanced guard of Sanitary Knowledge - the lad is going to turn out a reformer -

We have in our Indian Report, come to these same conclusions.

I wish the Horse Guards & Sir G. Lewis were as enlightened. [end] F.N.

June 24/62

My dear Sir Harry

I received the enclosed just after you started this morning. The best way is to send it on to you just as it is. But you will observe the “Mutiny” is for tomorrow (Friday)

I think the best thing that can happen now is to satisfy the poor widow.

I heard from Mrs. Bracebridge (an excellent
judge) that the "Philip" is truly admirable. She thought both the first Marochetti & the Noble detestable. The Philip, which Mrs. B. admired, was a full length recumbent figure for the tomb at Wilton & a bust. There is a bust besides by Philip of him. As for the Fine Arts Committee, they ought to be called the No Arts Committee. For the pictures they have admitted you would put into your cellar. and they will not have admit very fine statues.

ever yours
F.N.

Thursday
June 26.62

9000/56 signed letter, 2ff, pen, black-edged paper bundle 136

9 Chesterfield St
W
June 27/62

My dear Sir Harry
I am beyond measure astonished & grieved that these people should have printed, without my knowledge, garbled extracts out of my private letters. Had they selected only my facts, there would have been some excuse. But to print an opinion without asking leave & without giving the
context such as
that I “think the
“British Army Hospls
“the worst in the world”
is quite unjustifiable.
These are the
things which do mischief.
And I must
insist, if not too
late, that this
paragraph be omitted.
It is irrelevant,
useless, mischievous.
When I gave the
details of expence
of Hair in our Army
Hospl Mattrasses,
it was because I
thought such detail
might do good.
But this is pure
& simple mischief.
And, besides, it
relates to a state
of things which
has passed away
as they presently
show in the very next
clause of the same paragraph,
quoted from me,
which I have no
objection to let stand
ever yours sincerely
F. Nightingale
I think that, after
the trouble I have taken
about their Hospl,
the least thing they
could have done
would have been
to have sent me
this paper for my
remarks, before
adoption
[end 16:610]
My dear Sir Harry

I cannot tell you how sorry I am to bother you about this unfortunate business when you are not quite well. Ly Herbert’s letter (the enclosed: which she evidently does not intend you to see) will explain. She thinks it best to let the matter drop here, as you will see.

I leave it to your judgment: only suggesting that another course might be for you to tell the Committee: that, in sending a telegram to state what you yourself would have stated in a very different way, if present, you had no idea of either dictating yourself or making Ly Herbert appear to dictate to the Committee: that she had been asked to give her opinion & she gave
it, in a letter, the substance of which you telegraphed as shortly as possible - that you repeat there was no intention of giving more than an expression of opinion, either on her part or on your own.

But I don’t advise - I only suggest - I cannot understand that Committee - It was a most false step asking for her wishes, as it would either entail the refusing them, to her great pain, or fulfilling them, against their own opinion.

Any how, it is behaving like children to construe your word “She wishes” into “She desires” or “She orders” And it is worst of all, having asked ever yours her,

F.N. wishes, not to think the poor widow’s

June 30/62 wishes paramount
July 10/62  [8:973-75]

My dear

I think Fletcher the very person to keep your house at South St. Because she is very clever, very sharp & somewhat “uppish”, to use Walker’s word. And you know you want a very clever woman there. There is such an immense deal of to-ing & fro-ing, things to forward, parcels to carry & to make up. All this Fletcher would do remarkably well. I have known Mrs. Williamson have as many as five parcels in a morning to go out for, to make up & then to despatch for you - And she was so skatter-brained that, when this happened, she would actually forget her roast at the fire, her saucepan on the fire. And everybody but herself would have to go without dinner. Now Fletcher would manage.

But - - - - it is quite
unsafe for that house
to be kept by one woman
alone - for two reasons
1. the very beauty of
the house, which is, its
standing on so large
an area (for a London
house) makes it
impossible for one person
to keep. You know the
back & the front are
farther off than from
each other than either
is from the adjoining house.
I am as certain as I
can be (of anything that
I have not seen) that
Mrs. Williamson kept
the whole Livery stable
in that house. Fletcher

would not do this. But
the Livery Stable might,
keep itself in the front
while she was in the
back & vice versa
2. There is really so
much to do in parcels
etc for you; which compels
your servant to be out
of the house, that the
house must be left to
itself for many hours of
most days, if there is
but one woman.
   I should say - Fletcher
ought to have a Sister
with her. She has sisters.
One now in London, staying
with an Aunt.
   You know the autumn
is just the time of the year when there are the roughest men about. And almost all the horrid crimes which are committed are done in this way: A man rings after dusk with a parcel or other pretence at a house known to be kept by a lone woman. How is she to get him out of the house again? It is a thing I would not do: to put a lone woman to keep a London house. And if you have a married woman with a husband over whom you have no hold, then happens what happened with Williamson.

But Fletcher is a very much fitter person to keep your house than Williamson. However again: in a compact horrid little house, like this, which is built like a pack of cards, where I, in the drawing
protection) from No 1 Chesterfield St to No 9, than from the back of South St. to its own front.

You might go farther & fare a great deal worse than my "boy" - He is the son of very respectable people, in the coach building line. He is extraordinarily disgusted. [He was bound apprentice, but taken away again, because the master got drunk. So that the parents are very careful people] I believe the "boy" does all the work of my house. I know he peels the potatoes & scours the floors. I have had a conversation with Fletcher since I
wrote this. [I told her repeatedly & expressly that I had no authority from you] She would evidently like exceedingly to keep your house. & did not feel afraid of being alone in it. It was I who threw out hints of its not being desirable to be alone in a house. I asked her about her sisters. There is one, next to her in age, now in London, who generally keeps her father’s house, who could come to her for a time, & who could then be replaced by the next sister, a strong steady girl of 19, who was in place, but was “had home” to nurse the mother, (of whom Fletcher spoke with tears) who is now keeping the mother-father’s house, but would come to Fletcher when the sister, now in London, & who, being older, is more
fit to keep the father’s house, returns home.
   I gave Fletcher no positive hopes but said I would write to you.
   I think it very desirable for both sides.
   And women who have been obliged to keep themselves on their guards (in a public house) are more likely to keep themselves on their guards in such a situation as yours.

Dear Papa
   I have sent your letter to the Agents. I thought it did very well. And now, if you will just send on my letter to Mrs. Bracebridge, the thing is done as far as I am capable of doing it. I shall be very glad if the Fletcher business can be arranged.
   But I am very incapable of writing letters just now.
   F.N.
My dear [8:975]

Fletcher does not think that she can
keep herself & her sister (& with no washing money for herself &
sister) at South St for 10/ a week & coals.

And, what is more to the purpose,
I don’t think so either
You see it is not like a married
woman who is saving house rent by
living keeping your house.

At the same time I see no fairness
in your being obliged to raise your
wages, because Fletcher is Fletcher.

I therefore propose, unless you
know of any one else who would suit
you, to continue Fletcher’s wages, (£14)
for which, in addition to your 10/ a week,
it would be worth her while for her to keep

South St with her sister -

I shall wait to hear from you
whether you know of any body else,
before settling with Fletcher.

At all events, I shall keep her
at Hampstead, where I go on Aug 1,
till your tenants go out Aug (?)7 {circle drawn around}

F.N.

July 16/62

9000/61 initialed letter, 1f, pen

9 C St

Thursday 3 P.M. [15:465]

My dear Sir Harry

Capt. Galton tells
Capt. Jackson that the
vote may come on to=
night about the
Aldershot Club House
item.

Of course you know
this, if it be so, better
than they do -

I only tell you, to
satisfy that restless
mortal, Capt. Jackson. [end]

ever yours

F.N.
Aug 29/62

My dear

I have only heard Lord Elcho’s note of the 22nd today. And I write down hurriedly a few of Mr. Alexander’s characteristics. If they will be of any use to Lord Elcho, he may do with them what he likes, except putting them in the newspaper. I must be ill indeed,

not to say my word for Mr. Alexander. During two years, ’57-’59, I think Sidney Herbert met him nearly every day at my house, where all the Regulations & Reports were written. But it is very difficult to write a true account of Mr. Alexander without offending every one else—and very important
not to do so. Therefore I have kept myself to generalia altho’, in my opinion, his administrative career (as Director General) was as much higher than his career in the Crimea, as Cavour is higher than Garibaldi.

He was a truly great man, morally great more than intellectually great.

And God be praised that moral greatness carries with it such power.

Sidney Herbert’s grief for his loss was quite touching. As soon as he heard of his almost sudden death, he sent to a friend who was then staying with me, to break it to me before I heard of it otherwise. And I have survived them all!

Aug 30/62

I have a kind of intuition that, in my letter yesterday about poor Alexander (for Lord Elcho,) I said that he was made Director General by Lord Panmure. I meant, by General Peel. It was under his administration that Alexander was appointed to be Director Genl.

When I think how
full of promise
Alexander’s brief
term of office was, & how little
he had time to
perform, I feel
how much greater
the loss & greater
too than people
can sympathize with comprehend
who do not know
how much was cut
short by that death
rather than how
much was done by
that life.

It is this which.
makes the recollection
of him so pathetic [end]

F.N.

My dear

Mr. Laird’s letter (which I forgot to
return) gives no
“information” whatever.
Unless he were to
send me all the plans,
it would be of no
use at all. And I
confess I feel but
small heart for
them.
2. Lord Elcho is quite
at liberty to make
what use he likes of my letter to Sir Harry about Alexander. The two letters to you I wrote so that you could send them to him too, if you liked. [The correction about Ld. Panmure he must ought to have] - And the sentence about not having received his letter till the day I answered it, was written for him, not for you. Of course I trust to his discretion as to what he will use & what not. As to my seeing him, it is impossible. Every year, until this, even under my heavy trouble of last year, I have been able to get up & sit up some portion of each day on first coming into the country. I
have been here 5 weeks now & have not got up to sit up once nor to come downstairs - Only 3 or 4 times I have gone into the garden (without being dressed) for a few minutes & gone to bed again

3. Please thank Mr. Calvert (when you write) for a magnificent present of grouse & a very kind note ever your F. Sept 4/62

{written on the top of the first page}
I see Ld Elcho mentions Friday as wanting his answer.
I will worry about the Portsmouth Female Hosp, which is well worth it

[end 16:636]
Sept 6/62 [1:157-59]

Dearest Mother

I write to thank
for many boxes & for
many kind letters
& to say that the
“partridges” you announce
have not made
their appearance,
unless as Ld Dundreary
would say, they are
3 brace of grouse,
sent me by Mr. Calvert.

Yes, surely, I
know Mr. Whitehead

of Gawcott very well
- by his books -
which he was kind
enough to send me -
& which taught me
a great deal about for
Soldiers’ Clubs - that
they were needed for
the unsteady & not
for the steady -

I wish I could
give him a better
living. But, as I can’t,
I hope he will stay
on & get a holiday
with you.
Parthe says, she “holds me up to him as a bugbear of the effect of overwork.” Be it so. Anything which will make him take holiday is good. But let us distinguish.

1. For the permanent work of a life a wise man will husband his strength - also for a work which depends only upon himself

2. For a work which depends upon others or which must be done within a certain time to be done at all, I don’t see how a wise man can husband his strength.

To which of these categories the work of any man belongs, that man only can judge. And I never preach to any one as people preach to me. I only say when my advice is asked (which it often is) “decide for yourself to which category your work belongs & act accordingly -
i.e. manage yourself, as you would an instrument, to get the utmost amount of work out of it. which, if the work belongs to category 1. is certainly by lasting out your whole life at it.

But I confess I have felt that my people might give me more credit, at least for deliberation, especially when the event has so dreadfully justified myme. Never was life & health cast/employed away/or given up so deliberately as I have mine.

Surely my Crimean work comes under Category 2. If I had not done that while the war was going on, the sick men would all have been dead.

Surely my War Office work has been dreadfully justified as being under Category 2. It was entirely dependent upon the
life of one man, upon
his being in the House
of Commons, upon his
being in the War Office,
apon his willingness
to work with me.
I never thought of
his death. I thought
of his leaving office,
of Ministers going out,
of his becoming Ld
Pembroke - I never
thought of his death
But that came beyond all I had
expected. Do you know I
have felt so much
the little justice my
family have done to
my deliberation (I ask
no more) in their own
minds that I wrote
the enclosed to Parthe
(#but never gave it her.)
Please do so now.
I only ask that
my people will
think themselves & say to others,
At least she did
deliberately what
she thought right.
“She is of age: ask her.”
No woman ever before
directed the labour
of a Government Office.
She must be the judge
as to the when & the
[3] how, if a woman chooses to undertake to direct men over whom she can have no legitimate or recognised control she shall do it. No one else can judge how she shall do it.

In looking back, the things I regret are not these. I regret that I have let visitors talk to me to the last moment before a meal, thereby incapacitating me for food & sleep altogether that I have let them say, with a little scornful smile, "I suppose you can’t eat before me." Also if they were to see me after eating, they would never wish to see it again. I regret that I have received two visits on the same day— or after 5 o’clock— things which always bring on my spasms &c these & such like are the things I regret & not that
I have done my work, as long as God would let me.

Burnouf died, because he would finish his book, which depended only upon himself, by a certain time I do not judge him anymore than I like to be judged. But if his work came under category 1, that is the sort of way in which I never would kill myself.

Please when the M. Milnes’ come, say everything for me to both. I sent a maid every day to enquire after him. And I dare say they did not hear of it. I did not like to ask her to write. Bence Jones told me a year ago that he considered his a very bad case (You need not tell them this, of course) And he was so dreadfully right about S. Herbert. [end 1:159]

ever dearest Mum

your loving child F.
My dear Say all that is civil for me to Lord Elcho. Say we will meet in heaven or on earth. But mind he is not to come up here, even if he would. Sutherland is very anxious to see the paper about Alexander, if Ld E. has sent it you. How odd that, after all the trouble we took, the lapsus (calami) about Ld. Panmure’s name should still have crept in. How provoking. Many thanks for Rawlinson’s letter & for all you have been doing at South St. which I hope will benefit you & your descendants as well. Tell Mr. Milnes that if he “complains” that the “brute Bence Jones cheated him of some 40 dinners” the “brute” complains & complained hard a year ago to me of him that he “cheated” him, (the “brute”) of all possibility of curing him. The “brute” predicted this attack of his to me a year ago, & said that the “dinners”, “40” or otherwise, would cause attacks, not 40, if he did not mind. I am so glad that little Susan Whitehead is growing up a school genius.
Oct. 10/62
Dearest mother

I must now trouble you on the disagreeable matter of servants. Sarah Fletcher has given me notice, as you will see by the enclosed. And I am glad of it. For: -

1. She is not strictly true & honourable. She has been detected in a great many deviations from truth
2. She has nasty low ways of public house gossip and slurs; and is a very bad example to my other young women servants.

Indeed I am very sorry that my way of life has been put within the power of her nasty gossip. I have treated her most openly and like a friend. And she has made me a very mean return. I thought the plan of keeping South St. would suit her better than mine (for she is a very clever woman) and call out her faults less. Or I would not have recommended her to Parthe. And now she gives me notice.

Please read her letters to me (enclosed) and read my answer to her yourself to her. But do not put it into her hands; you never can tell what she will do with it.

But it is not because she was careless and selfish and put me so much expence (by her selfish carelessness) that I feel she is o loss. . . .
that I feel she is no loss. 
But because she 
is untruthful. Do not allow 
her to take you in, when 
she makes her statement 
against me. She is very 
plausible. And I could 
hardly have believed 
that she would have 
written me such a letter 
when I remember what 
passed between us 
You see, dearest Mother, 
I shall want both cook 
& housemaid when I go 
to South St. on Nov 1. 
What shall I do? 
ever dearest Mother 
Your loving child 
F

9000/67 initialed note, 1f, pen, bundle 136

Dear Papa
Sir John McNeill 
is in town 
Fenton’s Hotel 
St. James’s St 
ever your loving child 
F 
Oct 11/62

9000/68 unsigned letter, 2ff, pen [8:168-69]

{written diagonally}
To be 
returned Hampstead NW 
Oct 18/62 
Dear Papa 
In the order of my 
gratitude the game 
should go: 
Miss Jones 
Lady Supt 
King’s College Hospital 
W.C. 
1 brace pheasants 
1 brace partridges 
(because she gives 
some to the Assistant 
Physician who 
teaches our Probationers 
for nothing) & I will 
write to her to say so
2. Mrs Wardroper  
  Matron  
  St. Thomas’ Hospital  
  Surrey Gardens  
  Newington  
  Surrey  
  S

1 brace partridges  
1 pheasant  
1 hare (or omit the hare)

3. James Paget Esq  
  1 Harewood Place  
  Hanover Sq  
  W

1 brace pheasants

But as it is impossible that you can supply all this bounty please tell me which has not been done

2. If my Mrs. Walker could be summoned to town not on Tuesday to look at the housemaid I should be glad.

3. I forgot to ask you both times, did you bring up some Ginger wine for me? I have been ordered Gingerette & what you get at the shops is brandy, brown sugar & string. Nothing but home made ginger wine is any good. I asked Beatrice to order some at the “Jug & Glass” or of Miss Hall. Did you hear anything about it?
4. I hear that 6 acres have been bought for the new Winchester Infirmary “on the road to Hursley & Romsey”. If so, it must be the best site which they have taken. But how could they get “6 acres” there? Do you know any thing about it?

5. Since I wrote this, I have had a very good character of Anne Woollett from Mrs. Foster. Would you acknowledge this to Miss Thornton, & say that, if Anne will come up to South St. any day but Tuesday, to be spoken to, I shall be glad.

ever your loving child

9000/69 initialed note, 1f, pen

Dearest mother

Would you think it possible to drive down & see me tomorrow (Saturday) by 4 o’clock?

ever your loving child

F

Hampstead NW

Oct 24/62
My dear Sir Harry,

I would send your son George’s medicine chest to Savory & Moore’s to be filled. They are used to do it. The usual medicines for India are

- Quinine
- Castor Oil
- Opium (Laudanum)
- Calomel (a small quantity)

Write to Savory & Moore & ask them to fill it in proportion & to add (in the empty bottles)

such medicaments as they usually put into amateur medicine chests for India; & to send instructions as to the doses. I should prefer having pills, made up in the different quantities, to medicines in the powder. And I should prefer most of all no medicine chest at all. It is so dangerous for young men (or for old women) to medicine themselves - And the best medicines, & often
the best Dr., are always at hand in a Regiment. But a youth must have his way.

Savory & Moore are used to be asked to give instructions as to the doses.

I sent your red lily to South St. with many thanks.

I did not want you to obtain contributions for Syria far from it - people starving at home now must come before soldiers & Deaconesses. But I thought you might persuade Evan: Alliance to do something. However, after 6 weeks delay, they have deigned to answer my humble request merely to use their office. The two most arrogant humbugs in Europe are:

1. Louis Napoleon
2. Sir C. Eardley, Dr. Schmettan & the Evan: Alliance

ever yours
F.N.
Dear Papa

Sarah Fletcher has this morn sent her £1 to Walker; & left my book with Walker’s mother. Queer woman!

As to the “soft water” at South St. Boiling will always get rid of a certain amount of hardness. And chemists distil. During my illness at South St, I always got my soft water (distilled), from Savory & Moore’s. But distilled water, you see, cost money. [Sir James Clark never lets the Queen use any other. Nor would I, if I had the ordering of home boilers]

As to your hypotheses, you see I don’t know that one of them exists. A “tank for rain water” I conclude does not exist. For altho’ Parthe’s Mrs. Williamson (The Charwoman) would tell any amount of lies to save herself trouble, I don’t know why she should tell us that.

So I suppose, it will end, by as most
things do by my seeing
Humphrey myself, when
I go into South St., &
having a rain water pipe
put in - also in having
Mrs. Walker’s sitting room
white washed, where,
she tells me, the rain
has come in & spoilt
the ceiling.
====

Yes, I have always [4:496]
thought the Hindoo
philosophers have
done just what I
would not do, viz.
speculated about
the nature, neglected
the character, of God.

I believe M. Mohl would
tell you that the Hindoo
metaphysics are the first
in the world - their
Moral Philosophy the
last - or rather none
at all - Brahmanism
appears to me the most
monstrous of all the
despot priesthoods - with
no God at all. Buddhism
a beautiful Social
reform, but also
without any idea of a
perfect God. [end 4:496]

I see your Dr. Perfitt
still preaches in Newman
St. ever your loving child
Oct 25/62 F
My dear,

I have been too ill to write since I came here.

There is a fine healthy breeze in both drawing rooms. And I think I shall enjoy it a little longer, & then I have no doubt I shall be obliged to "give in" & accept your curtains.

I think the view from my bed out of the W. bay on an autumn afternoon cannot be prettier any where, except in a mountainous country. when you can see it.

We have had very bad weather, as perhaps you know, & twice were obliged to burn candles till one o’clock, even in the drawing room.

Today & yesterday are sunny.

I don’t think even royalty can have such a princely bedroom as mine.

It seems impertinent to ask Sir Harry to his own house. But I hope if he comes to town, he will sleep here, if he prefers it to his brother’s

Today poor Clough has been dead a year.

Nov. 12/62 ever yours

F.N.
Dec 13/62
My dear Sir Harry
I have not got you much information for Freddy’s Tutors.
Mr. Jowett wrote to Torquay to enquire.
Mr. Warner’s (you have already heard of it) he thinks good but too young for Freddy.
He recommends highly
the Revd G. Venables
Bonchurch
I. of Wight
(formerly curate to Archdeacon Hare, Herstmonceux).
as a good & conscientious man, a good classic & who takes pupils to prepare for Oxford.
He adds sorrowfully, that good Tutors are hard to find anywhere, more particularly if you are tied to a place.
He will enquire farther. ever yours
F.N. [end 1:709]
Lofts, the agent, told me that the house in this street, 41, belonging to your nephew, might be to be let. But I have heard nothing more from Lofts. I do not want to trouble you to write to your nephew. But if he should tell you that he would let his house till Easter please tell him that you know of a most desirable tenant who, instead of making “dilapidations”, actually cleans, whitewashes, repairs & repapers at her own expense. It certainly would be a great convenience to me until the India Report has got thro’ the press. I am thinking of taking lodgings over the Stationery Office. Only I should drive McCulloch

{written on the top of the first page} into a Lunatic Asylum in 6 weeks.
My dear Sir Harry

The real reason about/against 41 South St. is (not that I should use the drawing room floor as a bedroom. For I had no intention of doing so. Neither did I mention it to Lofts. [I think he must have heard it from some one else.] I meant to live entirely on the bedroom floor, if I took the house.

But it is that 350 gs are asked for the house for barely 15 weeks., which I have no doubt the house is worth, but which is nearly twice what I intended to give. So I have quite given it up.

I have still hopes, however of a house in S. Audley St. And anyhow I could not be happy a single day turning you out of your own house. So pray don’t trouble your generous self about that.

I hope Parthe will come (to her own house) on her way thro’ London & sleep here
You do not say where Capt. Philip Smith is going in Canada - if to Montreal, I would ask him to take a small money (in cheque) to Col Higginson to pay the freight of some things I have sent out to his Soldiers' Institute. He has done it so well. And it is prospering so well. And it will prosper more, if Capt. P. Smith goes there. But I am rather in hopes that he will go to Quebec or some of those places without such care, & set up Day Rooms or an Institute there, where none are.

Perhaps you will tell me his direction in London & if I may send him the small moneys.

ever yours gratefully
F.N.

Dec 19/62
Xmas Eve
1862
Dearest mother
I cannot help
writing a word of thanks
for the beautiful
Christmassings which
now adorn St. Thomas,
King’s College, & dear
Rev’d Mother’s School
and a word of congratulation on Xmas Eve,
bitterly sad as the
season is to me. Still
there are feelings of
joy in which we can
all unite - joy at
the good will in Heaven
towards those poor men
for whom we would
so gladly give our
lives - whose faithful
servants Sidney Herbert
and I have been.
at the good will in
Heaven towards all
the sick & all the
weary. And I am
sure I do not grudge to my two
that they should
pass their Xmas
Eves in Heaven.
Two doz. Ginger Wine are just arrived from Mrs. Radford, of which three broken.
How shall I pay my bill? and how shall I thank her? [end 1:160]
   ever dearest mother
   your loving child
   F.

9000/76 initialed letter, 2ff, pen [1:330]

Xmas Day {arch: ?1862}
Pray let Freddy dine & sleep here on Monday.
It will not make me “nervous” at all. It would make me very “nervous” if he did not.
I am so busy, so behind hand with my work that I am afraid there would not be a chance for my seeing you, dear, except on Sunday.
I am not what I [9:269] was this time last year,
Sir John Lawrence says that we ought to have been at least 5 month’s forwarder with our work.

And Dr. Sutherland has scarcely done a stroke since July 8.

I have had Lord de Grey here - And we have concerted a plan for helping Sir J. Lawrence. [end 9:269]

ever your F.

The India Mily authorities [9:269] are coming round i.e. the blow is struck, they declare themselves vastly “ill=used,” but they do what we want.

Sir C. Trevelyan has just sent me a printed paper from a Col. Crommelin, R.E., who has the supervision of Barracks in Bengal, which has adopted nearly all our principles.

Now I saw a few weeks ago a private letter from this Col. C. full of foul-mouthed violent abuse against us - We
Wellcome 9001

ought to be & I hope
are very thankful.
For this adoption of
our principles, without
thanking us, is all
we want. [end 9:269]

9000/77 initialed note, 1f, pen, black-edged paper bundle 136

         Hampstead NW
         Thursday
Dear Mama or Papa
    The War Office has
just given me a
holiday. And if either
of you could drive
or ride down to be
with me from 4 to 5
this afternoon, I shall
be truly glad -
    ever your loving child
    F.
9000/78 initialled note, 1f, pen {arch:?62, black-edged paper bundle 136

cliff
First greets the homeward veerings skiff
High o’er the land he saved in vain -
When shall such heroes live again?
Please send me the whole of this
passage. I think it is on the tomb
of Themistocles in Childe Harold.
I mean to inscribe it to the men
in Scutari grave yard, to whom it
is far more applicable.
    F.N.
9000/79 initialed note, 1f, pen (arch: 1862) bundle 136

Dearest mother
   I enclose Mrs. Foster’s character.
If you & Walker like the girl, I
propose to give her £13 a year
(which is £1 more than Mrs. Foster)
& every thing found; beer & washing
found too - & to raise the wages
to £14, after the first 6 months,
if we mutually suit.
   Please have a confab. with
my Mrs. Walker about her, after
you have each seen her -
ever dear mother
   your loving child
   F.

Tuesday

9000/80 initialled note, 1f, pen black-edged paper bundle 136
I am sure I shall be very glad if Sir Harry [3:393]
likes to take the Sacrament with us on Sunday from Mr.
Jowett. But I thought (candidly) that Mr.
Fremantle might “take a legal opinion”
whether he could not be brought up before
the Old Bailey (or whatever their Ecclesiastical
Court is) or at least turned out of his
own Church at Claydon, if he did so -
   I am sorry Sir H. had no talk with
Sutherland about Gibraltar. But I suppose
there was no time.
   Thursday       F.

9000/81 initialed note, 1f, light pencil, blue paper, bundle 136

Dearest
It is quite impossible
for me too do anything
this morning but my
business
Let her go back to
Salisbury - be in no way
of course engaged to me.
But leave with you her address
at Salisbury, so that
I may write to her in
a few weeks time (if I
am looking out) to know
if she is still disengaged.
   F.N.
   [faint pencil, not FN hand]
   Miss [illeg Wroth?]
    High St
    Salisbury
My dear

Your red lily which came from Claydon is quite gorgeous - two stems, five flowers on one.

I am glad to hear from an indifferent bystander that the Fletcher women have made your house quite beautifully clean. Sarah Fletcher came to me here & asked me, by your desire, what carpets she should put down before Mama came. I said the carpet in the big bedroom, of which the floor is splintery & does not do to scour too often.

About my going there, I had intended, when I left this house on Nov 1, to be guided entirely by what is best for the W.O. work, when
you were so good as to offer me your house. But I am afraid I shall never be able again to live except on one floor, with a little room along side where I could see a man, or sit (without dressing) while my own room is being done. I have not once been downstairs (to sit) here, even with these easy stairs. I spend my afternoons in bed in a beautiful South bedroom on the bedroom floor. And on fine days, I go out for 5 or 6 minutes in the garden, often without dressing & just have my coffee to rest on the ground floor. I am afraid I should never get up the stairs at South St, for what makes the drawing room so good is the noble height of the room - or if I did I should never get down again. And I should not like

{written across the top of the first page} to turn your drawing room floor into an Invalid’s bed room. I am much weaker than I was at C. St.
Private I presume that Capt. P. Jackson has reason now to suppose that his health will stand India. Two months ago, he told me it would not. I hardly know how to dash his hopes about Sir J. Lawrence. But the Military authorities in India are as dead against us as here. You saw the Indian article in this morning’s “Times”. The Military authorities sent that despatch straight to the “Times”, without even having the common courtesy to let us know of its existence, because they know we could answer it. [I have entirely failed in getting a post in India for an Indian of high rank & long service].

Had I better write to Sir J.L. by next mail, or send my letter by Capt. P. Jackson? I had intended to have asked you for your carriage today to see “34”. But I am afraid it is quite impossible this week. I believe I should hardly get back alive. I may be better on Saturday. But this long winter weakens me to a degree ever yours F.N.

1863
1 Jan Kinglake
13 March ?Mrs Herbert becoming R.C.
29 June Jowett to give Communion
30 " Sir Joshua Jebb
23 July Sir C. Wood mixing up papers
24 Aug Renan
19 Sept Prostitution
23 " Scarlet lily
4 Dec Royal Commission
27 " Prayer
I am very glad to have seen Sir G. Brown’s notes. They are admirable.

It is the difference between a professional & a non professional man - a man who writes from having been present at the whole transaction; & a man whose vanity leads him to write from having peeped only at a part, & eked out his want of information by “camp gossip,” & a guessing at probabilities.

The difficulties which Mr. Kinglake’s narrative leave on the mind, all find their solution in this paper. It is the real “key to the Battle of the Alma.

It shews that Mr. K.’s theory about the Battle of the Alma can all be demolished. It shews that his central points are
no points at all.

The best criticism on / character of Mr. K., which I have seen, is at P. 24 (314) viz. a "flippant self sufficiency & confidence combined with "ignorance of his subject."

And at P. 21 (307) where his want of the two first requisites of a "chronicler" is pointed out.

P. 12 (229) is one of the many instances where Mr. Kinglake is completely put out of court by a professional soldier.

So p 2 (63) about the Bashi Bazouks. Poor Col: Beatson found the organizing these men very much like as if a couple of intelligent mice were to try to discipline my Persian cats into a corps -

But this is venial. But Mr. Kinglake's misrepresentation
of the causes of the Crimean War (alluded to by Sir G. Brown in several places) is not venial, since he pretends to be a historian, not a soldier.

How noble is the account by Sir G. Brown, P. 27., which could only have been written by an old soldier & a man of honour. And how much more dramatic even than Mr. Kinglake’s fuz=buz of words - Considering the odious unfairness of the offender, Sir G. Brown’s strictures are gentle, gentleman like tho’ withal caustic. [end]

F.N.

My dear Sir Harry

When you were so good as to ask me to stay here till the 23rd, I fully intended to go, as I told Parthe, on the 17th. And the Agreement with Col. Brown of 4 Cleveland Row was actually drawn up for that day. Since that, the Browns have made
every kind of exaction & have wound up with saying that, because of my delays produced by their exactions, they cannot go out before the 21st. It is a serious thing to be in the hands of such sharpers. But the upshot is that I must ask you to let me stay, as you were so kind as to say you would till the 21st at earliest or the 23rd at latest.

2. A man called here this morning to lay down tar in the street. Is this by your order? As you I was going so soon, I did not have it done. But the first tan which you were so good as to have laid down, the Commissioners had all taken up again. for they said, the parish authorities did not allow it, because of its getting into the gully holes & drain ventilators. As I was thinking of having tan laid down in Cleveland Row, would you tell me whether this objection is usually made by the public authorities?

Ever dear Sir Harry
Yours truly & gratefully
F.N.

Jan 9 1863
4 Cleveland Row S.W.
  Jan 30/63
My dear sir Harry
  My hand protests
against much writing
which I don’t wonder
at - being myself of
the same opinion.
Still I must say
a word of thanks for
having again had so
comfortable a three
months’ in your
beautiful house -
of which I think
the fresh air just

the same as the
country’s. (& quite
as free from blacks)
  I really don’t
know so beautiful
a town view - not
even in Paris - &
(don’t laugh) I
admire the N. view,
from the fire side,
down to Park St.
almost as much.
I have often sat
there enjoying it &

thinking it like a
French Street - with
its yellow ochree
stripes & its grass
green placards -
  The public house
at the corner is also
a Vestal for purity
- very unlike my
public houses.
  I have come
down here into close
proximity with the
W.O. - which convenience
makes Dr. Sutherland
think it “the airiest situation” he knows
[I don’t.]
   God has taken
away my “five just men,” Albert, Genl Bruce,
Sidney Herbert, Alexander,
& my dear Clough -all
within a few months.
& left none but men
who don’t know their
right hands from their
left - & likewise
much cattle
   Ever dear Sir Harry
yours affectionately & gratefully
   F.N. I was so sorry

{written vertically in the margin of the first page}
that I was too ill to see you when you were so good
as to call
here.

9000/88 initialed letter, black-edged paper 4ff, pen

   4 Cleveland Row; [8:438-39]
   S.W.
   Feb 10/63
My dear Sir Harry
   The important points
in the course Sir G. Lewis
wishes to take - is what
he intends by it. If the
object is Police Regulation,
after the fashion of
the French, there are
two objections; 1. it
has still to be
proved that that
system has been
of any use at all
2. it has to be proved
that the country will
bear all that must
necessarily follow
such a change in
the law.

Amongst other
things, the Ho: of C.
must declare
prostitution a
legitimate calling.
If England will stand
this, then England
will stand the
suppression of brothels
& of all public
prostitution, which
is what we want.

But we have proof
that you cannot deal
with this question in
the way proposed.
And, to shew this, I
send you a paper
giving the results of
Army experience, as
proved by their own
Statistics. I believe
you have seen this
before. Mr. Gladstone
has seen it. If you
like to shew it to
Sir G. Lewis, & bring
it back to me,
pray do.
You will see, by this, what a case the opponents of any proposal for Police inspection would have against Ministers. And, depend upon it, the case should be used.

The real remedy is to make the Barracks more of a home. The most decent places the men have to go to now are Brothels & Beershops. Give the men an additional room or two to sit, & smoke & talk in at their Barracks. In large Garrisons, give them Clubs or Institutes.

The real answer to Police regulations is the passage (marked in red) in Capt. P. Smith’s letter -

I have touched upon the subject at the end of my paper on Sidney Herbert. too.

[illeg] Do these things see if you can’t do without

making your country a licensed house of ill fame as France is: & then without at all diminishing disease either Ever dear Sir Harry your affecte

F.N.
I am afraid it is utterly impossible for me to do as Mr. Hastings asks. I have no paper ready. And the beginning of the Session is just my busiest time. No day passes without 3 or 4 papers from the W.O. And the Indian Commission have chosen just this time to wind up their report.

9000/89 initialed letter, 3ff, pen, black-edged paper bundle 137

4 Cleveland Row [15:467]
S.W.
Feb 14/63
My dear Sir Harry
I shall be very glad to see the Report which Sir G. Lewis proposes to send me. I knew of the Committee & I have heard some of its results. There is nothing in them that cannot be pulled to pieces in a moment by any one with the least knowledge of the subject for none of the Committee
had any. But I shall be very glad to see the Report as a whole (it has not come to me yet) & give you my opinion on it.

As for Sir G. Lewis’ remark upon the Rich men’s clubs, it is merely a pun upon the word “Club”. The clubs we want for the soldiers & the clubs to which rich men belong have no one thing in common.

The latter are frequented by people with plenty of money & nothing to do.

The former are for homeless men, who have literally nowhere to sit down but the canteen & the brothel. We want to put them in the condition which the young men of the London clubs would be in, if they had no clubs. viz. to give them such places to live in (in proportion) as these would have
without their clubs.

Really it does astonish me that a man who writes about Logic should make such an illogical remark. [end]

These Soldiers’ Clubs have been tried with the most beneficial results. And no pun will undo these.

As to Kinglake’s book, it is really beneath contempt. And he has damaged his position for ever by it with anybody who knows - But, as so many people do not know, I should, if I were commander in Chief, or Lord Clyde, put a cool letter in the “Times”, setting down his lies.

That Mr. Kinglake rode on a pony at the battle of the Alma is the only reason I ever heard given even if by him giving for them. [end]

ever yours
F.N.
Private 4 Cleveland Row  [8:439-40]
S.W.
Feb 20/63
My dear Sir Harry
   Of course to me
the wish of the War
Secretary is a command.
And therefore I send
you the document
he asks for - but
with this proviso; -
1. I have seen such
disgraceful opinions
emanating
from the
W.O. on this subject,
that I mean to take
farther means of
making public my
view of the question
than merely submitting
it to the War Secretary
- & therefore he must
not consider my doing
so makes it a
“confidential” document
   2. I would prefer
his not shewing it
to any one in the W.O.
Or if he does so, he
must communicate
to me the counter
arguments. You see
it would destroy
all its usefulness,
if it were said
“Oh! we’ve seen all
that before - Sir G, Lewis
has answered all
that.”

I have seen all the
documents upon which
the Report, not yet
printed, is founded.
And I may tell you
that there is not the
most ordinary amount
of intelligence brought
to bear upon the subject

Evidence is adduced which would not stand
the test of the most ordinary examination.

We have heard all
those arguments used,
and all exploded,

(except by a few old
women) about in the case of small
pox & Plague & in
favour of Quarantine.

Now nobody believes
in quarantine, except
Sir J. Liddell, & he
is chosen to urge
the cure of syphilis
by Quarantine!!!!

- Again, Dr. Gibson
admits the failure (of
Inspection) about at Gibraltar -
But he tells Sir G
Lewis that the illeg
Medical Officers
were bribed by these
unfortunate women. Methinks, if this statement were made public, Dr. Gibson would not be many days Director General. If it were known that British gentlemen had been accused by their own should him of such a thing.

My intention is, as soon as I have seen the Report & all the documents, to collect together the mass of contrary evidence, which is overwhelming, & of which my little paper is only an atom - to shew the glaring folly of some of their statements - & to publish it make it known, (not under my own name, of course - that is impossible).

You will see now why I can only shew this paper to
Sir G. Lewis as a friend. Because he will go to Dr. Gibson, Dr. Gibson will "answer" (?) it all - & the answers will not be submitted to me - tho’ they will be said to have "convinced " the War Secretary.

I have no other copy but the one I send you - ever yours

F.N.

Since I wrote this & after I had actually put up the paper for you, one faction at the W.O. has written to me, strongly urging me, for the very reasons adduced above, not to give up my documents to Sir G. Lewis, till this disgraceful Report is out, in order that we may see how to answer it.

I think Sir G. Lewis will understand, if you will read him portions of this letter, that our reason is a logical one; & that the moment he sends me the Report, I will send him the answer.
Feb 25/63
not mine: have not worn any thing but black
for at least 10 years; nor dealt with M & S.
I have these bills in three & four times.
Could you not get it paid? or I shall
have them/it in three & four times more -
It is quite a serious grievance to me the times
I have to look up my receipts (not in this case)
& answer to bills which are not mine. F.N.

March 13/63
Dearest mother
1000 thanks for
box & flowers. I am
very, very sorry you
cannot keep Miss Jones. [3:327]
But what I write for
now is to ask you, &
to ask you to ask her;
and contradict every
where the report of
Ly Herbert’s conversion
to R. Catholicism.
    Her brother & I
are in constant daily
intercourse with her -
weekly, at least. She
has not even seen Manning
nor heard him preach.
Antonelli (Cardinal) has been very civil to her.
But he openly professes irreligion. Monsignor Talbot has worked at her Conversion & found it “peine perdue”, to use her own words.

Of course the R. Catholics are very anxious to catch her -
Of course they are putting in every newspaper that they have succeeded
They always do -
But I should have thought it even beneath “Times” morality to quote from “Cork Examiner”.

9000/94 continues letter 92, initialled letter, 1f, pen {arch: mid March 1863}

The “contradiction” was put in by her brother with ex post facto consultation with me. He is so scrupulously accurate that, even if he did not believe it, & thought the contradiction might prevent what he & I so much dread, he would not put it in, if he believed there were any grounds for the assertion -

But neither he nor I do. I cannot say that she has never dabbled with the R.C.’s. But I do not believe that there is any danger now.
I am quite aware that
every body is saying so.
Lady Augusta Bruce
whom I have seen
told me so. I convinced
her. And I begged her
to contradict it every
where -

Please tell Miss Jones
ever dearest mother
your loving child
F.

Is anything (uncontradicted)
in the newspapers to be
believed? Then good &
true people must spend
their lives in contradicting
lies in the newspapers - [end 3:327]

Mar 18/63
Dear I am willing,
if you all of you
think it a good thing.
But I don’t think
my visit of 10 min.
could be taken
into any more
account than this,
that it prevents me
from pronouncing
against the house -
I would not recommend
a house myself upon
such small premises,
unless it were good
For an investment.

Of course Rawlinson
must have a veto,
either way - I believe
that most Sanitarian
Engineers would consider
that W.C. in what
ought to be the best
bedroom fatal.

Really this appears
to me all I can say -
As for "6 days",} 6 weeks
for a person in bed
is less than people (well)
usually take to decide
upon a purchase - I
don't think the house so
attractive as to justify
a jump at it. ever yours F.N.

9000/95  initialed letter, 1f, pen, black-edged paper bundle 136

4. Cleveland Row  {printed address:}

S.W.

Dearest Wonderful is
the selfishness of human
kind - and of Lady
Ashburton in particular

I have received
an imperative message
to send her a Nurse
tomorrow. (This is
impossible) - but I
MUST send Logan.
I don’t know where
she is. Could you
settle it all? I have
actually kept the Ashburtons’ servant here in London to take Logan back with him to Paris.

ever yours

F.N.

Monday

The message came by R.M. Milnes

9000/96 initialed note, 2ff, pen {written on the bottom of a letter of Parthe Verney to her re housemaid

Memo

I have consulted with the housemaid. And we agree to stay together.

Would Mama like to drive down here tomorrow, (Sunday) afternoon not later than 4 (to be here)

F.N.

Miss Fearon’s

2 Oakhill Park

March Ap 4

If Mama comes, would she send to 4 Cleveland Row to see if there is anything there for me, (as my messenger does not come tomorrow or Monday,) & bring it, if there is?
Dear Sir

They have forgotten illeg to send me a bottle of Port Wine from Embley. Could you send me two, immediate? (one for poor Burton, who will think it tastes better, being out of your bins-)

If you want to give information to Ly Hatherton about the Training Nurses,- the enclosed, drawn up by Jebb, is the only thing which does - F.N.

Wednesday morng [Ap 15.63]

S.W.

My dear Sir Harry

Could you take or send this to Lord Palmerston, so as to secure his reading it - In case you have yourself already spoken to him, would it be better if you found another Messenger to (some one who knows Ld P. equally well with yourself) to take it to him - I am actually going down to C. Row to be on the spot this morning - in case you have anything to suggest to me -

ever yours
F.N.
9000/99 initialled note, 1f by B. Jowett of April 17 1863 to Miss Nightingale, will not be inconvenienced by going to Hampstead, meet you there at 2:30

FN note [to HV?]

Will you & Parthe (if she comes) be here then by 2.30 tomorrow (Sunday)? You see Mr. Jowett comes by himself ever your F.

Satur

9000/100 unsigned letter, 1f, pen, April 63

Dear Papa

1. You see Lord de Grey has it after all. I am so very ill & so very busy that, if you are going to stay thro’ this week, I would really say, not till Thursday & Friday, both of which are comparatively leisure days - with me - But tell me how long you are going to stay.

2. Give Sir H. the enclosed paper (by me) he knows what it is. The enclosed scrap of letter he I kept by mistake (of his)

3. Could you order for me (from Lea Hurst) 1 doz. more bottles Ginger Wine. 3 came burst of the last batch. ever your loving child

9000/101 initialed letter, 1f, pen {arch: Ap 63}

Dear Pop

I have written to Genl Storks that I will see him.

About the “cup.” please tell me when I am to pay. I am told that making cheap cups for Volunteers is quite a trade - & that a badge is a better thing. [Lord Elcho’s shield, they say, is the only good thing that has been done] - But I am no judge which is best.
I would have written
to Sir Harry about Schleswig
Holstein. But I have
been so busy & so ill.
And I don’t think
I am a good judge.
      ever your
        F.
Lady Verney

9000/102 signed letter, 2ff, pen, black-edged paper
    4. Cleveland Row, {printed address} [1:162] [6:524-25]
S.W.
  May 15/63
Dearest Mother
  Yes: the “Sanitarians”
know quite well what
makes a sickly spring.
If the winter has been
more than usually
mild, it seems to
affect the national
constitution so as to
render it less able
to resist any causes
of disease in the
spring. And this
altho’ it spares the
old & the pulmonary
of course more than
a severe winter.
   If upon this
unusually mild
winter, follow a
wet spring, we
expect to see the
Scarlet Fever epidemics,
such as Diphtheria &c.
If upon it follow a
dry spring, such as
this, we expect to see
the severer epidemics,
such as smallpox &c

2. Ann Clarke’s mother
has been released at last
And to day is the
funeral. Ann Clarke,
who has been nursing
her mother all this
year, & is much
broken, will then
go with us to
Hampstead for Whit=
suntide

3. Do you think [1:734]
you would make up
a fine hamper of
home produce for
Revd Mother of Bermondsey
& send it to me
by Tuesday, as on
Wednesday I go, if I can, to Hampstead. And I should like to send her the hamper on Tuesday. I generally buy send her a flitch of bacon two or three times a year - A leg of pork, apples, nothing comes amiss. What I buy is not so good as what you send - And plenty of your American flowers to make a show for * her children on Whitsunday - please. [end 1:734]  
    ever dearest mum  
    your loving child F.  
{text sideways, left side of page;}  
    Your yesterday box went to cheer poor Miss Jones flowers & all. [end 1:162]  

9000/103 unsigned letter, 2ff, pen, bundle 137  
{written diagonally} Burn  
{arch: 28 May 63}  
[1]  
Dear Papa  
    I did not send your note to Uncle Sam (about the will), because I was in hopes to find that I could get it out of the Bankers on my own requisition. But this, when Mrs. Bracebridge came to town, she ascertained for me that I could not.  
    Meanwhile I
burnt your note, because I was afraid it might be found, in case of my death.

So I must trouble you to write it over again. I think it did very well, but I think I would say: -

"unasked, I recommended Florence to look over her will every year - [the advice of ______ to me" (this if you like if not not)

“She answered, I wish you had given me that advice when you were in town. Because you would have got my will for me from the Bankers where Uncle Sam keeps it,"

And then add something about my extreme difficulty in writing - & then preferring your the request to send the will to me.

This in your own words I think is about the thing.

If I were to have
any further baruffa
with the Sam Smiths,
I could not be sure
that I should keep
my reason - And it
is an essential to me
therefore to avoid it.
I have better things to do -
ever dear Pa
your loving child
May 20/63
Please send the note,
when written, to me
to see - but enclosed
in an envelope
stamped & directed by
you, so that I may forward

9000/104 initialed note & letter, 4ff, pen, bundle 137

My dear Sir Harry If you are in London,
could you be so very good as to cash
the enclosed Cheque for me (in bank
notes £50, in sovereigns £10/ & send
it up to me, not loose but sealed
up?
I hear that Parthe & Emily
return to Claydon on Monday - is it so?
4 C. Row
June 5/63
June 15/63
My dear Sir Harry
A word to Lord de Grey will always do good. But the less “direction” by “Committee & Secretary”, the better
The principle is that the “Homes” or Institutes should all be self governed & pay their way. Even Regimental Officers have been found to be doubtful agents, except as cash=keepers.
N.C. Officers & men work best as the Acting Committee. And there should be no outside interference.
So far this, as regards “direction”. As regards “organization”, the first point is to
keep the W.O. up to providing the Institutes in large garrison towns where necessary - the second, to induce the W.O. to have Capt. Jackson to organize & set such Institutes going. there will not be more than two or three [Indeed, I think, in equity, they stand pledged to him, as far as Aldershot goes] But he had much better act alone without a Committee, if at all. But the after = “direction” should always be in the hands of N.C. Off. and men. PRIVATE I may mention to you privately that I have heard from the W.O. that Ho: of C. is not necessary to make Ld de G. act in this matter, but that there is absolutely no money this year, & Ho: of C. pressure will not
give him money.
I asked for a very
small sum, scarcely
more than what
I had given myself,
for an Institute
just now - & was
told this.
I only tell it
you for what it is
worth. I am not
at all sure it is so;
true or that Ho: of
C. pressure is not
always desirable
ever yours
F.N.

9000/105 initialled letter, 2ff, pen, bundle 137
4 C Row S.W. [1:162]
June 23/63
Dearest mother
I heard some days
ago that you would be in
town “in a week”. I don’t
know whether this
means next Saturday, 27.
But if fortunately for
me it does, I have
asked Mr. Jowett (who
will not be in London
again for two or three
months) to give me
the Sacrament next
28th, Sunday, at 3. And
I invite you & Papa, 
as I hear something 
of Papa going to 
Combe - & coming up with you. [end 1:162]

  [I am afraid
I cannot give
Papa a bed till 
the Saturday following, 
4th, as some furniture 
must be moved for 
the purpose.]

Please answer by 
return of post, if 
there is any possibility 
of you or Papa, or 
you & Papa coming 
to join me on Sunday 
next - ever dearest mum 
Your loving child 
F.

Please tell Hill, if 
he has any grapes, 
to send me some, 
as grapes are the 
only thing my dry 
morning mouth 
can take, till the 
servants are up & 
can get me a cup 
of tea.

9000/106 unsigned note, 1f, pen

Dear 
  1. about Emily. I am 
sorry to hear she has these 
fainty feelings. I hope she 
is not pining. But I do 
not believe she has that 
unhealthiness of mind. 
Yes: Williams does do 
what you say - but not 
more than all other 
consulting Physicians - 
I would take a consult 
such not to tell me 
what medicine to take 
but to tell me what is 
the matter with me & 
what I am to do. The 
most striking example 
of the former thing I know 
is Dr. Todd’s visit to Mrs.
Smethurst, who it was
supposed was poisoned
by her husband - But you
don’t care about those
cases -

2. The loss of Col Jebb is
incalculable. I wrote to Lady
Amelia & she has answered
me - I will send you
her answer as soon as
Papa has seen it, He was
the last of our set.

3. Thanks about the Stores.
But I don’t quite understand
it. Because I have received
two receipts, each for £7.7,
from Sir Harry. I hope he
received my Cheque for
£7.10.6 But have I not
another £7.7 to pay him?

4. I have been so sorry
not to be able to see Sir
Harry this time. But It has
been quite impossible for
me -

9000/107 signed letter, 2ff, pen {arch: 30 June 1863} bundle 137

Dear Papa

What a loss is Sir J.
Jebb. To me he was the
true cast of hero, saint
& martyr. He was the
last of our set. There are
none like him, no, not
one, left behind to take
his place -

Did you have them
this year?
I have written to
poor Lady Amelia, for
I think none but myself
can know what her loss
is.
I have lost in less
than two years the two
Chairmen & the Secretary
of my little N. Fund.

Would that that
were all the loss in
them!

But Sir J. Jebb
looked on the criminals
as an ill used race,
whose salvation he was
to work out.

Where shall we
find that generous
confidence now?

2. I don’t know that,
without him the thought
of him, I should have
found strength to write
to you this morning.

The gist of my letter
was that you should
write by & bye to U.S. asking
him to send me my
Voluntas (or a copy of
it) to look over,— in
pursuance of the opinion
of _______________ who thought
every one ought frequently
to do this &c; & that
you had urged this
opinion on me. This is
the only right way of doing it, I think.

3. Would you tell some
one to send me
rabbits, dead. They
are very useful to me.

4. Would you send me
up my “Sylvia’s Lovers”
by Mrs. Gaskell, which
Parthe took to Embley.

ever dear Pa
your loving child
F.

June 30/63
June 22/63
My dear Sir Harry

I am correcting the Third Edition of my “Notes on Hospitals”. And I want to put in a small plan & elevation of your Aylesbury Infirmary, as it now is.

If there is a lithographical plan, as it now is, could you give me one? If not, could you get for me the loan of the Architect’s large plans, that I may have a plan & elevation reduced for my wood cut?

I had occasion to write to Capt. P. Jackson, R.E. Plymouth, last week. I have had no answer. Do you happen to know whether that is his the right address now?

[6 lines scribbled over & illegible]

ever yours
F.N.
June 30/63

Dear Papa

I must manage to write during the last day you will be alone -
I enclose three letters of yours to me, which please return - in the first of which I fully agree, & can hardly understand what prompted the second last.

It seems to me that the advice of the first is the very wisest I ever read - but that to make a new will every year, without even reading over the first last will, is to act diametrically in opposition with Uncle Carter’s advice if it is is.

The shame & anxiety to me of making a new will, without U. Sam’s knowledge, would be
far greater, (to me) than that of stealing
my the old will from my
& his Bankers without
his knowledge.
   I do not remember
what is in it. At
least I remember
all I had rather
not remember &
nothing of what I
would remember.
   I have not made
up my mind to
make a new will.
But I entirely feel
that my will ought
not be out of my
own power. I once was told
by one whom I
considered wise -
that no man or woman ought ever
to tell during
his or her life what his or
her will was, for fear
he or she should wish
to alter it.
   This advice came too
late for me - I have
made a dreadful
mistake -
And I
hope you will help
me out of it - not
by telling Uncle Sam
(or advising me) that

Letter 109 initialed note, 1f, pen

       My dear Sir Harry
Would you kindly cash this Cheque,
as you have been so good as to do
before, in £5 notes & sovereigns
  10
 ever yours
      F.N.

July 2/63
July 3/63

My dear Sir Harry

I am sorry to vex you about such a trifle, tho’ important enough to me - It is of the greatest consequence to the India Sanitary Report that I should remain in town the whole of this month, & to my illness that I should do it undisturbed.

See what Col. Brown writes.

I will not take up your strength or mine with telling you what makes this so particularly heinous on his part. He made me turn out of bed to shew the house to Ld Delamere. And now he will be “most happy” to receive 25 guineas, but it will be of the
My dear Sir Harry

I have been druv, [9:225] druv druv, these last three days with bringing out the India Army Sanitary Report. Copies have now been sent to the newspapers & ministers. But it is not yet presented.

I hear that the Report is to be taken up in the Ho: of C. by Mr. Conyngham, (or Mr Cunningham, which is it?) Is he a proper man for so great a subject? And, if it is to be taken up, ought not some one of weight to do it, & not a member whose influence is doubtful. Could you help to a solution of this difficulty?
I am afraid that Mr. Conyngham is going to give notice of a Motion directly. [end 9:225]

ever yours
F.N.

I had a packet from you directed to Col. Lennox about the Guarantors at Aldershot. But no letter from you in it. I have not forwarded it, thinking I should receive a note from you. And indeed I have been too busy to think of anything.

I find it a very bad thing to have to do with highly honourable men. Because they always think every one else as honourable as themselves, & leave no written agreements about anything, or depend upon others acting honourably. Here am I in a peck of troubles, because Lord Stanley will not carry out Sidney
Herbert’s verbal understandings as to the pay of the 2 members of the India Sanitary Commn. who did all the work.

And Col. Brown, whom you thought to move, writes a blackguard letter, the sense of which is, “Miss N. is not dying, & therefore she can move. But if she is were dying, I take advantage of it to claim 25 guineas a week in August” [end 9:226]

F.N.

9000/112 initialed letter, 2ff, pen, black-edged paper

4. Cleveland Row (printed address:)

S.W.

July 14/63

My dear Sir Harry

As Mr. Coningham’s notice is out, would it not be well to take the opportunity of getting together two or three influential M.Ps, who take an interest in the matter, & going with them to Sir C. Wood, to Lord Hartington & to Lord Stanley at the House; & asking them what
practical effect is to be given to the recommendations of the Report - asking them also to appoint the home Commission at once. shewing them, in fact, that the Report has made a deep impression on those who understand the condition of the soldier & asking that M.Ps really wish to know what course they should take, instead of asking absurd questions like Mr. Coningham -  

Dr. Sutherland would come to you, if you wished. Or you could see him here, if you desire to take me into consultation - ever yours 

F.N.
My dear Sir Harry

I have made a full statement to Ld. Stanley of the understanding upon which S. Herbert employed Drs. Sutherland & Farr on the India Commn. And he has promised to carry it out. Unless you know any thing other than from me, in which case your testimony would be very valuable as corroborating mine, I think it would be better for you to say nothing to Ld. Stanley. He is a queer tempered man.

But if you would ask him in the Ho: why the two Vols. folio of the India Sanitary Report are not presented to the Ho: of C. (I understand they are only to have the single 8vo vol:) it would be very desirable. When such immense labour has been given to the complete work, with all its Diagrams & plans it seems a pity not to distribute another 1000
It is, I believe, only the additional expense of paper. For where one thousand is printed, which is the limit put to the (two large Vols:) delivery, a second thousand may be.

ever yours

F.N.

9000/114 initialed note 1f, pen, black-edged paper, bundle 137 {arch: '63}

4. Cleveland Row. {printed address:}

S.W.

Could some of you read this over aloud (as far as Appendix) & tell me how many minutes it takes?

F.N.

9000/115 initialed letter, 4ff, pen, black-edged paper

4. Cleveland Row {printed address:}

S.W.

July 16th 1863
My dear Sir Harry

There are two letters of mine about the I.A. Sanitary Report lying for you at St. Jas’s Place.

I write now direct, because it is very important that no time should be lost.

For some reason or other, the only account of the proceedings of that commission, which
lasting over 4 years, which the Ho: of C. has received, is a Report, to which is appended a Précis by Mr. Baker, the self styled Secretary of the Commission, the contents of which, for it professes to give the substance of the Evidence, are simply ludicrous, & weaken (by not bearing out)

the Report.

This is the small 8 vo which is all that has been presented to the Houses of Parlt.

We are in this danger that, though everybody is at present appalled by the Report, they will find this incomplete Precis does not bear it out – & also not a single person has laid hold of the our main point, viz. reform your Stations first & then we can think about
Hill Stations & reserves.

The question is now, how to avoid this, & to place a fair account before the Ho: of C.

Of the evidence, not only of witnesses, but of the immense & far more valuable evidence in map of stational Reports which we have.

This is simply due to the House. Because upon its action will to a great extent depend the future of the India reform.

Even already questions have been raised involving the judgment of the commission - which could never have been the case, if the evidence, oral & stational, had been read.

Would it be possible to have the following documents called for, in the House
1. the evidence of the witnesses
2. Miss Nightingale’s paper, prepared at the request
of the Commission
& giving the
conclusions of the
Stational Returns
3. an abstract of the
Stational Returns
these documents form
a portion only of the
first folio Volume, & should
be printed in 8 vo
as they have done
the Report.
Two 8vo Vols: would
do the whole. The first
should contain the
Report, my paper, &
the Abstract. The second
should contain the
oral Evidence
ever yours
F.N.

9000/116 initialed letter, 2ff, pen, bundle 137

July 16. 63
My dear Sir Harry
Could you see Dr. Sutherland? I
could send him to you tomorrow by 11
AM. Or you would find him here.
However the immediate business
is this (I wrote it to you by the post
to Claydon today)
For some reason or other,
carelessness, I suppose, Lord Stanley
has permitted a self styled Secretary
Baker to present to the House
as the result of our 4 years’
labours on the I.A. Sanitary
Commission an 8vo vol: containing
the Report & a “Precis of Evidence”
by Mr. Baker, which is simply
ludicrous & weakens the Report by not bearing it out.
Also, not one single person has seized our main point, viz. reform the Stations first because it comes out with much more salience in the omitted portions.

Several members of the Comm. have asked me to ask you for some independent M.P. to move for
1. the Evidence of the witnesses
2. Miss Nightingale’s paper on the Stational Reports
3. an Abstract of the Stational Reports
to be laid before the house

These all form parts of the first folio Vol. not laid before Parlt.
These might be put up in two 8vo vols thus
Vol 1. Report
  Miss N’s paper
  An abstract of Stational Reports
Vol II Evidence of Witnesses

As the Ho: will ultimately mainly decide upon the future of our Indian recommendations, it has a simple right to these documents.

It has been called “Reports”* in the Report, margin passim.
But properly it is “Returns” as on the title page.

*The word Reports was put in by Baker.
My dear Sir Harry

In As to discussing the question of your motion with the Librarian of the Ho: of C.: -

will you state at once that vol II of the I.A.S. Report, - containing the Stational Reports/Returns is solely intended for official purposes in India. They constitute the ground work on which practical measures are to be carried out in that country. It is not intended that this Vol II should be distributed to the Houses of Parlt to whom it would be useless -

The question relates solely then to what part of Vol I should be printed issued to the Members

This Vol: contains 943 pages, besides the Report & the Precis. (which is utterly valueless)

The whole Evidence, on which the Report is founded, is contained in the “Minutes of Evidence”, in “Miss Nightingale’s Observations,” and in the Abstracts of Returns “made to questions issued to Stations.” [This lies between p. 1 of Minutes of Evidence and p. 462. which is the last page of the Abstracts.]

An index to the Evidence is wanted, which we will prepare, if called for.

We should be satisfied with this, as a compromise.

ever yours

F.N.
This is the course which would bring the really essential parts of the Evidence, separated from the non essential, before the members. But, if the question is to be one solely of obtaining an additional supply of the two Vols: from for M.P.s who wish it, every copy should be put into circulation as soon as possible.

9000/118 initialed note, 2ff, pen, bundle 137

{written on the bottom of a note evidently from her mother:
Dear Child
will you have me Sunday as your unoccupied day for 2 nights or Friday for 1 night? ever thine
FN
[FN begins]
Dearest mother
I have not a chance of being at Hampstead on Friday
Tho’ of course the house & maids will be too glad to receive you -
If you came from Saturday till Monday, it would be a reason for me to go to Hampstead on Saturday night & see you on Sunday. We are in all the paroxysm of conflict with Sir C Wood & Lord Stanley who do not wish to appoint our home Commission. This is what makes me say I must be mad to try without Sidney Herbert to app construct a Department of Government
ever your F.
Private {written diagonally}

2 Cleveland Row
S.W.

July 23/63

My dear Sir Harry

Under the circumstances
& under the curious
blunder made by Sir
C. Wood who fancies
himself laying one
work on the table of
the House when he is
in fact laying another,
I am sure I am
doing the best in
leaving it entirely in
your hands.
I will only say
for Mr. Vardon’s

information, who says
the reprinting the
broken up type will
be £1000, that Mr.
Spottiswoode states
it will “be about
£260”.
Every one concerned
has behaved as badly
as they possibly could.
And I only wish I
had a part of my
4 years labour
back.
I have been engaged
however in a much more important thing for the result of the Report. And that is getting the home Commission appointed. After many disappointments, I learn from Ld de Grey that Sir C. Wood will probably add two Indian members on to our Barrack & Hosp Commission at the W.O. And this is good -

Pray don’t trouble yourself to call on me. I am sure you must be overdone.

ever yours  
F.N.

9000/120 Letter 120 initialed note, 1f, pen, written at the end of a letter from her mother, bundle 137

7 Oakhill  
I am here, having quite broken down. And your rooms are all ready here from Saturday till Monday & excessively disappointed if you do not come.

ever dearest mum  
Your loving  
child F.
Wellcome 9001 519

9000/121 signed letter, 1f, pen, black-edged paper, bundle 137

[1:163]

7 Oakhill Park
Hampstead NW
July 31 {arch: 1863}

Dearest mother

I am very sorry I did not acknowledge the Ginger wine. I did to Papa, & asked him to acknowledge it to Mrs. Radford, & to ask her to begin the manufacturing anew directly & to send it me when ready. As this envoi was only of one dozen. The next had better be of two doz.

Also, I have ordered Romola at Papa’s request I will sent it him, as soon as read. Novel tho’ it be, I think it the fairest & most life-like representation of Savonarola
Wellcome 9001

that has yet appeared. I am glad you arrived safely pretty well & hope poor Pet will reconcile herself in time. But Topsy was the pet with me - ever dearest mum
Your unfortunate Child

Two years the day after to morrow - two years!! Is Sidney Herbert’s death [end 1:163]

9000/122 signed letter, 2ff, pen, bundle 137

7 Oakhill Park
Hampstead NW
Aug 17/63

Dearest mother
1. Would you write to Hill & tell him to send the weekly box straight to me here? It has gone on coming to C. Row. I do not know whether he sends anything but stocks, as I have always sent on the box to some one in London, instead of having it down here -
2. Would you tell Papa that he has never sent me any “wuts”-
3. pig -- please remember I like pig always, if only to give to my numerous nuns & friends
4. Please tell Papa that I have ordered Renan’s Vie de Jesus, which I shall like much to read - (only I wish he had ordered it & desired it to come here). I do not however share the enthusiasm for Renan, tho’ he interests me. **his tone**
But I must write about this to Papa another time. At present to write even one additional word is almost impossible to me even to my dearest mum from her ever loving child F.

5. How did Mrs. Webb like the box?
6. Does any one pet poor Topsy?
7. We have obtained with difficulty that orders be given at the Sales Offices of Parliamentary Papers to refer any one who wants a copy of the two folio Blue Books of our India Army Sanitary Report to Mr. Baker (Burial Acts Office 4 Old Palace Yard S.W.) Pray order a copy directly (I presume it can be done through a Bookseller) & pray tell any one of your friends who wants a copy. The more it is circulated, the better. And it is well to make it known to Booksellers.
Aug 24/63

Dear Papa

As regards Renan -
His tone goes against me, tho' everything he writes interests me. It is as if he said, “Jesus was an impostor but a very fine fellow too. And I am a very fine fellow too to find it out & to admire him quand même. He did it all for the best.”

Mr. Clough used to say, that no one could make much progress who could not acknowledge that Christ was capable of making mistakes. This of course I agree in. But I think I would add, no one is capable of making much progress who can see in Christ’s mistakes impostures. Strauss could see nothing in Christ but a village apothecary, who walked over the hill of Bethany, & disappeared the other side. Renan is a thousand steps above this. But, for all that, I think there is a great want of moral feeling,
in him - tho’ every word
he writes is invested
in a halo of passion
& poetry. This is no
doubt the reason why
he makes such an
impression upon people.
I know none but
Victor Hugo who has
the power of placing
before one, as Renan
does, in living colours
those who died hundreds
of years ago.
   I once said to Mme
Mohl that, notwithstanding,
I thought Renan did
much harm to Xitianity
while wishing to profess
it. And she said, he
doesn’t want to profit
Xitianity but to profit
himself by selling his
books -
   I have marked the
Vie de Jésus with great
N.B.ś & to shew what
I mean -
   Renan is farther off
than any one from shewing
what a perfect God is.
He has not made one
single step (indeed I
see no one who does)
in shewing that a
perfect God must
act thro’ Law - that
Christ’s mistake was
not recognizing Law -
If he had gone on painting Christ in the living colours he does, but said, here Christ does not recognise the perfect God, here &c &c, & then shewn what a perfect God would be - then indeed I should value Renan. But as it is I think he actually puts back the religion of the world. And indeed no books further it now - All books are sunk in criticism. When Mr. Jowett tells me that he is retiring to the Lakes to comment Plato & St. Paul, I am ready to cry out, oh why can’t you go on to the things which are before, & shew us the character of God, instead of what St Paul & Plato said of him -
When Renan writes such a book as this (altho’ I would not compare him with Mr. Jowett in truth of feeling) I say, oh if he
would shew us, here
Christ made a mistake
as to the character of
God - & what it was.

Mr. Martineau is a
still more flagrant case,
because he has truth
of feeling like Mr. Jowett,
& passionate poetry
like Renan. But then
he is gone so astray on
free will & foreknowledge
that he frightens
himself like a child
in the dark -

I think there is
as little use in
commenting these men

as in their commenting
St Paul, Plato & Christ.

I do believe Christ,
as he said himself, is
the way. But the way
to what? Again he says
to what - to the know
God. Then do let us
walk that way. Don’t
let us stand still.
Let us go on to get
more & more of the
knowledge of God by
walking the way
Christ was so anxious
we should to shew us - But I don’t
see that Renan has
shewn us one step of
the way.
Bp Colenso’s book is [bundle 137] come here, directed to me. I suppose by your order. The man all must admire, for having come practically, as it were, to what others have long since come to philologically - and at the cost of his Bishopric, I suppose - But the book I must add I cannot read - It is to me like Sir G. Lewis on “Hey diddle diddle.

Long since, the German philologists have proved that we have not a line of Hebrew of the time of Moses - that the Pentateuch was written partly by a priest in the time of Solomon - partly later. Why come back in a Vol: of 158 pages upon all this? Why bother us about a “Hi diddle diddle”, a child’s song? But not the less must we admire the
man. Only do go on to the things that are before - not this eternal work of putting down, of disbelieving - Go on to what we are to believe.

Even Bunsen, in his somewhat unintelligible mysticism, had got far before this.

Please burn what I have said in the other page sheet. I am quite frightened at what I have said, lest it should be repeated - it is so true.

9000/124 unsigned letter, 1f, pen, {arch: 1863}

Yes please fruit & flowers
Your gardener is the only man who sends me large big white, orange, scarlet lilies, great larkspurs. The little hot house pots don’t do with me so well - I will send down on Tuesday to St James’ Place - Any future benefits may either be directed here or if the gardener could give me a line, I would send to St. James’ Place for them.

I don’t know how to spell M. Milnes new name- and I am too old to learn
Sidney Herbert & I thought it the greatest misfortune of our lives his being called to the Lords - tho’ alas! only to be succeeded by a still greater one - two years next Sunday, two years!! -

No, I don’t like people being called to the Lords.

7 Oakhill Park
Hampstead
N.W.

Sept 1/63

Dearest mother
Would you write by return of post to Dr & Mrs. Sutherland, asking them to Lea Hurst for a week - I don’t think she will come. But for him it is absolutely necessary. He has had no holiday for 4 years, except that disastrous expedition to the Mediterranean. The tug of war is yet to come with regard
to India. The whole of this weight will rest upon him & me. I have not one fellow worker left but him. He is so utterly unhinged that he is perfectly useless - And yet he can’t go abroad, because Lord de Grey & Sir C. Wood will not come to a decision about the working Commission, at without which the four years’ labor of the Royal Commission will have been in vain.

Please then remember that, in sanitarizing him, you are sanitarizing India. And that, if you would give him the E. Room or the Nursery bed room & Nursery, (according to which is not being used,) you would be doing a Secretary of State’s work - I can say no more. If Papa would mount him on a pony, it would also be doing an official work.
2. In the Revue des Deux Mondes, 15 Aout, 1853, is an Article by Paul Janet, “Le Matérialisme Contemporain”. It is said to be the best exposé of the day, of the Physiology of the day - including Huxley, & Darwin. (expose in more senses than one). Papa might would like to read it.

3. Feuerbach says, the characteristic of a true philosopher is not to be a professor of philosophy - I agree - The characteristic of a true religious man is not to be a divine.

ever dearest mum
your loving child
F.

9000/126 initialed letter, 1f, pen, black-edged paper, bundle 137, {arch: 15 Sept '63}

Dear I certainly had intended to accept your kind offer of the house in South St for Nov 1. I understood then from you that your tenants would be out in the middle of Sept. Mrs. Sutherland has since told me that they will not be out till the end of October. If you have any intention of letting the house to them till February,
I should be very sorry to interfere. If, say, till the middle of November, I should, I dare say, be able to stay on here till then. But I would not spend another winter at Hampstead. if I have to live so long. For it frustrates all purposes of work, included power to work -

ever yours
F.N.
Sept 15/63

9000/127 (copy) not in FN hand, and 128 original signed letter, 7 ff, pen

Hampstead, N.W.
Sept. 19, 1863

My dear Sir Harry

In answer to your kind letter: -

1. For carrying out the recommendations of the India Army Sanitary Commission, all depends upon the promptitude of Government in forming the four working Commissions of Health - one for each Presidency in India; and one at home, to be attached to the
India and War Offices.

You yourself know how Sidney Herbert halved the Death-rate of the Army at home by his “Barrack & Hospital Improvement Commission” (among other measures) which still exists.

To this the India Office has already appointed Sir Proby Cautley, and is about to appoint two other members. This is to be the advising body of the India Office in all matters relating to the Sanitary improvement of Stations etc -

But this Commission is of course for nothing more than to give its advice when asked for. It can execute nothing. All practical work must be done in India. And not a day should be lost in appointing the three Presidency Commissions, or rather, “departments of Public Health,” as recommended by the R. Commission, to take official charge of the
great work to be carried out in India.
2. You know what an impression the Report has made in England; even deeper than that of Sidney Herbert’s first Army Sanitary Report. People ask if the state of things revealed “is to last another day.” M.P.’s are burning to take it up. It is out of, rather than in the I.O., that the outcry is loudest. It is amazing how easily

[2] officials are satisfied of the truth of anything it is held desirable to assert. And therefore it is a simple conformity with the tradition of a Government office to denounce as extravagant and exaggerated the lamentable exposures made by this enquiry. Would that our facts could vanish before their denunciations! [end 9:457]

But Lord Elgin,
(altho’, I take it, it is
not a subject which interests his mind,)
is too enlightened a man to put it by in this way.

The Government of India in India must take steps itself, and not wait for pressure from England. It must take the initiative well and willingly. It will never sit down quietly under such a weight of responsibility, nor rest till these deplorable evils are removed.

3. The object is: - to have a Department of Health under a responsible head, for each Presidency, to be constituted out of the required elements,

  Civil
  Military
  Engineering
  Sanitary
  Medical

  to place this Department in the relation of receiving aid and advice from the I. and W.O. Commission at home - and in the position of advising the Public Works Department &
local authorities in each Presidency, on all matters connected with Barracks
  Hospitals
  Stations
  Bazaars
  Native Towns etc
At home we would gladly help with a plan of for working out the details.
  But first let India find the best men, & constitute the Commissions:
  There are some good men to begin with, such as: - Dr. T.E. Dempster,
  (But these are only for the Sanitary Members)
Inspector Genl MacPherson
of Madras
Dr. Norman Chevers, &
Dr. Joseph Ewart,
of Bengal
Dr MacClelland etc,
who would be efficient
on these Commissions as
Sanitary or Medical members. x

4. Unless the Death-rate &
invaliding rate of the
Indian army can be
reduced, to hold India
by British troops will
become impossible.

Already this next
year, 1864, we want
25000 recruits. And
I have just seen a

x of course Officers of Health there must be
to act under the Commissions. Good names
could be given for these too.

letter from the Horse
Guards who wish to
extend re-enlistment
by an increase of pay,
because they do not
know where to turn
to keep up the Army.

But a better
method than this
would be to improve
the Sanitary condition
of India. And this
is the key to holding
India by British troops.
And on the India
government now
depends the possibility
of doing so.
5. There is the native population too. It is surely something to stir us all, to know that Indian pestilences are of Indian manufacture - that the causes which give rise to them are removeable - now that Indians are as much our own fellow-subjects as Londoners.

What is wanted is to drain India, to water-supply India, to cleanse India by something more than surface-cleansing.

What is wanted is that it should not be said now of us as Burke said 70 years ago - that if we were to leave India tomorrow; we should leave behind us no more traces of our civilization than if India had been in the possession of the hyaena or the tiger.

6. The question is, in short, nothing less than to create a Public Health Department for India. What a glorious work for an
Indian Government!

The difficulties are great. But see what Sidney Herbert’s confidence in a good cause enabled him to do. He halved the Death-rate of the Army at home. Lord Elgin can do much more that this - For the India death-rate can be reduced to much less than half.

For everything is there to be done, as every thing had to be done in the Crimea. And this makes it the more, not the less hopeful.

The discovery, so to speak, of the R. Commission is that the cause of ill health in India lies, not in the climate, but in the absence of all works of Sanitary civilization, - which This produced the very same diseases in Europe, when there was no water-supply, no drainage, no sewerage here, & the results are intensified in India by climate.

Let this not go on.

[end 9:459]

Ever yours

Florence Nightingale
Hampstead NW  
Sept 19/63  
My dear Sir Harry  
Thank you for the  
Bucks Infirmary  
manifest -  
I have seen some  
excellent practical  
remarks from your  
Matron there, Miss  
Russell, to Sir W.  
Heathcote - She must  
be a capital woman.  
Is she the sort of  
person to whom you  
would like to give  
from time to time  
books & that kind of  
thing from me † on  
our common professions?  
ever yours  
F.N.  

9000/129 contd. in another hand  

Sept 19/63  
-----------------------------------  
rather I am so fond of Jowett’s  
truth of feeling that his  
want of truth of Judgment  
& especially of logic aggravate  
me the more. but surely  
of all men he is the one  
least open to your stigma  
of ecclesiastical morgue or  
love of priestly authority  
he is too humble as M.  
Mohl says ...............  
you know my quotation  
from Feuerbach “the true  
characteristics of a philosopher  
is not to be a professor  
of philosophy” the same thing  
of religion & a divine;  
no one but M Mohl has  
sent me one newspaper &
I wrote to Mama
yesterday about Hill—
I assure you, “pour un
que j’en dis, il y en a cent
que j’avale.” I have
waited impatiently
for years till I could
rightfully make Hill
a present. And I deserve
some credit for my self=
denial in that I would
not send him a present
to buy your flowers of
him. Now he tops up,
because I complained of
the flowers, by sending
none. It is as if, when
my Patients complained of the
food, I were to say, Now you shall
have none.

I think you misunderstood [bundle 137]
my Jowett letter to Jowett,
when you say, as if you
thought I was only planning
whether “private charity”
or state law wee to
cure these poor women.
That is not my object
at all--
My object is to prevent
these women being
regulated by state law
so as to enable (if they
could, which they can’t)
prostitution to be as
safe (to men) as marriage.
You say, “where is law
to step in & where not?
happy study.”
But should you feel any doubt whether there should be a law of this kind.

You may murder as much as you please, provided you give no pain to the victim & do not hurt your own hand. If you do, we will put you into Hospital & cure your hand, so that you may be able to murder some one else, & earn to do it without giving him pain.

“You may commit as many burglaries as you like, provided you don’t break your leg in scaling the house. If you do, here is a Surgeon to mend your leg, in order that you may continue to be a burglar.

This is exactly what they want to do about prostitution in the War Office- & what the Times, Saturday Review & Mr Jowett advocate --as of course the War Office cannot do it without Parliament.
My dear Sir Harry

You are not likely
to be going N again for
the Edinbro’ Social Science
Meeting, October 7.?
I am compelled to
have an India paper
there (by Christian,
Conolly & Craig) It is
no doubt a great
advantage to have
such a paper read by
a political man & an
educated man; & not
by a Doctor or a savant.
I only ask to take my
chance - the more as
I believe I have lost my chance several times by not knowing you were to be at these Meetings -
I have a small Scarlet lily (bulb) a Tiger lily, an Agapanthus & another big orange col’d plant of yours here. Should I send back any besides the first?
I confess, being of a “having” disposition, I had hoped for one of those big scarlet lilies, of which I had one last autumn & one this spring, from you - & which, even if I moved into another room only for a few hours, always went with me - & back again.

ever yours
F.N.
Sept 23/63

Hampstead NW
Sept 25/63
Dearest mother
I am so furious against Hill that I really must write seriously about it. Either that man is robbing you scandalously, or he is the worst gardener that ever was, or he is an idiot - who lets the flowers & fruit on the rot on the ground.
You say that he does not let the Romsey people in - I would much rather the Romsey people had your produce
than that nobody had it.

But it is all nonsense. What does he do with the produce of that enormous garden ground for 3 months?

You have quite as much ground & about one third the glass that Wilton has - You have sixty times the ground and six times the glass that Mr. Bowman (here) has.

Yet every body but you has Dahlias, Gladiolus, Asters, Fuchsias,
Geraniums, all out in the commonest ground, & grapes, peaches, nectarines, figs, in & out of glass - 

Hill now, (out of revenge, perhaps,) sends me nothing - no flowers, no vegetables, only a few unripe grapes & figs - no wall fruit. 

There has been no frost. What can he do with the things? 

It is only this last month that he has taken to sending me no flowers - at all. 

Now, do you believe that if I were to send him a sovereign, flowers & fruit would not be forthcoming at once? 

It is the flowers that I feel most aggravated about. For that is really shameful. He ought to have sent me Gladiolus every week, &c &c &c. 

It so happens that all my friends have been giving parties, & have not been able to send me flowers this autumn - 

And I have been literally
existing on the bunch of scarlet Geraniums you sent me from Lea Hurst, & which still adorns (?) my table - Mrs. Sutherland gives me a bunch from her garden occasionally, which is actually better than the flowers I get from Embley when they do come.

With the exception of two weeks about Easter, the flowers which Hill did send me were never worth the carriage. My Walker would hardly demean herself to carry them up to me - I thought it was that the flowers were kept for you, when at home. But now he sends none, when you are not at home.

It is really very hard upon me. Because flowers are my only pleasure. I carry them with me from my morning bed to my afternoon bed to see the sun light upon them - I hear people complain because it has been ?? “weeks since” they have been able to walk from their bed to their sofa without increased pain”. No one can possibly realize what it is to have been for six years without being able to walk “from my bed to my sofa without increased pain” & to have been able to do no work & to see no friends during that time without nights of nervous horror.
which make the next
days useless - The only
pleasure without pain
I have is flowers.

Would you write to
Hill, by return of post,
& tell him to send
me immediately all
the flowers, worth
sending, in the garden
& green houses ? Without
waiting for next week’s
box.

I have always meant
to send Hill a sovereign,
as I do to the Wilton
gardener. But hitherto

[3]
it would have been
simple bribery - buying your
flowers from him.

And would you tell
him (in all future
boxes) to send vegetables
& better fruit?

No pig (which I have
asked for so often) has
ever come - But that
has nothing to do with
Hill.

When I remember
what your garden used
to be, & what Hill must
do with the produce,
if it is still as it
used to be, I do think

it is hard upon me to
depend on casual friends
for flowers & fruit.

2. Would you send me “wuts” once a week while
you are at L.H.?

I never could eat
baker’s white bread -
And now I can’t eat
baker’s brown bread -
So the “wuts” are
necessary to me -
And could you send
me one home-made
brown loaf every week?

Many thanks for a
brake of partridges received. [end 1:163]

3. You are always
offering me shawls -
dearest mother. Now
your old white & black
cashmere shawl, which
you gave me, has never
been off my shoulders
for four years. It has,
I think, been cleaned
11 times. It is now falling
to pieces. If you could
give me a similar
one, cashmere, light, warm, not
too large, white & black,
or white & lilac, &
which will clean,

I shall like it all the
better for your having
worn it yourself -

I wear it sitting up
in bed-

This letter is all of
complaints - But I
assure you I have
bottled them up all
this year. Because I felt
Hill was your servant,
not mine. But now
I feel it a duty to tell
you what he does, or rather what
he does not.
My next letter shall be
about something else, I
hope. Ever dearest mum
your loving child
Dear 

I cannot tell you how glad I am to hear (which sounds very inhuman) that Sir James Hope is to have the N. American & W. Indian Station - It will do so much good. 

I should like very well to go to the W. Indies, if I were Emily - and should the climate do - 

Pray give my respectful regards to Sir James -

I suppose there is not the least chance of Sir Harry going to the Edinboro’ Meeting. I only wrote for the chance, as I must send my papers.

ever yours 
F 

Sept 26/63
Dear

Many thanks for the lilies. I feel quite ashamed of having them, because I asked for them.

Please thank Sir Harry for his kind letter - They were brought by one of Mr. Spottiswoode’s printers.

Have you a Burke; & could you look out (in his speeches) & send me the exact passage, with chapter & verse, where he says that, if we were to leave India, our possession of it would have no more traces of civilization than if it had been in the possession of the hyaena & the tiger -

I dare say Mr. Calvert knows where it is.

It is very odd. I have asked two or three ever your people. But F. Burke seems unknown -
Friday Oct 2
Dearest mother
1000 thanks for all good things, ham, birds, bread, flowers, & especially for “wuts” - which please continue. Also for cutlery case, very pretty & useful.

Last night arrived a box from Embley too, with flowers & birds, - the flowers much below what every cottager produces, but a great deal better than nothing.

F.N.

Oct 3/63
Dearest mother
I send the poor boy’s other letters (which I had not received before) in case you should be able to get introductions for him to some of the list of his “nobility”.

Uncle Sam may perhaps.

I don’t think my “introduction” would do him much good with “Lord Cardigan”!!

It is quite impossible for me to beat about to get him “introductions” tho’ I would have given him some to any one I really knew.
Is this the last of all the Shores?
Don’t send my answer, if you think it too hard upon the poor ignorant boy.

F.N.

Hampstead NW
Oct 14/83
Dear I did not know about the Hanburys -Pray tell me -
I am very sorry that I have no maid to spare to go in to South St. There was a maid here when I first took the house. But, at her mistress’ request, I gladly let her go [For I find it a very bad plan to have other people’s servants]
I have had a great deal of trouble with "[illeg]" lately & am obliged continually to compel her to go on little holidays. She is so flighty. She says it is biliousness & a fall (months ago) I am rather afraid it is something else. Any how, it is very suspicious & uncom fortable. And I never could less than now detach a maid [She, W., is away now] - I expect Papa too the last week of my stay here - I am afraid Lofts’ woman must be put into South St. unless you prefer my sending a woman from here, recommended to me
Dear Mr. George William Banting,

the House Agent, has sent me "by desire of Sir Harry Verney" a pamphlet by himself on now to reduce Corpulence - By dint of a meat diet, sufficient to give a Boa Constrictor a fatal indigestion, he reduces himself 1 lb per week. Will Sir Harry tell him that a course of Col: Brown, combined with the War Office, will effect the same with much greater rapidity & certainty; but I implore him not to carry the experiment too far, as he might "die cured".

ever your F.
Dear Papa

I trust you will not pass me by in going to Embley. I go to South St on Monday Nov. 2.

As usual, I can make nothing of Parthe’s plans for me -

She seems to intend you to go to me on the very day I go to South St.

A vast accumulation of business always waits my going to London. I am always completely paralysed by even the short journey - I trust
you will come to me next week here - or - some little time after I am settled in S. St.
   But it would be just condemning myself not to see you, to ask you for the day or week I go there -
   ever dear Pa
   your loving child

F.

Hampstead NW
   Oct 19/63
   We have had perpetual storms here - And I have hardly been down stairs at all -

Dearest mother
   I shall hope to see you, you know whether or no ,on your migration, i.e. wherever I am - & wherever you are - Pray admire to Mrs. Watson her nosegays of China roses tied up with Arbor vitae, I never saw anything so pretty - I am much obliged for the oat cake, tongue, & other dainties - Could you arrange that the Oat
cake shall be forwarded
to me once a week
till (say) Christmas?
    I go to 32 South St.
on Monday, 2 Nov.
    ever dearest mother
    your loving child
F.

Hampstead NW
Oct 21/63
The two kits from Embley
at Mrs. Sutherland’s are
much more thorough bred
than mine. Pray let me
have the refusal of
your next two families.

9000/140 initialed letter, 1f, pen, black-edged paper, bundle 137

Hampstead NW
Oct 23/63
My dear Sir Harry
    Christian is the
first authority in
Europe about these
matters - So I send
you his note, in case
you might like to
copy part for your
son - Pray return it
to me -
    Please ask Dr. Acland
if he would like me
to send him a two
folio India Blue Book
    (Sanitary Report)

which is almost
impossible now to
get a copy of - If he
is interested & if he
can help us, I would
gladly do so -
ever yours
F.N.
Dearest mother
  1000 thanks for the flowers, “wuts” etc
  I am quite agreeable to Lydia having the kit,
But unless you stay at Lea Hurst another 6 weeks
(for you cannot part kits from their mother before 6 weeks, at earliest) how will that “save the journey”?
For of course the three cats, Tom, Topsy & Pet, come south with you - or rather with the servants
  ever your loving child
  F

Oct 24/63

Lord Stanley takes the Westminster to review the India Blue books in.
  We shall be most thankful if you can find Dr. Acland or any one to do it in the Quarterly
  F.N.
  
I wrote to Papa to let him off (to see Lacaita) on Wednesday
But it seems he did not communicate the Epistle.
Dear

The **for** Scarlet lily,
with the tall stalk,
partially in flower
when it came, (bulb ≠ sent
back last week,)
flowered beautifully.

The scarlet lily,
with the short stalk
not in flower when
it came, (bulb sent
back this week,)
flowered unkindly;
every flower, except
the last, withered before
it was fully open.

I mention this for
your information -
They were treated here
exactly alike.

I wish you could
get Dr. Acland (or
somebody) to review
our two big India
Blue Books. The
Quarterly & Westminster
are still open -

ever your F.

Oct 29/63
I cannot make out (from the enclosed) whether Mama “stays ten days longer” at Claydon or at Lea Hurst - Could you tell me by return of post what you know of the plans of each & what day each leaves the Hurst?

F.N.

Dear/ My “plans” are, & always have been, to go in on the 2nd. I mentioned the 1st, till I knew the 1st was a Sunday.

F. I find from Mrs. Brace= bridge that you expected me to go in on the 2nd as I always intended - Not part of my belongings “but “ME” will “go in on that day”. And of course “Walker” “or a housemaid” or both will go in with me. I am announced due to the W.O. “on that day”
& have been a long while. You asked me for a housemaid a fortnight ago on that understanding. I keep this house till the 3rd, merely because as Papa’s visit has been put off till the very last days, I may be too ill & hurried to move myself till Tuesday. But I fully intend to go on Monday, & it will be very inconvenient for business if I can’t.

Many thanks - many F.

9000/146 initialed letter, 4ff, pen, black-edged paper bundle 137

13/11/63
My dear Sir Harry
I am quite overcome by your kindness in going to Mr. Murray about this unfortunate Report.
The fact is that, instead of standing as well with the Govt as possible, we stand as badly with Govt as possible, about it. The home Commission is actually exactly where it was 4 months ago
When Lord de G. pressed the Instructions (which I had written at his desire) upon Sir C. Wood – & which were actually accepted by Sir C.W.’s nominees, Cautley & Martin – Sir C.W. shewed Ld. de G. a despatch he had written to India (& which was not shewn either to Ld de G., or to any of us, till two months after date) in which he had committed himself so entirely to leave every thing to the India authorities that even I admitted he could not stultify himself, by granting us the instructions now we ought to have had.

I accordingly wrote others much smaller & weaker – & in fact drew in our horns altogether – But even these Sir C. Wood won’t pass. At least he can’t be brought to any decision.

A great man once
said:

"unus qui nobis cunctando
    restituit rem"

[I have since sadly felt
the omnipotence of
the cunctando =, not
to “restitute” but to
destroy. There is no
power like it,]

All that Sir C.W.
will say to Ld. de G.’s
pressure is that
our Report is
“exaggerated”. And
so not even these
diminutive Instructions
are passed. And

32, South Street,
    Grosvenor Square. W.

we are just where we
were -

It is true that Sir
C.W. did, in accordance
with my re-iterated
entreaties, give permission
that we should write
(privately) the heads
of a Sanitary code to
be sent out to India.
And we could put in
a good deal of the
Instructional matters
(in the form of Notes)
that we were in hopes
our home Commission
would have been allowed
to give -

But here Dr. Sutherland
puts in the fatal
& omnipotent "cunctando",
& won’t do it. The
fact is, he is naughty
- & we know the proverb,
about cutting off one’s
own nose to spite
one’s own face -

Here is where we
stand now. You see
nothing can be worse.
And never were we
so much in want
of public opinion to
help us - I shall
be too glad for you
to decide whether by
you or me/I, & when,

& where, the letter to
Mr. MacPherson, (whom
I don’t know,) the Editor
of the Quarterly, - shall
be written. to [I don’t
even know his address].

It would be very
desirable for the Article
to be written out in January.

I am in such
despair about the
Home Commission that
Lord Stanley is actually
coming up to town to
speak to me about
it.

It gives me new
life to see how much
you will interest
yourself about it.
P.S. I was in hopes
to have sent my third
Edition of “Notes on
Hospitals” to Miss Russell
by you to day. But
it is not yet out.
I send some five other
books of mine, not
much in her way,
I fear; - if you like
to be so good as to
give them her - I will
get her a copy of my
“Notes on Nursing”.

Ever yours gratefully
F. Nightingale

(This had all been done as she wished; but Dr. A too busy
has not written as he
{there is a diagonal line across the rest of the page}
The last words Parthe
said to me were: {arch: Dec 63}
that she would
write (or ask you to
write to him) to beg
that he would either
write to the Editor of
the Quarterly himself -
or write such a letter
to me as I could
enclose to the Editor,
with a few words from
But since I have been here (a month) I have only been able to sit up once for one hour to see Ld Stanley. And to write one line except on the most pressing business has been quite impossible to me. Otherwise I should have written to Dr. Acland myself.

I am particularly sorry for this appearance of neglect towards Dr. [bundle 137] Acland. For we are beset with enemies on every side; & were never more in want of judicious friends.

Pray tell him so.

I will write to the Editor: Quarterly instantly myself, if I receive the signal.

1000 thanks about Sir J. Lawrence (asking him to see me). I have been lately in frequent correspondence with him. But I am almost afraid he
will not have time to
come & see me {I have not
{asked him.

He could settle all
we want (& save
months of correspondence)
in a few minutes with
Sir C. Wood, now he is
Governor Genl - the
greatest government
under God’s - & he the
only man to fill it.

Of course I would
sit up any day any
hour to see him. But
in order to save his
time, I must know
beforehand when he
comes, if he comes -

   Ever yours, F.N.

9000/148 signed letter, 2ff, pen, black-edged paper, bundle 137

32, South Street, {printed address:}
   Grosvenor Square. W.
   Dec. 4/63

My dear Sir Harry
   Ld Stanley has twice [9:197-98]
repeated his wish that
I should see Sir John
Lawrence in order to
“explain to him the
proposals of the R.
Commission”, which,
Ld S. adds, I could do
so much better than
he can -

   Were it not for this,
& for your kind wish,
I should never have
had the audacity to
wish to
take up even an hour
of the time of so
great a man -

You said something
about coming up to
London to settle it
with Sir J. Lawrence -

If you are coming
up to wish him
good-bye, it certainly
would forward it
very much, if you
could do so in time
to give him time to
find/make a vacant half
hour to see me -

He starts on Thursday -
& must be overwhelmed
with business. But
so great a man is
never overwhelmed.

I should have not
the least objection to
shew him Ld. Stanley’s
letter, which indeed
appears to be written
for that purpose -
But I don’t like to
send it him. It
looks too urgent -

Also, it would be
very desirable if he
could see me in time
to see Sir C. Wood afterwards, supposing he thinks well to do anything with Sir C.W. before he starts. Sir C.W. has finally refused any instructions whatever to our home Commission. But that is of minor importance now - I need not say that any hour I would see Sir J. Lawrence, if he will see me.

Ever yours

F. Nightingale

9000/149 initialed note, 1f, pen, black-edged paper, bundle 137

No 2
Dec 34/63
My dear Sir Harry

Since I wrote to you my [9:198] letter of this morning, Sir John Lawrence has made an appointment to see me - I hope therefore this will reach you by the same post as my first. I hope you still will come up & see him on your own account.

He goes on Wednesday [end 9:198] ever yours

F.N.
Dec 6/63 [1:164]
Dearest mother

I am quite overdone
with India business, as you
may suppose - but so glad
to have it to do -
I have seen Sir J. Lawrence
God bless him! & Ld Stanley.
And these are the only
two hours I have been up
since I came here. I am
to see Sir J. Lawrence’s
private Secy= tomorrow -
They start on Wednesday.

If the four muffs are
really silky muffs, they
are to come here - Papa
must judge of the difference
between these & my ugly but
conversible beasts.
  I am shocked to hear
of the old cat being persecuted.
Because no one has ever
had kittens anything like
so beautiful as hers - She
must be petted, in order
to produce more - You know
you never offered me
her last two families -
Does she not take to
Tom? I suspect that
Pet is the vixen. Topsy
was always kind. I think
Mrs. Watson might bring
them to be friends by degrees.
If she & Topsy were to be
fed together? - or if Tom &
she -were to be shut up
together occasionally?
  Many thanks for fine
boxes. Could a few more grapes
& a few better grapes be sent?
ever your
  F. [end 1:164]
Private
Dr. Parkes knows nothing at all about it.
Sir R. Martin opposed us in the “recommendations” in some very essential points, & only withdrew his opposition on being told that “he would kill Miss N.” -which, you will agree with me, is a foul, not a fair, means of conversion - No: he would not do for an adviser.

Dr. Ogle was chosen by Mr. Paget & put into communication with me by the same, at his own request, for the Article in question. I anticipate nothing able from it. It will be no help to Dr. Acland -
The fact is, we have had not a single masterly Article upon us. The best has been a mere Analysis of what we have done - But not one single hand has taken a master=grasp over the subject or contributed one single new thought F.N.
Dearest mother

In re cats - I think I will only have the thorough bred (Then Pet had made a mesalliance after all) But give away the nots as fast as you can. For the old cat will settle down much better when the kittens are gone. And you know I am to have all her future families -- if she marries Tom -- I am quite envious of Mrs. Sutherland’s cats.

Please send me cart= load of Christmassings the day before Xmas Day. I have no end of things to do with them, as usual.

Pray thank Mmes= Webb & Watson for beautiful flannels -

ever dearest mum

your loving child F.

I am rather miserable at having to move again in little more than a month. It takes me quite a month to get over a moving now. And I shall be quite unable now to undertake it hence= forth for a stay of three months only. For it does so hinder my work -

Dec 14/63

I am so sorry that you “keep all the grapes for me”. Is Hill really unable to produce only more than those?
I was much shocked, dear,
to hear of Sir Harry’s accident
But thank God indeed that
was all. Dr. Acland says
he was not much the
worse for it yesterday.

Dr. Acland has been two
hours here to day with
Dr. Sutherland, & “lunching”;
& is to come again, I
believe.

Yes, surely I hope
you will sleep here to
see Dr. Farre

I was in constant
communication with Sir

John Lawrence a really
great man - for the ten
days before he went -
On Sunday I see Lord
de Grey - not a great
man - But I think
our affair is up in
the scale.

ever your

F.
Dec 18 {arch ?63}

Dear I should have sent the enclosed by post to
Mama at once. But fearing there may
be some mistake in it altogether, by
its coming here, I send it to you. Will
you do what is right with it? Is it
possible that Mama may be at your
house now?

About 38 U. Brook St. you know I
feel very strongly:

1. that, in my great uncertainty not
   only of health but of plans (I never
   expected to stay 2 years in the W.O.
   after S.H.’s death. It is only owing
to the unparalleled delay in the India
   Report; but which cannot last
   another year, that I am there still
   - & certainly I should not live at
   the W. end of London but for that W.O.)
it is not wise to take/buy a house for
me, unless it were (like a house
e.g. in South St.) a chance which might
never come again. [Certainly 38 U.B. St
is very dull to be shut up in for
6 months every year, with only that
amount of trees.]

2. I think you greatly overrate
the amount of convenience & saving
to me of having a house to stow my goods in - For (1) I
should be obliged to spare one maid,
if not two, to keep it, (I would never
take a woman from an Agent), to pay
for coals & the rates etc. And (2) I
have not the least bit of furniture
to spare, hav/&, nothing but a few
old books to leave behind. The whole
of the books, which crammed up your
dining room at South St., & which
you kindly asked me to leave,
would have to go with me, wherever
I go, for reference - as long as I am
in the W.O. at all. Besides books & papers,
I have only two beds & two sofas.

3. Is it worth while for the prospect

of my possibly living in it one year, viz.
(next) to have the trouble of furnishing,
letting, altering, a not very overpoweringly
beautiful house - the haste about
which is such as not to allow of
a proper examination - not even
such an examination as I give to a
house I hire?

With all the trouble you have so
kindly taken about it, I cannot overlook
these considerations
{the rest of the page seems to have a blank page over top; words are visible down the right margin}
4. You know what I was asked about, first (& unwillingly consented even to that) was the “refusal” of a house in airy South St. But certainly it never entered my wisdom to be surprised into taking buying an ordinary house in town - in a party=giving street (in which I have not lived & cannot judge of) - with the plea that, if not liked, it can be sold again to the investment; of course that is a different thing. But if the house is to be bought for x 

Dear I feel it quite impossible for me to decide to buy a house on 10 min.’s inspection. 

Had it been to be let, I should have taken it. That is all I can be expected to say, I think. 

[People quite mistake when they suppose that it is the smell of private mews I object to - It is the noise at 1, 2, 3 in the morning of putting up the horses, far more disturbing than any street noises, which all invalids find objectionable]-

But - about the house - it is the most attractive house I have seen. 

But I know nothing about the drainage & other things. Nor do you. I would not bid for a house without the strictest enquiry into these things
I think the house would require a great deal doing to make it habitable

1. a bow which I suppose would go all the way up - But this bow, besides shutting out sun & air from my neighbours which I don't mind would overlook & be overlooked from Ly Cranworth's.
   (for the same reason the garden would be useless to me, as far as walking goes)

2. The fog garden bedroom could never be made a large best bedroom. For the whole of that dressing room & window must be kept to that W.C. by/to itself to keep it at all wholesome. It must have a window to itself

3. I doubt the possibility of opening a light on to the passage next it.

These are my principal lucubrations. As T.O.

Perhaps, dearest mother, you will like to see this.
I cannot say I have much sympathy with the querulous disappointed self-pity of a man who never had a disappointment in his life - who has had health, fortune, friends, position, cleverness, wit, genius - & who, if he is disappointed in his own life, has none but himself to thank for it.

Perhaps I who have none of these things, who have lost all, & still work on, am disposed
to be too hard on these self-satisfied complainers. I like the fable of Balaam’s she-ass. I am a the she-ass thro’ whose mouth God has spoken. But why do those who are not asses not speak?

F.N.

9000/156 incomplete letter, 1f, pen {arch: ?63 } [bit lying-in]

Sunday Dearest mother Miss Jones is going down tomorrow (Monday) to her old friend at Cuckfield. I am afraid she means to return to work. Could not you put in your word now that, after Cuckfield, she should come to Embley without returning to town? I am afraid she would otherwise make her holiday only days. It ought to be months. Could you cash a cheque for me for £100. or even for £50?

£100 - or even for £50.
Notes on Hospitals
by Florence Nightingale
Third Edition. enlarged etc

Longmans
is out - a small quarto.
As it has been
entirely rewritten &
printed in a large
type, on purpose
that my family may
know as much of what
I have been doing as
other people, please
order your copies. I
am sorry to say it
is to be 18/. But it
is full of pictures &
a standard book. And

as my family has
been very tempestuous
on account of my
former small print,
they ought not to
complain of price.
This is a good Library
book.
There must be some mistake about my “causing reply” to be made to you, as you state.
I did not like to turn you out of your own bedroom in your own house, if you came up to town. And as I must look out for my next gîte, I “caused reply” that I would gladly give you up your bedroom & try the bedrooms in Edwards Hotel close by, where I think of going ultimately, coming here for the day to my work, which I could not move backwards & forwards. That was the “reply I caused.”

F.N.

My dear Sir Harry
I send a few words as you have desired But I cannot help thinking that they are rather displaced from me to Lady M. Vegner & that you had better send the flowers alone.

F.N.
Dearie

I should like very much to see you for the time you mention. ½ past 4 is my best time.

But if you are going out afterwards in the cool, it might be earlier (for me)

ever yours
F.

My dear

I am so very ill today. But if it is necessary to go today, or not at all, I will. If you would be so very good as to send your carriage - ats ön soon after Sir H. has done with it, as possible, I will get up directly to be ready.

I am afraid I must go by myself, if at all. For if I had
to speak (while in the act of moving) to the anybody, I should faint.

And of course to the persons I love best there is most temptation to speak
I am truly thankful for the Lord Berners kindness. It is a great thing for poor Robert. And when you see him (Ld B.) or write to him, would you slip in a little word of gratitude to him from me too? if he will accept it

You must take [8:167] the Maternité story with a grain of salt

In all Hospitals, (most/but of all/much more in those tended only by religious orders, without the cheque/ck of the great publicity of a School, etc) things are done which would make your flesh creep. But it remains that the Maternité is, upon better authorities than this woman's; the best school yet existing (oh if she were to see Würzburg) & that it has brought up women who rank with Physician
Accoucheurs. The Mortality & nonrecoveries of the Maternité (too true alas!) are caused sp by its bad sanitary state, not, as she supposes, by the bungling women. As far as this is concerned, there is perhaps not one practising Midwife in England who is not to be named in the same day for skill with the first year's Élèves of the Maternité. There is a woman quack now practising at Paris under the name of the famous Mme Deschappelles of the Maternité (I should not much wonder if this woman belonged to her) Seven or eight months ago I received Mama's beautiful Dresden Raphael, beautifully framed. It was before I went to Hampstead.

Dearie I should be very sorry not to see you for 20 min: today about ½ past 4, if you can come - I am so worn out with work & want of sleep that I am afraid it must not be more -

ever yours
F.N.
My dear

I have all the things ready for you to take to St. Thomas'. And I can't possibly put them off till tomorrow - I shall send the Messenger with them as soon as he comes back. And I would on no account send you out with a bad cold. I only wish you had let me know before, as I have sent the Messenger away quite to the other end of London. ever your F.

Dearie

I have tried to lighten the enclosed by putting in floss silk - but nothing will ever make it pretty because you see the greens & blues & yellows of the interstices of the pattern have been filled in with dark maroon. And that makes it heavy - I unpicked the middle & put in a new stitch, invented in your honour, with floss silk - And I had the greatest mind to do the same with all the other dark red interstices - But I
reflected that it would be much better (& cheaper) for me to work you a new one, if you like to buy me a pattern drawn on the canvass in this style. I would do every interstice with a different stitch, which (plan) does not drag, unless the work has been “dogged” as this has.

I need not say that the sooner the work is made up the better, now the floss is put in.

There are still some ground (both inside & outside the pattern) & some darkest slate colour etc to put in.

I send you a skein which may do for the ground. But, after the repeated attempts made thro’ poor Ann Clarke, I have been unable to get the other wools I needed to put in.

[She brought me a hank. (a lb) of the thickest shawl wool for “a skein” (written down) of the “Berlin wool” (and pattern enclosed) required]

Pray finish it as soon as you can.
Dearie.
1. Pray return E. Bunsen’s book to him, with my best thanks, when you have done with it.
2. As the pattern is for you, I had rather you should choose the one you like best, & colour it yourself. I don’t think it at all worthwhile to pay for more which I should certainly not follow. I think scrambling patterns, to imitate or moln mouldings, more effective than patterns which look like napkins, with coloured braidings. But, as I say, I had rather you chose, as it is for you. And it will be an equal pleasure to me to do either.

3. The magnificent Arum arrived in fine condition - only it has one big leaf shrivelled. It won’t be for want of caresses if it does not flower, with me.
4. Do the Army Estimates come on on Monday? Pray tell Sir H. that Genl Peel attacks Woolwich & other Hospitals (on Army Estimates) which will do us as much more harm than Ld P.’s attack, as Genl Peel is a gentleman & Ld Panmure only a snob. Genl P. has always behaved most generously to S. Herbert’s memory. I am thinking of mustering, but don’t know whether Army E. come on on Monday.
I send Sir Harry a pamphlet - sent me by the Commissioners of Emigration of New York. He will see how 'sound principles' of Hospital construction are spreading: And it is a great thing for the New Yorkers to do for our emigrants.

Mr. Jowett at 3 tomorrow, please if you come.

My dear Sir Harry

You will see by the enclosed that it was I who asked Ld Stanley to move for both sets of papers. I don't suppose I could ask you to say anything on them. About the Malta Institute, you see that what D.C. Paget
asks is just what Lord de Grey won’t do. He says: the W.O. is not to subscribe beforehand to these things, especially not where there is a religious (direct) bias - but that it will consider any application, after the thing is established.

I have accordingly written to the people, thus - enclosing my subscription - & suggesting to them that, after the thing is done, they should apply to the W.O., & if W.O. accedes, then to Admiralty. If you read the W.O. Report, you will see Ld de Grey is consistent. But it is much like

the house that Jack built.
Mr. Gladstone made me write this paper for his speech. Perhaps you would like to take a copy with you? It is quite private.

F.N.

Thank you so much for your beautiful house.

F.N.
Private {at angle}
Jan 2/64
My dear Sir Harry

I will just tell you how that abominable matter stands at the W.O.

I think we have shaken their faith in the alledged success of the French system - And in consequence of my representations, one subsidy at least of £1500 to a Lock Hospital has been stopped. It was found merely to increase the disease among the men -

But, the other side being vociferous, the W.O. thought it must do “something”. So the discussion ended in a proposal being made to the Admiralty to appoint a Committee simply to ascertain what the facts are - And we drew up Tables & Forms, & sent them to the W.O. for the Admiralty for this purpose.

Nothing, I believe, has been heard of the
matter since.
    But it will be necessary to keep a good look-out.
    It would not be wise to hurry the subject before the Ho: of C., unless we have to resist some Government measure - which we have not to apprehend, so far as we know, at present.
    Ld Hartington only is in favor, I believe.
    \[9:271\]
    ever yours
    F.N.

    A thousand thanks for your New Year’s wishes. May you have many; & happier ones than I can hope for -
    But I wish to be thankful to God to be able still to help in His work, thro’ many sorrows - & broken in health & heart, still to do ‘mon petit possible.’
    I hope you will be able to do something for us this Session in the way of Soldiers’ Trades - & in supporting Ld Stanley against the attack of the India Military authorities, to be laid before the Ho: by Sir C Wood \[end 9:271\]
My dear Sir Harry Verney,

The assertion in the note of the Editor of the "Quarterly Review" is neither new nor true. viz. that "many" of the "improvements", recommended by the R. Commission, have "been carried into effect," & "before the Report was written."

The main causes of the unhealthiness of India are want of water supply, want of drainage. And to remedy these cardinal defects, not one single step has been taken. Until this is done, the very basis of improvement is not laid.

Scarcely a day/mail passes that we do not receive reams of abuse from India; & statements like the
Editor's, - But, up to this present time, not one single fact as to what they have done. Indeed the facts are all the other way, ... And, up to October 1863, prove that the condition of India is worse than when the Report was written.

I enclose a copy of my (Edinburgh) paper, which, if you like to send to the Editor, pray do - You will see (in its Postscript) the “improvements”(!) which have been made.

These are facts, not assertions - & facts from the India authorities themselves.

The R. Commission gave the Indian authorities about four years’ notice of the points of enquiry, by sending out folio Books of printed questions, and these authorities could hardly fail to learn some of the things required to be done; from these
questions. They began in some sense to put their house in order, no doubt. But, as I have said, not one single statement as to what they have done - not one haporth of bread to all that intolerable deal of sack (the vagueness of their abuse) has reached us -

Your very truly

Florence Nightingale

Sir Harry Verney Bt MP

9001/3 [India] initialed letter, 3ff, pen

Jan 13/64

My dear Sir Harry

I am ashamed & vexed by the shameful sneaking round of the “Quarterly” to the enemy.

I sent your letter to the Editor by hand within an hour of its being received.
I did not add anything of my own, because I thought it was agreed not - & I read your letter to him by your desire, & did not see that it
was implied I should write.

I have a faint recollection that it was addressed
1 Albemarle St
(which is a hotel) - instead of 50, which is Mr. Murray's.

And had it not been for these letters I re-enclose
I should have supposed it yours had not been received. But I read
in these (I don't know whether you do) that, not only have they

received it, but that they remember it - but that they have received
news from the India military authorities - such "news" as the I.O.
is full of at this moment in the shape of abuse -& that they have
sneaked round to the enemy. Macpherson is a poor creature, in
every way.

If you like to send them the my enclosed letter, pray do - with my
pamphlet, of which I will send you some
copies. The concluding paragraph of Macpherson’s letter is just such “bosh” as I see every day from the I.O.

If it were not that one knows that all the world are fools, where would one’s patience be!

But the main vexation is about Dr. Acland. I have written to Ld Stanley, who was engaged either to write himself or to find a Reviewer for us in the “Westminster” to ask him, (as I dare say he has not done anything,) to get the “Westminster” to insert Dr. Acland, supposing Dr. Acland consents. Of course, the latter must have the option of withdrawing his promise to write. But I hope he will not. I enclose a very kind letter from him, (which please return to me) which makes me hope he will not ever yours forsake us. F.N.
Private {at angle} Jan 16/64
My dear Sir Harry

1. In regard to the Indian letter: -
   he says what is true that many men are invalided for Syphilis -
   But he does not tell you how much of this invaliding is due to
   Mercury & bad treatments
   - he does not tell you (what we know)
   that the Indian doctors do not understand the subject & invalid men

   who would be cured in France -
   These invalids after arriving in England might, many of them,
   be cured & sent back to service, instead of being discharged.

   He says what is true, that spirit drinking destroys the men -
   (we know, to many times the extent that the other does -) & that
   the liquor is mainly supplied by the prostitutes, whom he

proposes to cure -

   Licensed sin in India is hence a main cause of the sickness in the Indian Army.

2. as to the Haslar authorities:
   they know as little about law & police as any men well can -
   they propose to take
Wellcome 9001

up public women
diseased & keep them
till they are cured -
let them begin by defining
a “public woman” -

the French can’t do it -
their system is carried
out by force majeure -
are we prepared to
give over suspected
women in this Country
to the police? -
it could not be done -
But, suppose it could
be done, what is the
good that would result?
the sin would be
increased & with it
the disease -
this is fact -
In the Mediterranean
Stations this system has

been tried - & disease
increased -
If the women are
forced in, they don’t
go in, they try to conceal
themselves & succeed;
& even the immediate
good result expected of the [illeg] measure fails -
while the immoral result that these
women are locked up, on purpose to
enable them to go on with sin, remains.

Pray wait till the
W.O. Committee has
published the facts
as to the amount of
Venereal disease in the
(so-called) protected
Armies.
Almost all Naval
& Military men beg

the question - & take
for granted that the
“protecting” system
does protect.
   ever yours
    F.N.
Pray write to your people to come to you on the 25th here -
    I shall certainly turn out by the 21st=.
We have no answer from the owners of 11 Cavendish Sq. who are at Mentone tho’ my letter & offer was written this day fortnight.
    Today we have telegraphed
    It is most awkward, because I can’t take the Grosvenor Hotel lodgings, with the possible prospect of a £450 house falling on my hands.
    But, before Thursday, 21, I am quite certain to know & to go -
    ever yours
    F.N.
Pray give my love to Emily & my best hope for her renewed strength - (my niece!)
Jan 24/64
Dearest mother
    Your letter to Walker came too late for post
me to write to you by post on Saturday night that I am alive.
    As for Walker, she is gone - The less said about this miserable
affair, the better - there being so little tangible -
    I was obliged to desire her to leave
the room - & to send her home for a month to recover
herself. Farther consideration has induced me to have
her written to, to tell her not to return, giving her
a month’s wages & board wages,
instead of a month’s warning.
    I think you had better say nothing
about it. Because I can prove hardly anything against
her ever your loving child F.N.
Parthe will remember that I begged her not to write to W., tho’
I had no idea then of parting with her so precipitately.
Please let me have
Mill’s Logic Vol II
to day, Saturday
F.N.

9001/6 unsigned letter, 1f, pen {arch: ?59} bundle 133

My dear Sir Harry
    I answered Miss Russell,
the Aylesbury Matron,
the same day I received
her note.
I wish I could see
the Bishop of Columbia,
But it is quite impossible.
I have two men to see
on business this week,
whom I cannot refuse,
but whom I am just
as able to see as I
should be to go to India.

Item 7 unsigned notes, 3ff, pen {arch: Jan. 1864?}

1. Whenever it is proposed to construct
a new Hospital the first & most
important question, which ought to
be answered, is - whether the
Hospital is necessary.
2. Hospitals are a hard necessity of an
inferior imperfect civilization - and
it is hoped that just as they were &
are great boons to a certain class of
poor persons, (owing to this state
of society) - so they will disappear
as society becomes Christian
3. It is a serious thing to introduce
a Hospital where, from time
immemorial, there has been none,
& where no public demand has
been made for one:- because it
may be the means of calling forth
a class of wants not previously
experienced, - and, being in
its nature a charity, it may tend
to foster habits of dependence
where none previously existed.
4. There are other great dangers
attending the agglomeration of sick in large town Hospitals x These dangers are, of course, very much less liable to occur in small village Hospitals - The chief question in regard to projected Village Hospitals is the one already put - viz. are they necessary? -

5. It may be safely admitted that, in certain districts, a Village Hospital would be an advantage. But it by no means follows that in other districts similar Hospitals are necessary.

In the proposed case of Romsey, is there a necessity which has been pressing on the public notice and conscience, of such a nature that the establishment of a Village Hospital ought no longer to be delayed? -

To this question a clear & decided answer ought to be given - and, while giving it, the projectors ought to show

x It may be remarked that the new Hospital of Winchester will be almost entirely free from these dangers.
that the need, if it exists, cannot be
    met by sending cases to Winchester,
Salisbury or Southampton Hospitals
- all of which are only a few
miles off by rail.
    The moral aspect of a Village
Hospital ought also to be considered
with reference to the classes for which
it is intended. If the poor in a
country district are kind &
considerate to members of their own
& of each other’s families - is it
wise to with draw the sick from
their care & from under their
roofs, & to have them tended by
other hands elsewhere? -
    This is a very peremptory question.
6. Suppose all the circumstances are
favourable for establishing a Village
Hospital:- the next question
is one of positions & of the amount
& kind of accommodation which
the proposed building is to give.
    It is always dangerous to bring
sick poor from very humble country
dwellings where they have fresh air
about them into even better
quarters in an unhealthy town.
Hence, unless the building be well
placed & well constructed, it may
become a dangerous Institution so
far as the poor are concerned -
and, as has often happened may have
increased the Mortality of those
whom it was intended to relieve.
The greatest care should be bestowed
on this consideration, if the Village
Hospital is to exist at all.
In short, a mere benevolent desire
to benefit the poor in this matter
can never remove from people
the responsibility of looking at
their proposal on every side - & of
then deciding whether it is best
or worst to give effect to their idea
Lastly: - it is becoming more & more
throughout the kingdom the conviction - & a wise conviction
- that it is best, as far as possible, to give the sick poor the benefits of "Out door" Hospital Nursing, so to speak, at their own homes - More & more, people subscribe & unite to maintain a Trained Nurse who shall visit & nurse the poor at their own homes & supply them with certain sick comforts, under the Medical Officer at Liverpool & other places in which, being large towns, the difficulties are immense, the system has been perfectly organized & works admirably.

In country parishes where the difficulties are much smaller, & in small towns - it is always to be considered: - is not this the best kind of Hospital Nursing for the poor? -

* 9001/8 incomplete letter, 1f, pen {arch: Jan 1864} [6:200-01]

Dearie & Primate of all the Bishops
Under cover, to you at 9 St. James’ Place now lies for your rebellious brother the Bishop of Natal & for your admirable brother the Bishop of Columbia whom I shall much have longed to see, a copy of my paper on Sanitary Statistics of Colonial School &c - Perhaps you would explain that the only result of it is a negative one - 1. keep your statistics better
2. make physical education a sine qua non in your native School - and the only result of the paper is not to teach people but to direct their attention to these things. It seems as if this were the very first attempt at Statistics of this kind ever made as to the Colonies. For if I, with all the machinery of the Colonial Office, have got at this only, the material cannot exist.

I have promised that there shall be no circulation of the paper except the copies which the Duke

9001/9 incomplete letter, 1f, pen [6:627]

115 Park St W
Feb /64

Dearest mother
Papa tells me that theWatsons have set their hearts on bringing the boy up to London for Medical advice & wish me to recommend whom to consult.
If they have quite determined upon this step, I should recommend either Dr. Bence Jones 31 Brook St. {the page has been cut}
Dr. Williams, as being less absorbed in purely scientific medicine & more likely to give attention to a Patient. He is considered the best Stethoscopist we have.

I thought Papa looked better & younger than ever. I took the Sacrament yesterday with him & Parthe from Mr. Jowett.

2. Many thanks for many & beautiful boxes.

9001/10 initialed letter, 2ff, pen

115 Park St. W. Feb 3/64

Dear Papa

You know Witton, of Crich, a man whom I had some respect for at Leuch-Scutari.

I am very much obliged to him for writing to me the enclosed, & please tell him so -

I think my hand had better not appear in the business. So I write to you to ask you to write to him (or to tell him) that the man
in question has no kind of right to use my name - that no part of the story mentioned is true, in any one tittle, in as far as it regards my name or anything I have done - & that he may contradict it en every respect as far as it concerns me.

ever dear Pa

your loving child

F.
The other side is for yourself alone -

I believe the man “James” to be a Ward Master at Scutari, a married man, who employed me to send home 5/ a week for him to a girl of 14, whom he had seduced out of Mrs. Bracebridge’s school, & by whom he had a child. He was afterwards tried at Warwick for having eight living wives!!

as bad a creature and arrant an imposter as as I ever came across - & most plausible & even well=educated withal - not cruel or wicked, as you can
see by his maintaining
his illegitimate children.

Now pray don’t say
that this matter is
best left alone.

Surely he ought not
to trade on my name.
with my cognizance -

I heard from Robert
the day you went. He
is still at Ld Kinnaird’s
by Ld Kinnaird’s desire,
till he can find him
a place - Anything less
like Robert wishing
to be “dependent” on me
can scarcely be imagined

I have asked Uncle Sam
to forward you the letter--

Item 11 notes, 2ff, pen {arch: 9 Feb 1864}

The perfect Servant of God
By the “great Unnamed”
Isaiah LII.13-15. LIII.}

Strophe
See, my servant will have success
will be very high and sublime and holy
And as many were horror-stricken at thee
so disfigured, unlike a man, is his countenance
and his form before the children of men
So will many nations rise up, at him Kings
will shut their mouths
Because they saw what never was told them
and experienced what they had not
heard

Chorus
General Confession
Which of us believed the doctrine?
And Jehovah’s Arm to whom was it known?
For he grew up like a plant under his protection
and like a root out of a dry ground,
Having no form nor shew that we should
look at him and no appearance that we
should desire him.
despised and rejected of men, a man of sorrows and familiar with suffering and one hides as it were one’s face before him, despised and we esteemed him not. But it was our sufferings he bore and our sorrows, these he took upon himself While we held him as stricken, smitten and laid low by God. For he nevertheless was wounded on account of (for) our sins; on account of (for) our transgressions struck down The chastisement of our peace came upon him as we through his stripes are healed - We all went astray like the sheep, we turned us every one his own way Yet Jehovah let him bear the transgressions of us all -

Reply / He was tormented, although he humbled himself & opened not his mouth As the lamb is led to the slaughter & as an ewe which is dumb before her shearers So he opened not his mouth. By oppression & by punishment was he snatched away (and among his fellows who considered That he was torn out of the land of the living - for my people’s sin - for the torture for them?) And his grave was fixed among criminals and his mound with the mis-doer Although he never did any wrong and no deceit was in his mouth. But it pleased Jehovah to smite him with suffering: if he made his soul an offering for sin. He shall see the seed (he sowed) live long, and Jehovah’s plan shall prosper in his hand; With what his soul has won he shall satisfy his eyes, by his wisdom shall my servant as just make many just And their transgressions shall be load [?] upon himself (bear)
Antistrophe

Therefore will I give him a share among many - and he shall be victorious with numbers
Because he poured out his soul to death and was reckoned among sinners
Since he yet bore the iniquities of many and for sinners interposed (stood up)

Private Feb 12/64
My dear Sir Harry
I rather dread the idea of a R. Commission to enquire into the state of common women.
What a few able men would do, & do well, & with immense advantage, would, if incorporated into the labours of a R. Commission only make the nation laugh, I am afraid.
Unless you can get
a competent Committee to examine the medical facts -(facts which have never yet been examined - men have only begged the question -) I am afraid more harm than good might be done.

I have an article here in the new Medical Mirror which tends to show what we have all along said that the whole mischief is the result of vice - the whole remedy personal cleanliness. The article denies in the strongest terms that any medicine has any curative power - The gist of it mainly is that the best remedy step is to prevent Army Medical Officers from giving mercury.

Set them to press for Trades & Occupations in the strongest language you possibly can. This
is the true prevention.
   ever yours
   F.N.

We could give you an instance of a boy (a gentleman) of 16 committing vice twice in 48 hours for the first time with two women not diseased - & having what is called that disease

9001/13 intitialled letter, 2ff, pen

115 Park St. W.
Feb 17/64

Dear Papa

I am sorry you have not your young companion yet. But I understand she goes to you on Tuesday 23rd.

I congratulate ourselves & all good Christians on the final sentence about Williams & Wilson. But will they give them back their year’s suspension income?

The following paragraph in the sentence I copy: “And the Council had
not been able to find anything in the Articles, the Creeds, or the formularies which made it penal in a clergyman to give utterance to the hope of the final redemption & pardon of all human creatures." So that we may really hope (not be convinced) that God is not the worst of tyrants & murderers beside whom Caligula would be nothing, without being sent to a penal settlement.

How the Chancellor must have laughed in himself when he wrote that sentence. "Men are fools,": he must have said in himself, "they won't understand."

But it is the oddest thing to make the Chancellor divinely inspired to tell us whether the Bible is plenarily inspired.

That is to say, that the Chancellor is to be to England what the Church is to the Roman Catholic, what the Bible is to the German Protestant -

I don’t agree with the National Review Article that you speak of. I don’t agree that the German illuminati have
done nothing for in reconstructing theology.

*No one* has done any thing in the way of re-constructing *theodike*, in the only way it can be re-constructed, i.e. in preaching the God of *Law*, “proclaiming the name of the Lord,” as the Lord who works by law -

But I think Ewald has done much by reconstructing the Old Testament, shewing in it the glorious idea of the *perfect man*, working out God’s Law (for the good of mankind) by his own suffering, also doing away with the absurd idea of prophecy - F.N. [end 3:619]

9001/14 initialled letter, 2ff, pen [8:620]

Dearie

If Sir Harry has seen Mr. Cumming Bruce, or if you see Ly Augusta, pray tell me anything about Lady Elgin, how she bore the meeting -

She too has been so kind about Harriet Martineau that she will perhaps be glad to hear that Maria Martineau, who she knows has Typhoid Fever, after alternations of hope
& fear, which made
even my heart sick at
such a distance, seems to have
taken the turn towards
recovering- But she is
still as ill as she can
well live.

I am quite afraid
to keep this valuable
Scrapbook in my here
[illeg] full as it is
of priceless sentences
by hands, many, alas!
now cold in death.
But till yesterday
I had no power to
write.

Will you convey this,

& my book & letter,
properly in the way
mentioned, by Lady
Augusta -

Perhaps I ought to
have sealed them all
up. But I think
Countess Blücher had
better do that - I have
carefully kept the Scrap Book
in its ever your
own paper F.
all this time.
Feb 18/64
Tuesday {arch: [? and Feb 64]

Dearie

In searching thro’ my papers (no bad thing for business - tho’ very for health)
I find that it was on February 13 I wrote to Dr. Acland & that I actually used these words, Ld Stanley “has settled for its insertion” (in the Westminster) - adding of course, something civil as a hope that he Dr. A. would not refuse - & something pressing as to immediate haste for printing necessary.

{last line written on top of} F.

Dearie Will Sir Harry come over for 10 min. between 2 and 3, and tell me about Lord de G. as he kindly proposed? And will you come for half an hour between 4 and 5? or any other times between 2 and 5 would do -

We have been so busy all the week, not giving me even ha’ my hour’s rest in the middle of the day, that I am quite knocked down & could not talk more today.

Please tell Sir H. that I have badgered Ld. Stanley into getting Dr. Acland’s Article into the Westminster. And I wrote to Dr. A. yesterday.

Could you go to St. Thomas’ for me this week? Sunday. R.S.V.P.

Dearest mother

You were so good as to say that I was to write when I wanted more Ginger wine I do now.
Also could you send some good moss for my glass flower basket - (forest moss -)
The begging letter you sent me was a very common cheat - People take for granted
of a person, like me,
that I see a great many
& that I shall not
remember whom I
have seen “on Good Friday
at my residence.”

Now I was not “at
my residence” on Good
Friday - but at Miss
Fearon’s at Hampstead.
And I spent my Good
Friday in one bed,
not even in two, with
low fever - Unless indeed
Walker gave herself
out for me, which she
is quite capable of. But
then she is not capable of

“relieving” anybody.

Some day - no hurry -
part of a tongue would
be very acceptable by
the box -

ever dearest mum
Your loving child
F.

9001/18 unsigned letter, 1f, pen

115 Park St W. [1:164-65]
Mar 19/64

Dearest mother
Miss Mayo, my good
landlady & friend at
Hampstead, *snatches*
at Pet with rapture;
tho’ I told her all
Pet’s sins. She begs
that Pet may be sent
up as soon as possible.
If you will send her
to me by rail, *advising me
of the day*, I will
send for her to the
rail. I think I must
brush her up here a little - And then I shall send her in a cab
Wellcome 9001

& one to Hampstead -
the sooner the better.

   Many thanks for
tongue, moss &c &c &
Denszia's beautiful flowers.

   I don't think you
need subscribe any longer
to Harley St., as you
have so many calls -
   I have seen Papa.

As to Burton's letter,
I wish I ever received
any with such feeling,
intelligence & spirit
as hers -
   ever dearest mum
   your loving child
I have just seen Parthe
dress for drawing room [end 1:165]

9001/19 initialled letter, 4ff, pen [1:165-66]

   Good Friday
{arch: 25 March} & Lady Day 1864
as it was 11 years ago
the day Grandmama Shore
died.
Dearest mother
1. I am sorry to say
I have nothing to do
with the Margate Infirmary
& know no one who has.
   But why not put
the boy into Sidney
Herbert's Charmouth
Infirmary?
   Mrs. Fowler says (to
Papa) that the Salisbury
Infirmary has 6 beds
there. He will tell you
what she told him.
2. You ask me about
Ann Woollett.

   Nothing surprises me
so much as the epithets
mistresses give to servants.

   The character I had
with that “wretched woman”,
as you justly call her,
was that she was
charming - which is
just what she was not.

   The character I had
with that Ann Woollett
was that she was “valuable”,
which is just what she
is not.

   She is the most obliging,
affectionate, grateful,
willing creature I ever
knew - and I know no
one single thing she can
do -

   If I ask her to put
a chair for one of my few
visitors, she carries about
a shovel full of coal
in one hand, & puts
the chair with the other.
Of course both go to
the ground.

   She has never once
succeeded, since Walker
went, in giving me my
medicine effervescent -
because she can never
remember to draw the
cork with a corkscrew.

   Walker was actually
“valuable”, in spite of
her drunkenness - so
“valuable” indeed that I never believed until I saw
her myself frantic
drunk, she could be drunk, because she did everything so well.

Ann Clarke is
becoming “valuable”.

3. Miss Jones’ nosegay
did not come by the rail to which I sent for Pet &c. Pet is just
gone by Ann Clarke to Miss Mayo’s. Pet is handsomer than ever & committed no sin while here -

   Saturday.

4. Please send a little more forest moss for my glass basket. There was not quite enough - to fill it -

5. You do not say how Watson boy Jemmy is.

6. I think you take in “Illustrated News”. You will see in the same numbers a very good little map of the course of Sheffield Inundation. Please ask Papa to put down on that map the relative points of Tapton, of road to Tapton - also of Meersbrook - that
I may “orienter” myself.
    I will return you the sheet.
    It seems to me that we ought to give for “auld lang syne”. If you will authorize me to give £5 in your Papa’s name, I will add £5 in my own -
7. I don’t like to hear my dearest mother talk of “maintaining a public servant” in London - meaning me - altho’ it is quite true.
    If you had the expence of having me going thro’ an operation in London, as poor Laura did, you would scarcely put it in that way.
    Laura’s operation lasted 7 ½ minutes - Mine has lasted 7 ½ years - And during all that time, I can truly say that there has not been a part of my body not in pain - not a part of my soul not in pain. During the last 3 years it has been torture - I question, if God had given me the choice, whether I should have
been able to bear choose it -
I am very glad He did
not give me the choice.

But I don't. It is quite
ture that to enable me
to live in London so
as to be able to live at
all, has been a great
tence to you - I have
always gratefully acknow-
ledged it.

Still. I think my
poor Clough used to
put things more
sympathetically -

ever dearest mum

your loving child

F [end 1:166]

9001/20 unsigned letter, 2ff, pen

March 31/64
Dearest Mother

I have received {PM87402
half of a £5 note for
the Sheffield people,
for which many thanks.

I had written &
 sent them £10, when
your answer was delayed,
risking the chance of
your contributing -

But I cannot now
refuse myself the pleasure
of sending your £5
additional to my £10.

Meanwhile, the Mayor
Wellcome 9001

has sent me the enclosed.
Do pray ask Uncle Sam & Papa what I shall do - & ask one of them, (the one best known in Sheffield,) to write by return of post direct to Sheffield what I shall do: - to the best of my recollection, my note was to say:
that I felt for my dear fellow townspeople as I might almost call them, my earliest & dearest associations almost being with the place -

that they had been particularly kind to me at the time of the Crimea besides - that I wrote from a busy sick bed [this to shew that I could not collect money for them] (they did not ask me) - that if I could I would give much more than this trifle. [I think I said I would “give all I had,” if &c &c - or something to shew that the £10 were not as big as my sympathy] If it will give the poor people any pleasure
to see my letter, or if it will bring in subscriptions, it seems a churlish thing to refuse - But I certainly had no idea of its being published.

Pray, if they (Uncle Sam & Papa) decide on answering yes to the Mayor’s request, let London be the only date published, to my letter - [I gave my address in it]

If my letter is to be published, it is less awkward to them to say, let it be published, than for me to say so -

9001/21 note & envelope, 1f, pen

Messrs Willis Booksellers
Charing Cross
order the last National Review
for Miss Nightingale
call again for it & pay for it.
Dearest mother

3 o’clock today for the clocks will suit me extraordinarily well.

Since Tuesday when I gave poor Burton into your charge, I have done nothing for her. But I send you the first currants I have had, in case she should like them.

ever dearest mum
your loving child

F.

Friday

With regard to your Motion on Soldiers’ Trades, the main point is to carry the Horse Guards with you. I don’t think anything can be better than the way you have done it already viz.

the soldier’s weary useless life, when off duty -

the great advantage of having men practiced in all kinds of trades in the Army, particularly in war

the moral advantage of occupying the soldier

if this were done, the soldier with his discipline, should be the best sample of man in the country.

trades have been introduced into different regiments, especially in India, with great advantage

while Govt should provide the means,
much will depend on the commanding Officer
what has been done by one Commanding Officer might be done by others
Of course trades must be pursued with due regard to duties & discipline
Col. Campbell’s experience: India Army
Sanitary Report
Evidence
Questions 4120 to 4134

Sir A. Tulloch’s Evidence Q. 5559
Also recommendations of committee on soldiers’ trades
[We have never seen this.]
Something to conciliate the Horse Guards should be put in the Motion, such as, that, in the opinion of the Ho: of C., trades should be encouraged in the Army, as far as a due regard to duties & discipline will admit.

to do the Indian plans.
Rawlinson comes here at 12 today
I shall try to keep him over one o’clock, in order to feed him.
To do him honour, I wish Sir Harry could step in at one, & talk to him about Soldiers’ Trades, as to which he is much interested & knows a great deal.
Sir Harry could, at the same time, hear what Sutherland has to say about Gibraltar.

F.N.

Wednesday
I have just {illeg} from my Daughter who {illeg} very ill is almost overwhelmed with business your {illeg} letter acknowledging her little contribution in aid of the pressing distress at {illeg} upon the observ{illeg} venture to reply in the {illeg} contained in it. I am satisfied that {illeg} under the impression of strong feeling & without any idea of its publication . I would therefore earnestly request that it should not be published

1. Number of men in each regt who have been instructed in Trades before Enlisting
3. in each regt {illeg labor ?} of how many men {illeg were under?} {illeg our of?}
2 & in what Trades
Bradfield, I got an Ordnance map & oriente’d myself completely. Thanks for the Illustrated which is just what I wanted them to do - I will return it.

I wait for time to decide this important question. {3 lines scribbled out}

3. I have received the National - thanks to Papa. I have a great deal to say & will write - but I am so very incapable of writing. I have a constant cramp in my hand, the only limb I had left. And the W.O. makes me do everything ten times over - I have never known it so incompetent, as now -

   ever dearest mum,  
   your loving child

   F.

This is almost the first day I
have seen the clouds
since January !. It
seems to me the longest
winter I have ever
known. Last Wednesday
we had snow - The
Wednesday before we
had snow piled up
against the window.
But the worst has been
the unvarying yellow
haze for 3 ½ months -
F.N.

Ap 9/64

9001/26 initialled letter, 1f, pen {text from another letter here, {with all her might-} page cut}

Dearest mother
   I like seeing poor
Burton’s letter -
      I shall never forget
the heartfelt tone of her
voice when I came back
from the Crimea
   “the sacrifice that
she have made” - it does
comfort me that some
person knows what
it is - not the “sacrifice”
of the Crimea that
was nothing - but the
lost tortures of the last

three years what
no other woman, (much
less man) ever made
in this world” -
j’aimerais beaucoup
mieux endurer un
prompt martyre,
as St Teresa said
   ever dearest mum
      Your loving child

April 10/64
I suppose I must see Garibaldi.

I must write myself to Jowett, tho' I know not where - I shall ask him only to fix some other hour. He comes up to London on purpose - it is impossible to unfix him - therefore - If I only could but have known it before post time.

F.

Friday

Dearest mother

1. The kittens, however pretty, if not thorough bred, must be distributed by you in your vicinity. As I stated, I cannot undertake to write letters to ask people whether they will take kittens, not thorough bred, in my present state. I betrayed & deceived 11 of my fellow=subjects by giving them non=thorough breds for thorough breds. And
they will not take any more - I could find good "places" for twice that number of thorough breds - But of *non* thorough breds I will none.

I would advise you to keep one Tom for yourselves, until I can breed you another thorough bred Tom - But this is a matter of choice *for you*: as I would not take even a 3/4 thorough bred, much less a ½.

2. I sent the National & Edinburgh Reviews by the "empty" - (which I had from Willis & Sotheron, all right - & paid for) But please tell Papa that a subsequent Edinburgh, *same No=*, came directed to me at South St, "for W.E.N." - was taken in, & that I have it without paying for it - & ask him whether that is all right. I think it must have been sent from Hookham's by mistake. But I had no means of knowing whence it came.

3. You know that I had Garibaldi all to myself for 35 min: yesterday. He poured out the whole
history of his wrongs
from his Govt=, as an
answer to my reasonings
that he should keep in
good intelligence with
his Govt=, & not fight Rome
& Venice.

I am more impressed
with the greatness of
the noble heart, full
of bitter nesses, yet not
bitter - & with the
little administrative
capacity, which, while
it is praying for a
representative govt=,
“like ours”, cannot take
the evils & the good -
of a representative
govt=, (as I have to do
{this text was at top of letter}
every day of my miserable
life, than I ever was by his
splendid blunder of Aspromonte.

9001/29 incomplete note, 1f, pen {arch: [Ca 27 April 1864]}

By Saturday morn I shall have all
information ready for you as to the Chatham
authorities cognizant of the subject.

Thanks for Sir M. Peto.

I hope the D. of Somerset is not
pressing forward the Draft, which, as I
understand is already in print, (the second)
May 31/64

Dearest mum

(A heavy freezing rain)
(oh for a little more hot)
(weather! -

This is, as usual a begging letter. But, if you knew how many weeks it has been waiting to get itself written!

1. I am in the greatest want of two flannel shawls, two yards square, of the finest flannel, to wear in bed. During my long, long night of 7 P.M. to 10 A.M. the hard washed flannels fidget & fever me.

Ann Clarke who improves, alas? but little in attention, the one thing needful to usefulness of both rich & poor, (tho' the best creature alive) has signally failed 3 times in this purchase in London. And I must ask you to have said shawls bought as soon as possible at Romsey; & please let me pay the bill. Your Romsey flannels are much the best.

2. Pray tell Hill that I am inventing some torture more horrible than he can conceive for him, if he goes on sending (in spite of my repeated remonstrances last year) about 50 heads of the common rhododendron in two boxes - about 4 head of Azalea- no Laburnum, no pink or white May, except one naked branch. I entirely forbid more than one head of the common Rhododendron in each box. It is too provoking. I desire acres of yellow & flame coloured & white Azalea. (I have had none.). I desire acres of white & pink May - I have had none. Laburnum is over now, I suppose,
I have had none, Yellow Iris & roses I insist upon. But it is really too bad his not sending me Azalea. And frightful is the row I make against him. Why, I would give 1/0 a head for your
flame-coloured Azalea, which (in the sun) is like Guido’s nimbus round the head of the Père Eternel at San Gregorio at Rome.

3. I don’t know whether you can help me in this: poor Burton lives on & on; & is by far the most refractory dying Patient I ever had. I have no one to help me in providing for her. She can take nothing but Asparagus, strawberries & grapes. I have not put one in my mouth this year, but have given her all mine. And I pay 16/0 a lb. for strawberries besides for her - And sometimes she calls them bad. The strawberries she has out of your box (there are never more than a dozen) last her just one night. [And now she can’t take Asparagus] Could you send grapes & strawberries bought at Romsey (I to pay) in next box? I may be asking an impossibility. The Dr., whom I provided

for her by her own selection, & whom she does nothing but abuse, because, she says, there is “Chloroform”! & “Caustic”! in his prescriptions- and I then translated the prescriptions for her, & shewed her there was nothing of the kind - the Dr. thinks she may last for weeks - Dear good Sir Henry (how I do love that man) goes actually, between the Ho: of C. sitting, & reads & prays with her. And she says, ‘it’s better than the clergyman”.
Indeed I think it is - That, & the lilies which I send her from you, are really the only things she is contented with. She won’t drink any Port Wine but yours. So I send her that.

And this brings me to my next 4. I shall want some more Ginger wine, please, next (not this) week.

Poor Burton desired me to thank you for your letter & say it was quite impossible for her to answer it.

I have suffered from the want of fruit myself. For it is too dear for me to buy (for myself- i.e) ever dearest mum your loving child F.

Dearest mother

Thanks for good birth day wishes, beautiful birth day flowers & all the goods.

The report of Jemmy Watson is very fair. At his age we should consider it as giving a very hopeful prospect. We should clothe him well, take great care of no damp or cold, especially to the extremities - give nothing but light diet, no beer - take care against fatigue of any kind, & hope for the best. Doubt= less he has all these cares.

At a later age there is not so much hope -

The 2 cats assert their = claim to being thorough= bred by having hair so long that it would take me & two persons behind me to comb it.
Please tell Papa that I would gladly see the translation of M. Aurelius by Pierron, if he will get it.
Mr. Jowett (quite casually) mentioned an excellent translation by Long -
  I know neither.
  But should prefer the French one -
  Our Indian work is wearing & worrying in the extreme. It is just five months since Sir John Lawrence said it was essential that the W.O. Commission should send him out its schemes for the Commissions (which he has created for us) AT ONCE. I have worked at my part night & day, in urging them it on. They

The Commission are nearly where they were 5 months ago -
Never, never have I missed Sidney Herbert as now -
I myself have thought he might have done more -
But these people do nothing -
  I have no strength to
write:

    Ever dearest mum
    Your loving child
    F

We want some more Ginger wine, please. I share the Port wine May 13/64 with poor Burton. [end 1:168]
Dearest mum

The Sutherlands are, I hear, coming to you tomorrow (Saturday) by the 3 P.M. train. I only mention this in case you like to send for them. They don't expect it. I wish you could keep Mrs. Sutherland after he is gone. She is very far from well. He ought to come back. But I offer no opinion to him.

I was delighted with the flannel shawl. Its only fault that it is only 1½ yds square, instead of two yards. The flowers were lovely. The Laburnums quite exquisite. If I had no “smell” here worse than that of “May”, my head would do very well.

ever dearest mum
your loving child

June 3/64

My dear Sir Harry

I think I have made good use of your son’s letter in writing today to the Bengal Sanitary Commission, with which I am in communication, (created, you know, by Sir John Lawrence) on the subject of the Delhi “Boils”, without mentioning names - That water supply must be looked to.

I was glad to have
my printed paper back. But what I wanted was the Bartlett letters about the evil, which you were so good as to read to me -

Yours ever
F.N.

Romsey June 7 1864
Dearest mum
You cannot believe that these flannels are just twice as good for half the price, as what we get here - unless it is just poor Ann Clarke can be persuaded by any shopman that pink is a good match for pea green.

I will take, please, two square shawls of the widest width - the square to be of the whole width -

And two shawls of the narrowest width - the square to be of the narrow width.

ever dearest mum
Your loving child
F.
June 16/64

My dear Sir Harry

I made some enquiries last night about this miserable Gold Coast affair; but there is nothing at all to shew that Govt is a bit less to blame, than appears if they have gone to war in a dangerous country without due precaution.

The facts, you see, are these: or rather the points are these: -

after the Crimean War, a whole sanitary administration was created (by Sidney Herbert) & became S. of S. Regulation. In every single instance, both before & after his death, viz. in the China War, the Canada expedition, & the New Zealand War, we were required to set this sanitary machinery in motion, by direct application to us from the S. of S. for War. And the troops have no more right to take the field without this machinery than without their ammunition. It consists in appointing a Sanitary Officer, observing the Sanitary Regulations, writing & certain special sanitary instructions drawn up for the special service, - making certain special provisions for the shelter, dieting & watering of the troops, according to the special service &c &c &c. In every instance, even in that unhealthy Chinese War, the consequences were more successful than even we had dared to hope. Now it appears that nothing of the kind was
done in this Gold Coast murder. Certainly we were not applied to: And if, as appears no precautions were taken, then they have themselves to blame just as much, & have just as little cause for surprise in the sad result, as if, without ammunition the troops had not been able to fire. [Ministers deserve this result.]

It is a little Crimean as Sir J. Hay said there is no doubt. And Ministers ought to concede an enquiry. We all know what took place from

[2]
their not doing so in the Crimean business.

If there has been gross rashness & mismanagement, on the part of one of Govt’s servants - then certainly the country should know, who is to blame? After all our past experience, it is really too bad.

What Govt ought to do is to take steps themselves, even before the Committee sits. This is the only thing to save their own honour. If Sir J. Hay asks for correspondence
or information, of course it will be given. If he
wants an enquiry, it will be by a Committee of the
House, I suppose. And an enquiry by the Ho: would
alone satisfy him, I suppose. All Govt= could offer
him instead would be a Commission: but they
must give him a Committee of the House, if he
will have it.

[It seems to me as unfair, if Sir J. Hay proceeds
to a vote of censure at once, as what Ministers
themselves would do, if they sacrifice the troops
to protect one of the servants. What we want
is to know what is Ministers to blame & to prevent
its recurrence].

2. Is Sir J. Trelawny’s motion
on the Notice paper to-day
solely as regarding vice=disease?
3. I forgot to give you
a message from Mrs. Sutherland
- would you come in to their
Sanitary Association Meeting
on the 21st & say a few
words - or, if not, would
you, at least, give your name?
4. Would you tell Parthe
(who has written to me)
that I am sorry to find
it is absolutely impossible
for me to see Mlle v.
Zeschau on Saturday,
much as I should like it.

ever yours
F.N.

[end 15:400]
My dear Sir Harry

I am much concerned about Sir J. Hay’s debate. He might have done us a great deal of good. He has done nothing but harm. His speech was simply abusive - & gave no information whatever as to the true cause of the disaster.

Ld Hartington’s was simply bosh - & if he does not know it to be bosh, he is not worth his place -

Ld Palmerston’s was beneath contempt.

The only man who spoke sense was General Peel.

The way Sir J. Hay has done for us so much harm is by making it a party question. Had his motion been for an Enquiry, had that enquiry led to the discovery of the present (& to the determination of a truer/connection between W.O. & Colonial Off., it would have done us the greatest good.

Ld de Grey handed over those unfortunate
troops to the Col: Off., without a word, without putting in action the Regulations under which he himself acts as S. of S: It was, in fact, illegal. And we could have shewn this.

There seems almost a fate against us.

But the question is now: what is to be done?

I fear, *nothing*.

For my part, in my conscience I believe that Genl= Peel & Lord Stanley would be far better for the country at W.O. and I.O.

I must give you an instance of the Cool impertinence of the Horse Guards. Their answer to me (to a complaint as to delay in our Sanitary affairs) was that “Sir John Lawrence had “nothing else to do (sic) but think of India Sanitary “affairs - whereas we “have so much to do” - [This referred to sending out something he had asked for] - *Pray tell this.*

I really could break those jackanapes’ heads.

June 18/64 ever yours F.N.
My dear Sir Harry

In returning the enclosed, I find that what the W.O. Barrack Commission would “go for” is:

woollen curtains, as they danger of fire from canvas screens is so great as to be final.

Canvas screens are just as imperfect a separation as woollen curtains - & obstruct ventilation more. the woollen curtains to be drawn aside during the day - & from time to time taken down & thoroughly aired - This would be more easy than with canvas screens.

- The woollen curtains could be issued at once. as immediate means of separation are wanted. And this would not hinder the ultimate adoption of wooden partitions.

But it would be far cheaper to put up wooden dwellings for married quarters
than to divide the existing huts with wooden partitions.

Such wooden dwellings have, it is said, been put up at Chatham & answered well.

ever yours
F.N.

June 20/64

My dear Sir Harry

I have just heard (privately) from that the W.O. mean to upset you this evening on the ground that “an Army was” not “to take the field”. But your ground is evidently this: that, to meet just exactly such special cases as the Ashantee case, the last Clause of P.133 of the “New Medical Regulations” - (“When it has not” etc down to
the end) - was specially added by Sidney Herbert to meet the case of Regiments sent on Expeditions.

The course which should have been taken under the Regulations was, that, according to the three first Para:s of Section XXI, p. 82, (which I shewed you,) the Director General should have been asked for information & special instructions, to be applied, under the last Clause in P. 133.

Could not you forestall their defence by reading the Regulations to the House, as having been laid down by Sidney Herbert & the House not being cognizant of them?

in gt haste
ever yours
F.N.
June 28/64

Dear Papa

I was greatly disappointed not to hear from you, either today or yesterday, the smallest hint as to what you would like to do, if I failed in getting you a room in this street.

There is not a room to be had, either in Hotel or lodging house, In Park St., for love or money.

And as I could not now hear from you in answer to this, till Thursday (besides which you never do answer by return of post) - and on Thursday there would not be the slightest chance of getting you a room by Saturday - I have empowered the mistress of the Grosvenor Hotel to get you a room in Coburg Hotel, Charles St. or in a lodging house near - Peter to have a room near you - you to have your meals here from the Grosvenor - Peter at the Grosvenor.

But this might be arranged otherwise, if you like it, & if you will only write.

I could have got you a room in Portman Square. But I did not know whether you would like to go so far. And you do not give me the least hint - how far you would like to go, if I failed in Park St. If the worst
comes to the worst, there is always Ann Clarke’s room here to fall back upon - But the partitions are so thin that this house is exactly like only one room to live in. I hear all Ann C. does, as if she were sleeping in my room, tho’ it is on another floor.

London is crowded, on account of this great debate - Since I have been in public life, I have heard nothing so sickening as the run in favor of Denmark -

Nothing but a visible

that a free, strong country like England should unite to crush out/ wrest all freedom from those two wretched little Duchies!

And all from the frivolity of Palmerston. A more masterly exposition in favor of wrong than his last night surely never was.

ever dear Pa your loving child F.
Dearest mum
    Indeed I was very glad
to see Mr. Giffard’s answer.
It did my heart good. “I do
not hold it to be my ’bounden
duty etc to make any
declaration at all.”
    Please present my
admiring thanks to Mrs.
Webb for flannels, both
new & old. [to destroy
my flannels I pay 10/ a
week to the Hampstead
laundress.]
    Many thanks for the
splendid contents of
numerous boxes. The whole
of the last, except the Port
Wine, went to Papa’s
friend, Sister Gonzaga -
    Otherwise I have been
obliged to give them to
poor Burton, who cannot
(or will not) eat anything
but Asparagus, Peas, Grapes,
Strawberries, Peaches, & your Port Wine.
And she says, none of
these things were in the
boxes you sent her.
    In the morning, with
myself, everything but
grapes excites my vomiting.
- even a cup of tea. And
I am obliged to give
Burton my grapes -
    Don’t let them send
any more Rabbits. The last four boxes they have been bad - so bad that they had to be turned into the dust hole directly.

It is thought, by many, that Ministers will be out next Monday.

ever dearest mum
   Your loving child
   F.

Many thanks for all your letters, dearest mum.
You are the most faithful correspondent I have.
Bless you -

9001/41 initialled letter, 2ff, pen

Dearest mother

1. I should like to see my hero’s picture if it is not too big to get up these stairs, if it is understood that I can neither see people nor write (to compliment) & that it must come to me in my bed.

2. I send you a letter from the hero - & one from Ld S.- which (both) please return, without copying, as soon as possible.

   My heart bleeds for great John Lawrence & for my own troubles, (of which Sutherland is the greatest) mainly or only as they affect him. And I am his only help in some things.

   Sid: Herbert was a knight of the chivalrous times. But great John Lawrence is a hero of the old Roman
times - the last of the heroes.  

3. Please ask Hill to make me
the roughest pen & ink sketch
of Jess, the mare, with my face,
dragging the cart, & Rab, the dog,
with Sutherland's face, pulling
behind the other way & "nearly
strangling himself to spite" me.
It is to shew Sutherland (when I
am too ill to speak) what he does
see p. 20.

4. Could you give me £80 in
notes & £20 in gold for the
enclosed Cheque - if it is not
to pass thro' the hands of servants.
If it is, please return me the
cheque. Ann C. is not to be
trusted not to tho' as pure as
gold she actually said that I
kept cash in my Despatch box

of papers.

5. I am sorry about mistakes
& delays about the cook

6. I think I must leave the
color of the flannel to you - only
it must not be red or light blue.

7. The W.O. is utterly demoralized

Sir C. Wood does not speak the
truth.

ever dearest mum
your loving child
F.

Wednesday

9001/42 unsigned letter, 1f, pen

Dearie I am so completely done up with the incessant
work of the last 10 days that I could not speak to
any one -

Have you heard of George?
Shall I write an introduction (for Emily) to Mr.
Inglott of Malta?

Does Sir H. know Mr. Alward of the American
Legation? He has sent me some things - And I
ought to thank him.
Dearest mother

While you are in town, I must leave, please, to you, poor Burton - her fruit, her flowers & enquiring after her. It has been quite too much for me, with the very curious coadjutor I have - E.g. she has half, often the whole, of every Port bottle I have had from you - at my very great expense, for the wine I get from the Hotel disagrees with me. - never one word of thanks or pleasure, but a very impertinent message when the supply stopped, because no bottle came by the last box.

You know that quite knocks one down - But I don't believe it is poor Burton's fault - but the very awkward mental condition of my Prime Minister.

You know I pay Burton's Doctor & Chemist's Bill.

All other things, including grapes, I must, please, leave to you while you stay.

Part of the sickness & vomiting from which I now suffer is due to my having constant messages how Burton "throws up" the things I send - But I don't believe it is she who sends these "messages".

ever your loving child
F.

July 12/64 (Pray send Mrs. Webb to her (every day. I have hitherto (sent twice a day. I think (it will be a real blessing (to all both sides to vary (this a little.
Dearest mother

If the cook, (whose name you do not tell me) will come to me on July 30 for 3 months on trial to go to Hampstead -
if you will be so good as to take Mrs. Hume & Mrs. Stirling’s characters & they prove good - if she will consent to receive orders thro’ my own maid,
I will take her -
I will give her £22, beer, washing, everything found - no beer money or other allowance - if she suits, I will raise wages.

I consider characters from persons

I do not know as absolutely the same as no character at all -
I consider that being what I am, I have absolutely no means of knowing that a servant does not be drunk on the kitchen floor, or does not admit all sorts of men into the house -
I consider that Muff, the cat, would make a better head=servant than my present maid - (& he does not break things, which she does). I therefore look upon this cook as merely a “trial”

But you must not cry down my maid int to the cook - because I cannot undertake, (not anything like every day) to see her - perhaps not every week. And she must take orders thro’
my maid, however “inane”.
   
   If the cook prove trustworthy,
I shall exalt her to the grade of
housekeeper, (of my very small
household) with corresponding
increase of wages.
   
   Would you explain to her that
to come “on trial” will not at
all throw any reflection on her
character, if she does not suit?
I may not suit her, as well as
she not suit me -
   
   Mine is a VERY quiet place,
but also a very strict place, owing
to my Invalid life.
   
   NB. The “Custs” are worse than
no character at all.

She must neither go out nor

receive any one in the house,
without asking me thro’ my maid.
   
   I am sure I allow my servants
reasonable liberty, MORE than is
usually allowed, a great deal.
   
   In return, (would you explain
that I am such an Invalid
that) I must require of them
the most absolute quiet &
trustworthiness -
   
   If she prove trustworthy, she
will have to order the dinners
& keep the accounts herself -
ultimately - & will be treated as a housekeeper

ever dearest mum
   
   Your loving child
   
   F.

July 22/64
Dearest mother. You were so good as to ask me what Mrs. Webb could do for me.

I want very much a jacket exactly like the pattern, but *lilac (not blue)* - & a petticoat of the same flannel - to match.

It quite offends me to wear, as now, a lilac petticoat & blue jacket. the colour (lilac) of the petticoat is the colour I like.

F.N.

Dearest mother

Pray put out of your own head, & don’t put into the cook’s head, that “so much is required” in my place. I know no place where so little is required & so much is given. [I was perfectly satisfied with a mere girl, Mrs. Sutherland’s cook, & she with me; & we should never have parted, but for that wicked woman, whose sin the girl had found out].

In any family consisting of two, there is more cooking, than in mine.

I know no one but myself who will spare a servant for a week’s holiday - or for 3 months, to nurse a mother, paying her wages & supporting the mother all the time.

All that *is* “required” is that she
shall be trusted neither to drink nor flirt, not having a mistress, & not having a capable head=servant to enforce order.

In your family, you can depend upon yourself & you can depend upon your other servants, to find out if anything goes wrong, with one.

I have no one - not even myself.

With this one exception, I know of no family where so little is required & so much is given, as my own.

As for her taking orders thro' my maid, she must consent to do it. But I see more & more it is impossible. I must see her every day myself & give my own orders.

This is what Ann C. Provided for me yesterday, & nothing else.

A Patient’s Diet.

Luncheon  Gooseberry Pudding which I did not touch

Dinner  Bacon & Beans - almost raw which I did not touch

Supper  A cold drum=stick Chicken which I did not touch because there was nothing to touch.

Saturday

Burn this

9001/47 initialled letter, 1f, pen {arch: July 1864?} [8:452]

My dear Sir Harry

No copy of the amended “Contagious Diseases” Bill has been sent me. But a copy, left for a few minutes at the W.O., shews that they have avoided our original strictures, but by placing the whole female population of the towns (in the Act) at the mercy of the Insp. of Police - & with nothing but a pecuniary compensation for mistake -
Hampstead NW
Aug 5/64

My dear Sir Harry

Col. Fyers' letter is admirable & evidently quite trustworthy.

By the next mail, I shall, without mentioning names, re-introduce the subject in my letter to Sir J. Lawrence.

But the efficient way of doing the business at home would be this: - if Col. Fyers' letter could be brought before the H. Guards, & the H. Guards, (who are very good at this kind of thing,) refer it to us, i.e. the Barrack & Hospital Improvement Commission at the War Office, which is now, as you know, in direct communication with Sir J. Lawrence's Presidency Sanitary Commissions.

[Quite recently, a nearly similar case occurred at Shanghai. An admirable letter from an officer there was sent to me. I got it referred in the way above mentioned. And we had the satisfaction of knowing that proper orders were sent out by the H. Guards last mail to Shanghai, in pursuance of our advice.]

What I shall say to Sir J. Lawrence is this: - there is no natural reason why Delhi should not be healthy - & if unhealthy, the cause is removable. With such a rate of sickness, the place is untenable, & the disease (Delhi sore) fatal to efficiency. Here then is a case for local enquiry. And it must be taken up by the Bengal Sanitary Commission.

The Mediterranean cities suffer from a bad form of carbuncular sore, - a tenth part of the cases proving fatal -
& enquiry has shewn that, damp, with
foul air, by gradually undermining stamina, are predisposing causes.

The Delhi causes can only be understood by careful local enquiry, including not only troops but native population.

The following points suggested:

1. extent to which Delhi sore prevails among natives especially State of localities where it is most prevalent
2. extent to which it has prevailed among troops - comparison between localities they occupy, & localities occupied by native population
3. minute medical enquiry into nature of diseases, including microscopic examinations into nature of sores - previous symptoms to be very carefully described (whether scorbutic)
4. minute enquiry & report as to nature of Barrack & Hospital accommodation in reference to position, drainage, ventilation, cubic space, general construction, state of buildings
5. minute chemical analysis of various waters supplied for use. analysis to be both qualitative & quantitative. (Roofwater filtered & stored would afford sufficient drinking & cooking water)
If the waters are alkaline or contain organic matter, especially animal matter, in any quantity, such waters are unfit for use.

6. Examination of ration, specially as regards pork or bacon, which should be struck off the list of substances used as food.

7. Carefully drawn up report on whole subject to be made, pointing out causes & remedies, - immediate steps, to be taken to have requisite improvements carried out.

I send to Mr. Calvert’s for you, today a copy of “Suggestions” (you will see how particular we are about water=supply) sent out to Sir J. Lawrence direct, by me, by H.M.’s Book post, at his own earnest request (for, of all the slow=going Govt Offices, the India Off. is the worst) - signed by the said Barrack & Hospl Imp. Comm:

Ever yours

F.N.

Aug 5/64

9001/49 initialed letter, 1f, pen

My dear Sir Harry

I think you are quite wise about the Herbert Statue -viz. in limiting its expences to £3000 - & keeping the rest £1200 for the Gold Medals for the Army Medical School at Netley - more, alas! than is likely to be wanted for these. - if the C. in C. & D.G. go on at their present rate.

F.N.

Aug 5/64
Hampstead N.W.
Aug 16/64

My dear Sir Harry

1. we have a letter [9:373]
from Sir Hugh Rose who has carried out all his part of the recommendations of the R. Sanitary Commission - (of course he says, of his own accord, not of theirs - so they are done, we do not mind). I have sent it to Lord Stanley - when it comes back, I will lend it you - It is a private document - most creditable to Sir H. Rose. We mean to have it called for, somehow or other & printed. Perhaps you would like to do it. Sir H. Rose will be delighted to have his great deeds sung in public. But they really are (five) great deeds - And the Work Shops one of the five. We are truly indebted to him. It would have taken our Commander in Chief a long time to do likewise. [end 9:373]
2. Scarlett's letter shews that the Delhi case is on its way to us. We shall hear of it presently. It will be referred back by the "Director General". And if there are any practical steps to be taken, they will be referred to us - i.e. Barrack & Hospl Improvment Commission. Meanwhile I wrote to Sir J. Lawrence. And I shall be charmed, if we find that, by the time the Horse Guards have begun to write out to India, he has put all to rights. That is the way he generally does.

3. I am afraid I should be quite unequal to looking at Dr. Acland's interesting Journal. Besides W.O. & Indian work, I have been overdone with settling the Liverpool Workhouse Nursing - And all would have been done so much more smoothly if I had not left town. and nothing is finished yet.

 ever yrs
 F.N.

I hope to see you on Friday - If you would tell me what time, I would have something to eat for you -
Dearest mother

1. the purple lama dressing gown arrived resplendent in beauty - And I now lie outside the bed, in order to hide none of its loveliness. Indeed, were it not that I am afraid it tumbles, spots with clean water, & does not wash well, I would never go back to poor= =creature =flannel - I think the colour quite as pretty as lilac & shews the dirt as well.

2. the woollen skins are come - they are nearly twice as wide across the hips as any I have had before - I can’t fancy any woman filling them. But I don’t think it worth while to change them.

3. Yes, Hill has [illeg] sent me flowers worth sending. not small flowers, he is not capable; but beautiful wreaths of Passion flower - purple leaves - that orange spike I don’t know the name of - one or two Gladiolus etc I can’t say as much for his fruit a few apricots, no grapes -
4. Yes, I think I should like your large black lace shawl, if you don’t wear it yourself. But I am afraid I shall make a present of it.
5. It has not been cold here, but very hot. every thing dried up - every thing so dear - meat enormous, fish consequently too. I think my housekeeping costs nearly £2 a week more - But then that wicked woman was a capital housekeeper. I have no one now with more head than your little still room maids.
6. I had poor Miss Jones of K.C.H. here. She never left her bed. I left mine twice to visit her in hers. I do wish she would go away quite somewhere for a time. or she will break up altogether I don’t think her coming here does her much good. And it is quite too much for me now, the anxiety of such an invalid, & the fear that my household will give her Gooseberry Pudding for one dinner - & Bacon & beans for another -
7. I must give Dr. Tanner who is something - who has attended poor Burton for 4 months at her own request, & has never taken a fee of me. It must not be less than 10 guineas - If you could get a really handsome vase, inkstand
or table at Matlock
of about that price, &
have an inscription
scratched on it something
like this, “Offered to Dr.
Tanner by Florence Nightingale
in remembrance of
kind assistance given” -
Or do you think one of
Colas’ imitation bronzes,
now to be had in England,
would do better - a
Génie Adorant?

I don’t see I need
wait for poor Burton’s
death to do this -
8. I had occasion to write
to Miss Clough & asked
her to write & tell you
how jaded & driven I

have been ( I am quite
sorry I left London). &
that I could not write.
In addition the Liverpool Workhouse
Nursing had all to be
settled. Miss Agnes Jones,
the Supt elect, to go down
twice to Lpool. Miss Jones
of K.C.H. not able to help
us in the least. Mrs. Wardroper,
tho’ almost as bad, working
like a horse for it - we
supply 15 Head Nurses from
St. Thomas’ for it - it is the
best thing we have done
yet. the first Workhouse
that ever has been nursed -
Mr. Rathbone gives £1000
a year!!! But the trouble
of settling has been enormous & is not over yet.

Really, when I see how people will work, people like Mrs. Wardroper, & there are thousands who scarce know how to get thro' their mornings, then, how I wish I could divide the labour fairly.

9. Please thank Papa very much for his last letter, which deeply pleased me - I often fancy I hear in my dreams the rushing of the Derwent, which I used to open the Casement in the Nursery at night to hear - I am going to write to Papa -ever dearest mother

Your loving child

F.

9001/52 incomplete letter, 4ff, pen [3:372-73]

Hampstead N.W.

Aug 21/64

Dear Papa

1. I have had no Reviews but what you have had - I have had only two this quarter - 1. The "Edinburgh which you have now. 2. The "Westminster", I think, but which was only in my hands for an hour - (you were passing thro', & took it with you

The "National” I have not had. Nor have I any here for you -

2. Why do you think it
“wonderful” that “such a mind” as J.H. Newman’s can write the unconditional submission of the Apologia? Can anything be more “wonderful” than the “religious” sentences you read me of Bacon’s?

But I never know why your mind is haunted with “ecclesiastical despots”- Do you know one single educated Englishman who does not look on “convocation” much as I look on a pantomime or low theatre?

A. Stanley’s article is interesting only to me, as shewing that “ecclesiastical despotism” is absolutely gone in England. We think of the priesthood with a kind of good natured contempt.

3. You see we are going to Nurse the vast Liverpool Workhouse Infirmary with a great staff of Head Nurses, thereby, as we hope, half freeing Liverpool from pauperism, by nursing men into working health again, instead of consigning them to the tender Workhouse pauper=

Nursing, which consigns them to life=long infirmity & consequently life=long pauperism. We take
over at once 600 sick
“able bodied” men & infirm in
order to restore them to
health work & their
families, who otherwise
become paupers too - [end 3:372]

4. I prize your letters
always - but especially
that about the Derwent
& Balaclava - In the
tumult of contention with
a coarse Commander-in-Chief,
a coward War=Minister &
an India=Minister indifferent
to truth I often lose sight
of the far more inspiring
conflict, hand to hand,
with nature’s anither laws at
Balaclava - Thank you for

reminding me.

5. I saw an Article headed:
“Le Positivisme et l’Idéalisme”
- certainly not at all in our
sense - representing them
as two opposite philosophies.
Now I think the work of
the present day might
be - & certainly it never
has been done - to shew
how the two are one -
The positivism lays down
that every thing, moral
as well as physical, is
subject to law. But the
great tendency of this
truth, as now represented,
is - to take away all idea of a personal relation with the God who acts by law - & even sometimes all idea that we can alter things very much, if everything is subject to law -

Now I should like to shew how Positivism is the only way to Idealism - the only way by which we can reach the personal connection with a perfect God - the only way by which we can work out the "sentiment du mieux," (so strong especially in the Englishman) for ourselves & for others.

The old Christian idealists said: if you cannot "pray" to God, if you cannot believe that He is "moved" (to do something different) by what you say to Him, there is no religion.

Let the new Positivism Idealism, not contrary but same philosophies, shew that no prayer is possible i.e. prayer to a perfect God (who cannot change His mind) except by working out His laws in oneness with His spirit. [end 3:372]
I like the old Puritan word "Exercises," religious exercises.

Now I would have positivist "exercises" - exercises to consider what God’s will is (in His laws) & to bring our will into His designs - to propose to ourselves the same end that He proposes to Himself - to enter, not only mystically but actively, into His designs.

It is astonishing how I find all I want this in the mystics of the 16th century. They completely

Dearest mother

I was quite overcome to hear this morning that Burton was so near her end. I was very fond of her. She had a heart. And many now have none. You do not give her address. Please forward the enclosed & send me her address besides - If you have the Ecce Homo of Guercino (which is far the most
effective) or the Albert Dürer of Christ on the Cross, please send it her for me, to lose no time - & tell me what you have done - or the Christ on the Cross by Guido - It will take me time & strength to get things framed & sent from here -

Ever dearest mum your loving child F.

Please tell Hill not to send any more sods for the cats. Many thanks for your letter. I hope you save your eyes.

9001/54 initialed letter, 3ff, pen [8:455-56]

Hampstead N.W.
Aug 23/64

My dear Sir Harry

I enclose two letters from the secretary at Malta, written in reply to a request for further information as to their Police system.

Read No 1 first.

It gives an account of the system introduced 3 years ago - And if No 2 had never been written, it would have given a most erroneous idea of the changes introduced.
& the results.

No 2. when read after No 1, blows up the whole affair, & converts the whole proceeding into a (very indecent) joke.

You will see that the System which was given up, & (which giving up led to Dr. Armstrong's outcry,) was nothing more than the grossest corruption & iniquity - & ended just as it ought to have done. It need hardly be said that such a system could be of no use whatever. And yet the loss of it was cried up (by such as Dr. Armstrong) as so great a public calamity that, in order to get rid of his ignorant outcry, they passed the Ordinance enclosed. Which, No 1 shews, is not acted upon.

"Surely the force of legislation can no farther go."

The very crimes to which the Maltese custom, (not law,) gave rise, are the very crimes which we
all along dreaded from your new Act. As for any protective efficacy, we have no hope. But this is the least evil likely to arise from it.

Please note Para. marked in red, bottom of P. 7, No 1.

I think I never read saw in so small a compass, such a tale of corruption & horror - Governor LeMarchant deserves all credit for

having, without any fear or human respect whatever, raked out the whole subject, dismissed the unworthy officials, & appointed no matter whom, Maltese or English, who was found worthy. “Inglott,” whom I know, a Maltese, one of LeMarchant’s Officers appointments is an invaluable Officer

Please return me the whole -

Could you return me the Daily News Article I lent you? I would
not trouble you for it, but that it was given me by the writer, to save my having to send for the newspaper. And I promised to return it.

Poor Burton died very quietly at 11 yesterday morning. You smoothed her path to another world.

ever yours

F.N.

My dear Sir Harry

I am afraid you will say you have more than you bargained for, in the cost of European Armies I enclose.

One thing is certain that the estimates of all, except our own, must be immensely below the real cost.

We are used to our old friend, the French Emperor, cooking his estimates.

But the Russian is incredibly beneath the mark.

Please return me this remarkably incorrect paper at your convenience

ever yours

F.N.
Hampstead N.W.
Aug 29/64

My dear Sir Harry

I ought to have returned G. Bunsen before. I send you the enclosed from Mr. Rathbone, Mainly to shew that he is at Aberdeen (I know he returns soon but not how soon) to Liverpool -) & that the Workhouse matter is going on well -

About Mr. Watts -- I really have a scruple against sitting - I think

we ought to do, so as to be forgotten ourselves, & God only to be remembered. [When I was quite a girl, Sir C. Trevelyan pointed out to me that the noblest works of the Xtn Church, the old hymns, Te Deum &c, were by authors who had not even left their names. I only consented to the Steele bust because of the soldiers asked for it - & thinking of me makes them think of their wives & mothers. I was very much the worse for sitting for that
bust. And to sit even for half an hour takes an amount of strength from me which I must finish bestowed upon God’s “unfinished work” with -

ever yours

F.N.

Please return me Mr. Rathbone
Wm Rathbone Eq Jun=r
is his name & title.

9001/57 initialed letter, 2ff, pen

Hampstead N.W.
Aug 31/64

Dearest mum
I incline to having the bigger & handsome inkstand made for Dr. Tanner rather than to taking the 5 gs one - delay notwithstanding.

You see I dare say Dr. Dealtry’s exertions in marrying you were pleasant. I can’t say as much for Dr. Tanner’s 4 months’ visits to poor Burton, tho’ he writes in the kindest way about it.

-saying that I did him a favour, instead of receiving one -

It still remains, if you don’t admire any thing at Matlock - shall I order a Colas bronze for him in London?

[Suppose you ask Parthe whether Obelisk will do - (at Matlock.)]

I don’t know how to
choose between the Ginger wines. Watson's is more *elegant*. Radford's
is, I am afraid, more
curative, after St. Paul's
plan -
    ever dearest mum
    Your loving child
    F.

9001/58 notes, 2ff, pen {arch: Aug 1864?] [8:453-54]

Heads of Objectives
against the introduction
of the (French) Medl= Police

1. evils of introducing a
new & utterly foreign system
of dealing with a great
Moral question
2. abomination of licensing
3. degradation of practice
of inspection, degrading to
men & women alike
4. evil example as regards
marriage & consequent
arrest of population; as
in France.
5. abhorrence of whole
thing to British habits as
well as feelings
6. Impossibility of carrying
out continuously any
efficient measure - its inquisitorial nature

7. As regards soldiers, nothing should be done until they have been treated as moral agents, & supplied with instruction, recreation, work

Lastly, total absence of proof that any good has accrued abroad

And - probability that an address may be issued to all the congregations of the three kingdoms, urging them to petition against any such measure.

It is suggested that Mr. Ewart may enter into this whole question on Friday.

Every extant evidence of advantage from legalized prostitution should be challenged at each step.

The fact is, there is none which would be admitted for a moment on any enquiry. And, if we are to have the foreign system introduced, let it only be after minute enquiry before a public Commission.

They know not what they say. The real fact is
that our lower classes have nothing like the extent of disease caused by vice that they have abroad.

Dearest mother

1. As to the kittens: all thorough-breds I have the refusal of -

i.e. as long as you can.

2. I am afraid that I, who have the poorest notion of my geographical ability [line cut off]

4. Papa tells me of Pet, the cat’s misdemeanours. Pray remember that Pet is the handsomest cat we ever had - tho’ the original Tom was the finest.

If I were you, I would not give her to the washerwoman -

I can easily find people who would be delighted to have her & have asked for her over & over again, if you are determined to part with her -

She was always inclined to dirtiness & to climbing
trees. But we managed by care to prevent the first. And as for the last, what does it signify?

If she came down at night, it was all right. If she did not, we placed food at the bottom of the tree - and she came down at last -

I certainly would keep her, if I were you. But if not, let me find a home for her -

Ever dearest mother
your loving child
F.

My dear Sir Harry

I am going to send a mere Note to the York Meeting containing an extract from an excellent Missionary (R. Catholic) School Report in Australia - This is all. It is not a paper -

I do not know whether you are going to the York Meeting - It is certainly not worth while for any one to go to read this scrap,

I merely write this in
answer to your question
When I last saw you -
& you were so kind as
to say you wished to read
any paper of mine.

How sad Capt. Speke's
death in such a way,
after having weathered
such labours.

ever yours

F.N.

Hampstead (We are quite
Sept 17 terrified about the
Bermuda Yellow
Fever - brought on
themselves by the
sinful (Colonial Office)
carelessness. I have seen Sir James
Hope's despatch to the Admiralty.
(Sir J. Hope is not at Bermuda.)

9001/61 incomplete letter 1f pen {arch: Sept 22 1864} [3:619-20]

For Papa
very good number of Edinburgh -
read Sir J. Eliot, Livingston, & Three
Pastorals -
last page of Sir J. Eliot, account of his
martyrdom - what martyrdoms are
equal to these? May I be able to go
through my martyrdom with his
equanimitiy!

for Arthur Stanley's great errors I
give him for this, his "Three Pastorals".
It is as fine as anything of the kind
ever written. Of course, as M. Mohl
said of me, my opinions are brandy
to the milk & water of these. Still
it is a great epoch when such an
Essay can be written as this. In
all his social relations, A. Stanley
has been more knave than fool -
in his last year he has been more
fool than knave. But every thing
must be remitted him for this.

P. 302 is weak - there must always be peep out intense weakness in every thing A. Stanley writes.

As for the Ld Chancellor, you know what he says, that, had he known Low people would have worried him for not saying that damnation is everlasting, he would have condemned them all to everlasting punishment. I am not far from considering him now as the most illustrious father of the Church since Origen. [end 3:620]

My dear Sir Harry

Do you see that, in Mr. Laing's speech, reported in the Times of today, he puts the expence of war in the whole civilized world for the last 10 years at a thousand millions, or a hundred millions a year - the butcher's bill, as he calls it - ever yours [end]

Sept 24/64 F.N.
Hampstead N.W.
Sept 27/64

My dear Sir Harry,

Could you send me, by return of post, a copy of this which you moved for - or that copy of G.O. which your son sent you, which you shewed me -

It is for a public purpose -

ever yours

F.N.

{arch Sept 28. 1864}

Dear Pop

I gladly give £5, & am quite agreeable to giving £10 (if you like it) to your volunteers, whether in pots or in cash; as you like it, of course - I not knowing the convenances - I presume it is to be Annual.

If you have Mill on representative Government or Newman’s apologia, could you send them me by post? ever your

Sept 28/64 F.
Oct 5/64

Dearest mother
I never seem to find
time to write about anything
interesting, as you do
to me. So I must only
thank you for the boxes.

The flowers from Lea
Hurst almost always
come in good condition -
& the geraniums which
came in a tin box are
the only ones I have had
this year, except Mrs.
Bracebridge's.

As for Hill, I think
he is afflicted with
idiocy. Every week there
comes a thick bunch
of sticks, done up as
tight as can possibly be
with moss 7 straw +
binding all round the
stalks, as if I wanted
them for cuttings - not
a single petal on the.
And these are scarlet
Geraniums - there is no
human possibility of
their not arriving with
every petal off, by from the
way they are strung up,
exactly like cuttings as
I say. your loving child

F.

We sent him the tin
box. We have had no Forest moss
sent us.
Dearest mother

I trust you read the series of “Times” articles (not leading articles) on the Todtleben’s Defence of Sevastopol.

They are admirable, especially the one in the “Times” of October 4.

I have always felt that it is a great thing (not only in a lifetime but in an eternity, for no eternity can do anything but strengthen my impression)

to have been present where the qualities of a great multitude were all called out to the heroic pitch, to have lived where multitudes of poor obscures lived, in fact, the lives of heroes - & our “lean & hungry English,” (vide Henry V.) never in all that long Crimean fight - “the darkness of that noon=day night” - gave up one inch of ground or courage -

I have always felt
that I must be worthy of them - worthy to hold out every inch, as they did, through my 7 years’ martyrdom, for their sakes - to “hold on by the nose”. (Sir John Lawrence’s expression) of the enemy, & never to be beaten off while life remains.

ever your loving child

F. [Turn over

Oct 6/64 {You see poor old {Mr Richardson {is dead - a great {release, I believe

I remember, as my dear Clough accompanied me in the night boat to Calais, (on our way out) his saying that he thought, instead of war being an evil, nations required that state of heroic tension from time to time to retemper themselves - How right he was! Right in every way - What would have become of all the reforms of the soldier’s moral life, if we had not had the Crimean War. All had its origin in that -

F.N.

{envelope}

Mrs Nightingale

Lea Hurst

Matlock
Oct 7/64

Dearest mum
   I don't fash myself
at all about the inkstand.
And pray don't you.
   I am afraid of
sending it back to
Matlock, because I
have not a creature
capable of packing it
up -
   So I gladly accept
your kind offer of
bringing a block of

marble & settling
with the man in
the Strand about it.
   But I rather incline
to hollowing out the
inscription place into
“a cup”; & putting the
inscription elsewhere
on the front.
   However I leave that
to your superior taste,
when you come -
   I think the inkstand
beautiful
   Ever dearest mum
    your loving child F.

{envelope}
Mrs Nightingale
   Lea Hurst
    Matlock
Hampstead N.W.
Oct 12/64
Dearest of mothers

I am very sorry to worrit again just as you are packing up.

I should have thought it better for the inscription of the famous inkstand to have been done in London & not by Buxton at all - for it was very badly done - *not one line was perfectly straight* - But if it is already begun, don’t trouble to rescind it. Only it mi the lines must be perfectly parallel & straight. And the words be thus: “offered to T.H. Tanner Esq MD

offered by Florence Nightingale

in rem grateful remembrance of kind assistance rendered.”
I did not know Papa was at Claydon till you wrote. He never told me.

Sir John Lawrence is quite cut up by the death of a very fine fellow, his nephew, a young married man, Sir Alick Lawrence, son of Sir Henry Lawrence, who was killed (on the spot) riding over a mountain road into Thibet. The horse was dashed to pieces. And nothing was left but his dog to mark the spot, which was found howling piteously on the brink of the chasm, 200 feet.

What beautiful Geraniums you have sent me -

ever dearest mother
Your loving child
F.

Do you stop in London?
Hampstead N.W.
Oct 12/64
Oh dear Papa, you are come south - & you never told me. Oh How could you? I have not heard one word from you for upwards of a month. Do you mean to come & see me? do you not? Not one word.

But, what is worse, Mrs. Sutherland has been in all the agonies of finding me a house. I have been daily waiting to hear from you, & yesterday we ought to have decided.

As I mentioned to you, I am quite too feeble now for the move in January, & therefore have given up going to the dear South St., if another could be found. Besides which against South St., is the great difficulty of finding a house in the third week of January. You know, two out of the three times I have been there, once I had to go to a hotel for 6 weeks,
& to have a second move in March - once I had to go to a hotel & could not move again at all. If then I could find a suitable house now, it seemed madness to give up the chance, knowing I should not have it again in January. Poor Mrs. Sutherland has, as usual, literally turned herself into a cab & house agent for me -

There is to be had

27 Norfolk St
which is beautiful & noisy

1 Bolton Row
which is stable= y & quiet.

27 Norfolk St. from November 1 to May 1 for 300 guineas - after wards the price is so enormous that I should not think of it. And in the prospect of a Dissolution, should probably come down here for from May till November. Still you see I only have my two moves a year - It would be too provoking if you were giving an enormous price for a house in town for me, when, (if) there is a General Election
Oakhill Park
Hampstead N.W.
Oct 13/64

Dear Papa - Mr. Jowett comes to give me the Sacrament on Sunday at 3 o’clock. **WOULD YOU COME?** If you came I would ask him to sleep. If you don’t come, then I shall expect you & Peter “Monday or Tuesday,” as you propose - But please let me know: (& by return of post, as to whether you will meet Mr. Jowett.)

ever dear Pa
Your loving child F.

Dearest mother
Please read what I have said on the Bill.
I think no scarlet geraniums so **scarlet** as those from Lea Hurst
no sweet roses so **sweet**.
And the last were superlatively scarlet & superlatively sweet - pray tell Mrs. Watson.

ever your loving child F.

Oct 13/64
Yes: certainly please, dearest mother, let Tennant stick on the inscription, 
"tale quale" to the everlasting inkstand. And I will send a note for Dr. Tanner to you tomorrow by post, with many thanks, to go with the inkstand please -

ever your loving child
F.

Oct 27/64

Dearest mum

I send you a sleeve, (not having the least little piece over,) as a pattern for Marshall. You will see how different it is from his patterns, which I don't like at all. Indeed it is for the very purpose of escaping those blue purples, which are all you can get in flannels, that is my only reason for having Me. de Laine instead of flannel. [For Me de Laine, I am afraid, cleans badly.]

If you could be so very good as to send me back my sleeve, which I have taken off my now naked arm, as soon as possible, I would
be sair obliged.
2. That Matlock man is doomed to be the death of me: I said
   “for kind assistance rendered” not “for his kind assistance”.
   But the plate is beautifully polished almost like optical glass - And I take it, unless Tennant were to grind it down again, no alteration could be made - Perhaps you will be so very good as to ask Tennant. [I don’t think it worth while to polish down the whole thing again for this alteration.]
   I will gladly accept your offer to take the thing to Dr. Tanner, when done - And I will send you a note of envoi from myself to go with it.
   If you leave your card & a kindly message, it will be taken kindly too & a little game, if you had any by you -
   You must send me the Bill.
3. Pray give my love to dear Emily Verney. If Parthe could buy her a little present to give her from me, (say £1,) I should be very much obliged. I did not know she was going to Southampton on Thursday. I thought she did not sail till next week.
   I was so very sorry not to be able to see Sir Harry yesterday, when he was so good as to call - But we are so driven just now in preparing work for Sir. J. Lawrence, which I send him by Book post. And I am so exhausted after it as to be quite sleepless -
4. I have been deluded into giving another £100 to Winchester Hospital.
   ever dearest mum
   Your loving child
   F.
Dearest mother
   I am obliged to write
in haste =‘ tho’ I have
plenty else to say.
   The inkstand is
arrived. and I think
it beautiful -

[cut off]
   Will you ask at
Matlock if I could
send it to any workmen
in London to have
certain lines in the
inscription effaced
[cut off]

This inveterate man will
keep writing to me -
   I wish it had never been
mentioned to him the things
were for me.
   For the last 3 years I have
had a succession of Bills &
letters from this inveterate man,

(with whom I never dealt
in my life) which has
seriously increased my
terrible correspondence

   F.N.
Dear Pop

Longmans has now published my “how people may live & not die in India”, price /6, with a preface by myself telling what has been already done. [Or if any body chooses to order it wholesale thro’ “National Association for Social Science” (1 Adam St. Adelphi) price /4] If it sells, it is to be stereotyped, & sold at /3.

I forget who, you told me, wished to buy it copies & you asked me to authorize {Mrs Fowler I know was Sir Harry to get it published one.] Now Longmans which I did.

sell it.

ever your

F.

Oct 28/64
Hampstead N.W.
Oct 29/64

Dearest mother

I hear with absolute terror that Miss Jones, of Kings College Hospital, is dangerously ill of fever -

It cannot be that God will take the only woman who we can do that work

I have offered her this house, and also 32 South St., (knowing that you would do the same yourself,) if it {page missing?}

Yes: dearest mother, Burton did fix on Dr. Tanner quite independently” & of her own accord. She went to him at his Dispensary of her own head & without my knowledge, as long as she was able to stand.

Then asked me to send him to her. He has her own choice.

But, even if I had no other connection with Dr. Tanner, it would be considered a slap in the face to put “to Phoebe
Burton," just as Paget would have considered it so if I had put “to Mary Bratby”, in his giftcription.

I can’t give Dr. Tanner a testimonial for what he did at King’s College, both because I must then do it to Dr. Meadow Dr. Farre & others who did as much as he - & because it is not etiquette -

But, raison de plus for not insulting him by limiting his services to our old cook - as he would think it.
1 Bolton Row from
November 1 for one
year is £400 guineas
only. But it is terribly
mews=y & close. They
think it would be
almost impossible for
me to spend 9 months
in bed there - But I
am strongly tempted.
It would be not 8
guineas a week, if I
lived in it the whole
year -

On Monday we were
told that the Norfolk
St. people would wait
no longer - And it may
be gone at this moment.

I wrote to every body
for advice. I told
Mrs. Sutherland on
Sunday I was quite
sure to hear from you
on Monday. Not a word.

I have this morning
authorized Mrs. Sutherland
to propose close for Norfolk
St. for 6 months - three hundred/300
guineas. [But it may
be gone] - Every body
was so against Bolton
Row -

I was going to write.
to Parthe yesterday -
but was in such
uncertainty. I knew
not what to do -
I heard with satisfaction that the Bills were up in South St. (32) And only hope they have missed no chance & will miss no chance of letting it.

Of course nothing I have in view is any thing like South St. in beauty. But if these houses would all be gone in January.

This is my tale.

Pray write to Mrs. Sutherland, 41 Finchley New Road, N.W., & tell her ----what you feel at her exertions. Say, if you can, that you will be at her service for the Agreement.

She wrote to me, “I should be proud to shew Mr. Nightingale the two houses.” And pray, if you can, give me the least idea of your movements.

You know I did so beg you to give me the chance of you before Claydon -

ever dear Pa

Your loving child

F.
Dearest mother

I have been so entirely upset by this last week, & I have had such dreadful nights of fever & spasm, that I cannot enjoy your remaining as I should.

But I should be very glad as you are so good as to offer if Mrs. Webb would find out whether the excellent Milkman ("Grosvenor Dairy", I think) recommended by Ly Caroline Russell, whom I employed for 1 Upper Harley St, when I was there, is still employed, & still good.

I must have pure milk - And I was made quite sick by what I had this morning. Nobody I have about me is capable of remonstrating against bad milk & cream. [Ours is so bad that the cats, excellent judges, won’t touch it. They prefer water.]

Could you ascertain this point for me of a good milkman? The “Quarterly” is a lukewarm support of
us. not a spirited
attack upon us - as
we were led to suppose.
Nothing can be worse
for a cause than mild,
indiscriminate, weak
support, like this -
ever dearest mother
   Your loving child
         F.

Nov 2/64

9001/79 note, 1f, pen

November 5 1864
It is 10 years to day since Inkerman.
It is 10 years yesterday since we landed
   at Scutari.
It seems to me like 3 lives -
tho’ I have spent 7 of those 10 years in bed.
It seems to me like 3 different existences
   in different worlds.
In that time I have won all & lost all
            all 3 different times
The last 3 years have been quite as
different to me (since Sidney Herbert
& Clough left me) as if I had gone to
another world.
Dearest mother

I do hope that Mrs. Webb will give some good advice to Ann Clarke - I will tell you in what sense: -

I think you will better understand the absolute incompetency of my household. When I tell you that yesterday, when I went to bed, I found it had not been made - & that the night clothes of the night before were positively lying inside the unmade bed, (which was neatly smoothed down) undiscovered by any one x - Now there are actually three persons to make my bed - [In a Hospital there are 2 persons to make 40 beds. Yet, if such a thing as this had happened, I should have x tho' it is Ann Clarke's express business to turn down the bed clothes every morning for two hours.

turned off every Nurse of that ward]

Yet Ann complains I “have no confidence in her”.

She is the most difficult person to speak to. For, before I have opened my mouth, she begins to cry.

Now I don't know in what sense she talks to Mrs. Webb: - whether of complaint. And, above all, I don’t want her to know that I have complained to you & Mrs. Webb of her, or that I have told the incident of the unmade bed. That would only make her more low spirited.

But I should like Mrs. Webb to know that Ann Clarke is not half the girl she was at Harley St. - &
to speak to her in the sense of having courage & attention - Attention, above all - is what she wants. She will sometimes go thro' the whole day neither seeing nor hearing.

I hardly know whether or no it would be better to say to her that I cannot go on as I am, if she goes on as she does -

Yet I have just settled myself in this house on this very account: - of not breaking up my little household - by going to a hotel.

ever dearest mother
Your loving child
F.

8/11/64

9001/81 initialed letter, 1f, pen

It is three years this past night since Clough died.

November 13/64
Dearest mother
I like your two desks - they are beautiful.
I think I shall choose the lesser, from the great difficulty of carriage to Kaiserswerth. I think I shall fill it with about £2 worth of English cutlery, such as would be really useful to a boy - a good {gentleman’s} knife, ruler, compasses, pencil case, penholder, etc large scissors - picker etc

Could you be so very good as to desire a cutler (who I suppose would furnish all these things at once - there is one recommended by Sir H. Verney) to send me a choice such as I may choose among - not sportsman’s things, rather student’s things.

1000 thanks
ever dearest mother
Your loving child
F.

13/12/64
Dearest mother:  

I did not know that you were going tomorrow. But I must write to you, if I can - to thank you for the new coat, which is very beautiful also for the new shawl, which is very charming - also for poor little Karl Fliedner's desk which will, I am sure, give the highest satisfaction. & to say how sorry I am not to see you again, dearest mum. also to ask what I am in debt to you for all your beautiful things. I have paid £5, which you were so good as to say I might, for you to the poor Hills of Athens, in addition to my own contribution - the desk was, I think, £3.10.0 - has anything been done about the cutlery for the same? don't trouble about it, if it has not. I shall miss you, dearest mother. ever your loving child F. I hope you liked Mr. Jowett. I think you will like to see this note of Mr. Gladstone - But 14/11/64 you must return it me immediately please, as I have not answered it. F. Also from Sir Henry Storks, about which I must say the same.
23/11/64

Dearest mum

Thanks for the four pretty green plants, (ferns & Lycopodies.)

Thanks also for all you did for me in London.
It saved me immensely.
No one does anything for me but you - The splendid coat enables me to get out of bed & see workmen &c, without having to dress -

We have better accounts of Sir C. Trevelyan than the papers give. His loss to Sir J. Lawrence & to us would be irreparable (Sir J. Lawrence writes himself - he could not do without him)

Don't despise me for reading with tears of joy Sir J. Lawrence's (Lahore Durbar). There is reality. I am not given much to pomps. But the "great Viceroy," (the little Londonderry boy), the man "feared & loved throughout
“India,” no Lord but in whom the Maharajahs, less flunkeys than we are, recognise one of God’s lords, & come to do him honour as no they would come to no Lord Canning, altho’ it was prophesied by us flunkeys at home that the want of the “noble” would be a great draw= back to plain John Lawrence

I have a great enthusiasm for our Royalty. I could have kissed the feet of our Queen & Albert. But it was in her shabby little black silk gown that I conceived such a feeling for them her - When I heard him & her always talking about the highest interests, thinking nothing but the noblest thoughts - so superior to all those fools around them --!! As for her in her Drawing room, it represents nothing but frivolity- nothing but the meanest thoughts
instead of the highest -
with those big fat
Cambridges, whose
naked backs I used
to see from my windows
at Cleveland Row,
for my misfortune -
with that silly little
girl, Alexandra= (what
does her procession into
London represent?
What did she ever do
to represent or deserve
anything) with all those
- - - pah! The only
thing I ever saw at
a drawing room worth
a thought were

those brave Guards, who
had fought & died &
endured in the Crimea,
& whose representatives
fitly surrounded their
Queen -
I do so little wonder
that the Queen, who
really has high thoughts,
cannot now go through
the vain shew of a
Drawingroom -
But Sir J. Lawrence’s
Durbar represents
the poor the noble man who,
by his own worth,
has conquered the
highest position in the world - who is rightly “loved & feared throughout India” which he is regenerating
Even the Maharajah’s diamonds obtain a real significance at such a Drawingroom!

ever dearest mum
    Your loving child
    F.

9001/84 initialed letter, 2ff, pen [3:374]

{written horizontally}
Dear Papa
Here comes some Positive. There is some more coming, when I am able.
    F.N.
28/11/64

{arch: 1864 illeg to WEN}

His plan is not to reveal Himself suddenly & completely, ÿnde by “la force de sa puissance”. Indeed we may say that this would be a contradiction. For how could men understand Him, who had as yet found out little or nothing for themselves? [It would be exactly as if I were to read this page I am writing to my kittens - They understand a great deal - indeed they understand the expression of my face, the tone of my voice, much better than humans. If I sigh, if I shed tears, nay, if I do but look sorrowful, they come to me directly, look up wistfully in my ÿee-eyes & put up their mouths to lick my face - So man is far from being unable even now to appreciate many of the qualities of
God, to love Him, to try to imitate
His goodness, as far as they can. But
to understand him entirely, not yet.]
People often wonder how such & such a wise & good man or period in history could have so completely misunderstood the ways of God - or have denied Him altogether as Mill - could have conscientiously instituted such a form of government, or created such an Institution, as directly cuts across the most manifest intentions of God with regard to man. Despotic governments, religious persecutions, foundling Hospitals may be given as instances of the latter, great & small - while of the former one may truly give as instances the notions that Christian Churches have taught of God, as being little less extraordinary that those of Juggernaut.

But the Benedictine is wiser than us who wonder at these things. She says, how can God reveal Himself except according to the times & to the men? and how marked the lesson is that it is the attribute of a Perfect God.
He sees fit to reveal Himself not by His power but by His love i.e. conducting men by their own powers or “free will,” as we call it, to discover God, no matter how slowly (God has eternity before Him & them) rather than to reveal Himself by force, as it were - (which is really what the wonderers seem to expect of Him.)

That, if God is but known, all who know Him must love Him, (as in that beautiful Spanish prayer) is also quite true. But to “discover Himself”, as it were by a flash of lightning, is (not unworthy of Him - that is not the word - not impossible, having regard to man’s state - that is not the word - it is) a contradiction. The Perfect God is educating man to be able to “see Him as He is.”

[End 3:375]

Dearie
I am sorry to say that it is imperfectly impossible for me to see any one before Saturday. And then you will probably be gone. If you don’t go till Sat., I could see you at any hour that morning for a few minutes.

I know nothing whatever of Hilary, I am sorry to say.

Many thanks for flowers & grapes -
I have had news of
Sir C. Trevelyan, better than papers would lead one to hope. His loss to Sir J. Lawrence would be incalculable, & to us. He is better, but is ordered ever your home F. before next hot Wed. weather by the Doctors.

9001/86 note, 1f, pen

“I find that, in Vancouver Island, the Govt- is at present engaged in devising measures to stop the whiskey= selling which goes on, in spite of law, with the most miserable results.”

From the Colonial Office Dec 6/64

9001/87 initialed letter, 2ff, pen [6:525-26]

Dec 7/64

My dear Sir Harry

Dr. Hunter is a Yankee advertising quack who pursues the regular course of all advertising quacks, (such as the Cancer curers) which is to try to persuade everybody that they are Consumptive, & that he (Hunter) has some secret which alone can cure them.
It is a perfectly well known thing (among old stagers like me) that the Patients advertised as successful cures by Dr. Fell & those other Cancer-curers, never had Cancer at all & that the “success” is gained by first persuading the Patients they have Cancer, & then parading them as cured of what they never had.

When the Middlesex Hospital allowed Dr. F. to try his plan on its real cases of Cancer, (& for doing which the Middlesex has lost reputation for ever) - it was soon decided, in the opinions of all who are not quacks, that he only put the cases to horrible torture, & that nothing like a cure was ever affected.

The “Times” has deservedly
lost caste for inserting
Dr. Hunter's Yankee
advertisements. And
I have heard it stated
what a shame it was
that an English physician,
(MacGregor) had been
found to endorse them
Pray have nothing to
do with them - Whatever
is true is not new, & whatever
is new ever yours
is not true
in what F.N.
they say.
Whomsoever they cure never
was consumptive - & whoever
is consumptive never was
cured by them -

9001/88 initialed letter, 2ff, pen {arch: Dec 20. 1864}

Dearest mum

Miss Jones, of K.C.H.
has written to petition
particularly for holly in
berry, if there is any.
(for her Christmassings)
I almost think that
it would be better if
you would be so good
as to make up a
hamper of greeneries (particularly
having regard to holly
in berry) & send it
direct to
Miss Jones
King's College Hospital
W.C.

another to
Mrs. Moore
Convent of Mercy
Dockhead
Bermondsey
S.E.

another to
Mrs. Wardroper
St. Thomas' Hospital
Newington
Surrey
S.

and another to me, as
I have individual claimants.

I had meant to divide
my spoil among the
above, which has this
advantage, that I pay
the carriage.
& this disadvantage,
that my maids are so
absolutely incapable,
that I could not trust
them not to knock
off all the holly berries
in making the division.

I leave it to your
superior judgment to
decide which had better be done - None of these,
especially not Revd
Mother, are able to
pay the carriage. On the other hand, I suppose Christmas things seldom reach their destination, if you prepay the carriage.

A thousand good Christmas wishes, dearest mum, peace on earth, good will towards men - ever your loving child F.

Dec. 20/64
Tomorrow you will have your St. Thomas' feast, commend me to their prayers

9001/89 initialed letter, 2ff, pen [1:174]

27. Norfolk street. {printed address:}
   Park Lane. W.
   Dec 21/64

Dearest mother
   I will gladly give a prize of £3 to your Rifles, if you think it proper. I don't like my neighbours to be behindhand in the national race. It does one's heart good to hear the "nesh" London clerks on a dark snowy night with the thermometer 15 degrees below [illegible] freezing (as last
Saturday night) marching past, with their band playing (exceedingly well) a merry march. I did not hear a cough - but whether this was enthusiasm or discipline I don’t know. I thought to myself; how this makes men of them - the best of these would be drinking rum & water over a greasy novel - & the worst

of them - where would they be?

I hear from Ld. Stanley, besides my own private information, that poor Sir C. Trevelyan is “entirely done up”. But, thank God! Sir J. Lawrence is in better health than could have been hoped -

ever dearest Mum

Your loving child

F.

9001/90 initialled letter, 1f, pencil

My dear Sir Harry

I think Parthe is right in saying it is only “weakness” - But there can be no harm in her seeing Dr. Farre. For he is not at all a violent man -

I know nothing of Mr. Jowett’s movements - I believe he will be here at 3 - But probably he has not had Parthe’s note - Perhaps he was away from Oxford -

ever yrs
F.N.
I think Parthe is quite right to keep *perfectly quiet*. 
Dearie

Sir Harry is very anxious that you should see Dr. Farre, whom no doubt you have already sent for, or somebody else. But as Dr. Farre is not toddling after Princesses now, I think it would be far better for you to wait to see him than to see any stranger, or indeed any Doctor not used to you, whether he be a Solomon or not.

Sir Harry is also very anxious that you should not go to Embley without Dr. Farre’s leave, which of course you will not. He

(Sir Harry)

is coming up (as you know) by early train tomorrow (Friday) Pray do have followed his wishes, before he comes.

He was so frightened about you, because you did not telegraph that you were not coming, when he went to meet you at the Station the day before yesterday (Tuesday)

ever yours

F.
I have no opinion of
De Mussy at all - but,
darling, you must see
you are putting a
responsibility upon me
I cannot take.
De Mussy was recommended
not by Farre but by
Bence Jones to 1
Upper Harley St. &
is not specially a
lady's doctor at all.
Gream, 2 Upper Brook
St. is the fashionable
man. But as nobody

who is called anybody,
is confined in London
in January, ten to
one he is not in town.
But try.

What say you to
asking Williams to
recommend some
lady's doctor in
town? or asking
Mrs. Farre who is the Doctor who does
her husband's
business when he
is away? But I am
always afraid of

some student being
recommended thus.
But Williams is a
safe recommender.

There is no one
at King's Coll. Hosp.
now at all safe.
Universe are the very best possible - you may call them, specially devised - to work out the perfection of that individual - But - the perfection of that individual can only be worked out by working out the perfection of the race [the Universal race]. To put the proposition in its most general form - that individual, that race, that Universe would not be on their way to perfect happiness, were all or any of the laws of God in the least degree different.
from what they are -
That individual would not be on his way to perfect happiness, were “his agonies,” “his sorrows” in the least degree different from what they are.

In this sense “his “agonies & sorrows” ARE “specially ordained” - but not for his “development” &c alone - but for the “development” &c of his race as well as for himself.

Here it is that your “philosopher” and also the Christian seem to me to fall into such inextricable confusion -

The Christian apparently implies that his race is sacrificed to himself.

The philosopher apparently implies that he is sacrificed to his race.

The Christian thinks that some great misfortune falls in order to chasten him.

The philosopher thinks that he must suffer in order that the “inexorable” laws be carried out.

Both these I believe to be absolute nonsense,

How much higher Plato! -

Common sense is the sense
of the common interest.

You can't raise an individual at the expense of the Universe.

You can't raise the Universe at the expense of an individual.

Also: all the fiddle-faddle-ing, on the part of the Creator, which the pious man supposes, is quite a misunderstanding of terms.

God does not put a stone in my way to make me stumble.

God does not send me a toothache to punish me for telling a lie. [end 3:375]

9001/94 initialed letter, 2ff, pen black-edged paper {arch: 1861} bundle 135

My dear sir Harry

I have to thank you for the French translation - also for the Hebrew chair from M. Mohl.

also for a map of the Seat of War in America, which has been my constant & dreadful study ever since (sent me before you went abroad)

Also will you ask your gardener whether he would like to have
back the root of a
gorgeous red lily,
which was in
magnificent flower,
4 or 5 on each of
two stems, for more
than 6 weeks! (sent
me from Claydon -

Also, could you
insert into any
periodical (or before
any committee) the
enclosed reprinted
from "Evan: Christendom".
I have canvassed
repeatedly Sir C. Eardley
& all the Evan: Alliance

They are so busy
praying for me that
they can’t give a
sixpence or even
answer my letters.

ever yours
F.N.
Dear Papa - Sutherland has been & gone - It is very desirable you should see him before you see Hawkins. You would find him now at the “Barrack & Hospital Improvement Commission,” (War Department, WHITEHALL) Go into the Ask for this Office & send for him at the room above.

F Nightingale

12/12/64 Dearest Mum Parthe desires me to send you this (unfeeling & thoughtless (F.N.) ) letter which I wish she had not sent me.

Sir C. Trevelyan is NOT “out of danger,” & will not be while he remains at Calcutta - Much of India’s salvation & Sir John Lawrence’s depends
upon Sir C. Trevelyan being able to remain in India - of which there is not a chance after this winter - & during this winter there will be constant danger of a relapse -

And this foolish - unthinking boy writes of his father in this way.

I take this opportunity to thank for magnificent supplies of game &c, & to beg for Christmas greenery in large quantities for my Hospitals - As Xmas Day is on a Sunday, I suppose people will dress up on Xmas Eve, so that if you would send me please, the greenery on the 23= . If you will send me mince=pies or any other Xmas fooleries, you know I have plenty of poor people, not sick.
How glorious Cialdini’s speech in to day’s “Times”!
Like Sir J. Lawrence, I read it with tears of joy. “I deplore the “injury to Turin, as on
“the battle field I mourn “the death of the soldier, “of the friend. BUT, THAT
THE SOLDIER & THE FRIEND MAY LIVE, ARE WE NO
LONGER TO FIGHT?” [But that we may to live, are we no longer to fight? - how often I have occasion
to say that.] “Sacrifices elevate the character of nations. Prometheus could transform marble into men.

{text from top of letter}
Sacrifices alone can make men into heroes”: Why, it is the whole doctrine of the Cross.
Greater words than these have hardly been said since St. Paul. [end 1:174]
12/12/64 F.N.
Dearest mother

I am very poorly. I have had a third dreadful night. and we are so busy now that no one has a right to have bad night.

The Friern Manor milk, thanks to Mrs. Webb's promptitude, answers admirably. I took the opinion of Topsy the cat upon it, who has is an excellent judge. And she considers it good milk & cream, tho' not equal to Hampstead. She is a good judge, because she is dainty & not greedy.

Could you tell me of a good Baker, whom Papa likes?

[Mitchell, 69 Park Street, I am giving up, because the servants complain of his bread.] Aunt Mai recommended one in Curzon St to Papa - but that is a long while ago - ever yr loving child F.

Dearest

It is entirely impossible for me to see you or even to write,
This is my Indian mail day -
I have been writing to Sir J. Lawrence since 7.30 -
At 4.30, when I was more dead than alive, I was obliged to see Miss Nonnen on Swedish Hospitals. - (She asked to be remembered to you)

And I am now going not to speak
My dear Sir Harry

I am writing to Ld de G. & to Sir John Lawrence about the working commissions.

I will leave you to settle with Dr. Sutherland about the Motion.

I go to No 2 at all events till Saturday.

Dearest mother

I find Ann C. sent you all the flowers Louisa Ashburton sent me.
I send you all the flowers Hill has sent me.

F.N.

Friday

My dear sir Harry

I hear from the W.O. that the first Draft of the D. of Somerset’s Bill is rejected (they do not know I have seen it) but that the second Draft is already out & in print - tho’ it has not been sent to the W.O.

I hope the D. of Somerset is not stealing a march upon us -

Wednesday
New Year’s Day 1865

Dearest mum,

My first New Year’s greeting must be for you.

Miss Jones, & Revd Mother of Bermondsey, & Mrs. Wardroper all admired their Christmas greenery so much. All said, it was the brightest holly & the most beautiful wreaths of ivy they had ever seen - in - With all, it remains up till Twelfth Night.

We send our return boxes regularly. I understand the delay is with the Station Master at Waterloo. But at Christmas time everything goes wrong. I did not get my Christmas greenery till late on the Saturday afternoon - and all that had to be delivered that night I had to send by cab. They actually refused pre-payment at the Parcels Delivery, saying they would not undertake it.
There is, as I think, a good Article in "Good Words" of January on Sir Henry Lawrence. ("our Indian heroes") I know I could not read it without tears. I wonder whether Sir John Lawrence would like to see it. Perhaps he would not be satisfied with it. We never are, with those we knew best. I could not take in the newspapers for a year after Sidney Herbert's death, for fear of seeing any sketch of him.

Perhaps you will ask Mr. Lawrence, if he is still with you whether Sir John would like to see it.

Tell Papa that the only danger is of Sir John Lawrence going too fast, in granting liberties to India. He is preparing to give them Municipal Institutions everywhere. [At least I say there is no danger, because his wisdom is equal to his courage.] ever dearest mum

Your loving child F.
Dearest mother
  Don't forget to read
Sir Henry Lawrence.
  How curious it is -
the great men that have
sprung out of that
small town of Londonderry,
the characteristic of
all of whom has been

devotedness to duty;

& all apparently
arising from the
crime of James II.

F.

Jan 2/65

Jan 3/65

Dear Papa
  In case you have not
seen this report of a
sermon on dear Lydia
Shore, I send it. Please
return it to me. It was
picked out of a grocer’s
parcel by dear Mrs.
Sutherland for me, who
I do believe, is always
thinking, like the noble
soul who is gone & whom
this sermon commemorates,
of “doing good."

“He went about doing
You trouble yourself, as to 1. "Where are the words of Christ to be found?" 2. "Where the narrative of the 30 years of his life" - 3. What the interpretation of his super-humanity" - 4. "When are we to rest in his example of what humanity should be?"

I answer 1. nowhere - 2. nowhere. 3. there was no "super-humanity." [I coped from your letter did not in the least know that you thought there was.] 4. Never. Why do you thus trouble yourself? I have not the least idea. I never could. Cannot you fancy that he would answer you, if you were to ask these questions of him, trouble not yourself about what your words were, but rather what God’s words are now - I knew naught of God’s laws - none could
know at the time I lived - but I & you & we all, who now know something more of His laws, are to work with all our might to find out what His words are, thro' these His laws.

“Rest”!! “in Christ’s example” - never - what would he say to you, if he were to hear that - “rest in my example” - he would say - never - why [end 3:376]

9001/105 [soldiers] unsigned letter, 3ff, pen

21/1/65
Private
My dear Sir Harry [15:406-07]

The W.O. desire me to ask you (some time) to see the Regimental Reading & Day room they are just opening at Gosport.

I am sorry to say poor Capt. P. Jackson “comes off short” every way. “Heads I win - tails, you lose.” He
asked me to try Lord de Grey again for him now, in connection with the exchange he wishes to effect to save himself from going to India. (of all places the one I should wish most to be going to)

I did all he asked. The answer is just like Lord de Grey.

He “fears he should injure P. Jackson by applying to the Duke. (we did not ask him)

Col. Gambier, the Adj. Genl of Artillery he has written to - has no doubt he will do what he can - but does not think that exchanges can be made except by mutual agreement between Officers as a general rule (we never said they could)

The failure of the Gibraltar Institute,
“now complete, has prepossessed many, especially the Horse Guards, against those Institutes, as distinguished from the regimental reading & Day rooms (then comes the sentence about the new Gosport one)

In certain Garrisons like Chatham which has only Depot Battalions it is the Institute which succeeds - as there is no regimental organization -

[2] “at the same time has no doubt that, in time, Institutes for the garrison will grow up - but we cannot find money for both just now - & indeed the success of the Institute will depend on its being mainly voluntary - fears for Chatham when Major Buckley leaves -

“The result is we cannot find employment for Capt. P. Jackson at the present moment

“such as to enable us to ask for him to be detached.” I did not tell Capt. P. Jackson nearly all this, for I thought it would break his heart, as well as Ld de Grey’s troth to him.

Dense orange fog here. I hear of sun in the country. The Registrar Genl and I say this is the darkest & foggiest winter ever known (except the 2nd & 3rd weeks in January) since November
1. Fog so dense today, tho’ with frost & sprinkling of snow, that nothing but your own fire-light to be seen through the window in broad day.  

[end 15:407]
I send Sir H. the first Instalment of what I have received from Paris about the Poor Relief System. More is promised. What I send are: -

- the general réglement -
- and 2 reports of a Mairie -

which will shew the real working.

But this shews only a small part of the real charities, & would be quite insufficient.

There are many associations who visit the poor & provide more effectually than the Bureaux de Charité can do.

There is a Bureau de Charité in every commune.

In the *Dictionnaire de l’administration française* par Block, containing all the branches of French adminstration - consequently not sufficient detail on each one - is to be found the general system of Poor Laws, and under the different heads a reasonable quantity of information on Bureaux de Charité, on Depots de Mendicité etc.

The French system would not reach the mass of constant or casual distribution in England, because there are in France five millions of landed proprietors, who may be partly very poor, but are not poor in the legal sense of the word. And the number of legally poor is very much smaller than in England, *at least* in the country. In the large towns, there is, of course, the
same proportion of poor as everywhere else. 

I wish I could **condense** these Rapports for Sir H., which are much more in my line than his. But it is totally impossible for me. I still think the only way to bring this matter before the House of Commons would be: to have over M. Husson, “Director of the Assistance Public” & others as witnesses. But for this there is no time.

For my part, I think there is six to one Mr. Villiers' side & half a dozen to the others, the opposition. My own conviction is that **nothing** will diminish pauperism but the steady increase of means of insurance, annuities etc.

I send what we have done.

9001/107 [India] initialed letter, 1f, pen

My dear Sir Harry {arch: 2.2.65}

[9:382] I feel so used up - and I know nothing about Indian finance - It seems like putting myself forward to ask to see Mr. Massey, unless there is something positive to say. I have no power to teach a man Sanitary things in an hour. It was different with Sir John Lawrence & Sir C. Trevelyan. But, should Mr. Massey, *par extraordinaire,*

think he has something to say, to me, after glancing at these books, then I should feel I was failing in my duty not to see him [end 9:382]

ever yours gratefully

F.N.

2/2/65

I cannot tell you how grateful I am to you for thinking of it.
3/2/65
I think I had better see him alone, notwithstanding your kind proposal. It is a great effort to me now.

My dear Sir Harry
I am afraid it is totally impossible to me to say today for seeing Mr. Massey.
[It is my Indian mail.]
But as he is so good as to say wish to see me, I would say Monday at 3 or at 4, whichever is least inconvenient to him.

ever yours truly            F.N.

Dearie
Would you like to come
- Mr. Jowett is to give the sacrament next Sunday at 3.
  Would you like to ask him to luncheon before
  - not that there is the least occasion.
  You know he has his £500 a year at last.
  I thanked Miss Coutts for her £20 to the Fliedners, for which I
am truly grateful - to Sir Harry.

I was truly sorry not to see him last Sunday.
Mrs. Sutherland came down to me upon a quite unexpected matter, regarding the India Off.

I have got 7 millions for India Barracks - how well it looks - £7,000,000. But

Sir J. Lawrence says it must be 10 millions.
And it shall.

The baby has had Dysentery since it got there. And Lady Lawrence is gone to Barrackpore with it. [illeg scribbled out]!

Ever your

F.

22/2/65

9001/110 initialed letter, 2ff, pen

27. Norfolk Street {printed address, Park Lane, W.
Darling There is not the remotest chance of my ever wanting a carriage in this life again, except when I am compelled to move.

Would Sir Harry come in some time this afternoon to see me sign the Agreement?

Would you tell him that
I have written to Paris for more information about the Relief system of the Poor - as the Imperial policy has meddled with every thing since my day, 13 years ago. But it appears to me that the only real opposition which could be got up in the Ho: of C. to Mr. Villiers' Bill, would be by having witnesses from Paris. And there is no time now for this.

I do not myself think that anything could make the French system do in England.

ever yours
F.N.

My dear

The housekeeper has been this morning to say that Lady Clarges thinks you must do the cleaning yourself Certainly - so it was settled yesterday. F.N. as she lets it for 450 - & Harry thinks that so it had better be left. She has a man in Mount St Morris I think is the name & Harry thinks that as he has done the little that has been done it would be more satisfactory to Lady Clarges & previous disputes if he did what you want (Humphrey is my man)

F.N.)

[FN hand at top]
What has to be done will, I am afraid cost £70

FN.

[not FN hand] of course as little as possible, unless you like the house enough in May to wish for another year -

Shall you paper the Drawing Room (Certainly not. F.N.) perhaps washing may do -

If there is anything we can do commandi -

Freddy is through his little p 'smalls' we say now -
'ploughed' was not plucked!
(I am so glad.
F.N.)
Dearie [still letter 111]
I wish the House agent
would not bother you.
I saw him yesterday
(at the expence of 16
hours’ pain & a sleepless
night). And it was
the very first statement
& agreement made --
& repeated *at least*
5 times -
that I was to do every
thing at my own expence.
As this is to be so, I
employ my own man
Humphrey, whom I
can scold - And I am
*only* waiting for the

Agreement (*which was
to have come today*)
to send him into the
house. It must be begun
directly.
[The Agreement I
told the Agent I should
shew to Sir Harry,
before signing.]
As Ly Clarges said
particularly that I
might do anything I
liked,’*at my own
expence*” *except*
papering the drawing room,
I shall certainly not
fly in her face by
doing that.
Sunday
Darling

I am afraid it is quite impossible for me to see any one at all today. I am so poorly I can only just get through. And I happen to have particularly much of India & Poor Law business to do.

{printed address, vertical:} 27. Norfolk Street.
Park Lane. W.

If you will send the carriage at 12 tomorrow, & tell me it to drive me the “shortest way”, by the Serpentine, (or wherever that is,) to 34 South St., I shall be very much obliged. But I could not bear a collision with that woman. So I mean to start from here at 12 when she comes - & let the maids go to no 34 at about the same time. As for the furniture, it is impossible.

Pray thank Sir H. for all he has done.

I don’t think I need trouble you to send the butler tomorrow.
I return Mr. Cunningham’s letter for Papa. Papa says (to me) that Sir J. Lawrence has been very imprudent in asking for these returns. and that he doubts the result.

Sir J. Lawrence’s sublime ‘imprudence’ is just what makes his strength - And I don’t doubt the result (wholly differing in this from Ld Cranborne)

However, the answers will soon be all published - and I believe will show what, pretty nearly, Mr. Cunningham says that Sir D. McLeod says.

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Pavilion Principle

In 1856, a Committee of the Army Medical Dept, presided over by Sir John Hall, declared in favour of the Pavilion principle. In 1857, the R. Commission did the same.
The “Herbert” Hospital is simply an embodiment of the principles of that Commission -

I would name in Bartholomew’s(Rochester addition to those I South Devon & Cornwall mentioned (as completed Hospital (Devonport examples of recent construction)

Of our Hospitals:

Herbert Hospital 650 beds
Hounslow Cavalry 60 “
York 60 “
Hillsea 20 or 30 “

The first three it was necessary to build, on account of the bad state of the old Hospitals. The Hillsea Hospital is for new Forts.
of old Hospitals
built on Pavilion
principle, there are:

- Fort Pitt Garrison
- Dublin Military Infirmary
- Aberdeen Regimental
  {and other small}
  {ones - }

The Pavilion principle means only the
adaptation of the principle of separate
buildings for sick, with windows,
on opposite sides of wards, & free
ward ends.

The Winchester Hospital is on this
principle.

So is old Bartholomew’s (London)
in part -

All the best hospitals in Paris &
Belgium are really built on it.

The Pavilion principle has been
re-affirmed by Lord Stanley’s Commission
  (Indian)

our window space is the same as
in the French Military Hospitals
in their more brilliant climate.
Light can always be moderated by blinds.
the W.O. Office says
Perhaps we are to be
attacked on the score
of extravagance in
construction. What appears
extravagance in
construction is nothing
More than economical
application of means
& material.
We have merely
picked up ideas
from various quarters
& put them together.

E.g. Parian Cement
adopted from
King’s College & Guy’s
Hospitals - & from
evidence before the
R. Commission of 1857.
It is necessary to
enable the walls to
be washed readily &
kept sweet.
E.g. oak floors

we get from Paris

E. g. ward offices

once admit that they

are to be introduced

into hospitals, we

must have them

of the best.

E.g. baths, sinks,

washhand basins,

(complained of by

Ld Panmure)

ditto

It is poor economy
to save a few £.s.d.
on these, when many

thousands have been

spent.

We can find authority

for all these

improvements in

existing Hospitals.

the cost of the new

Hôtel Dieu at Paris

is set down at

£1800 40,000 francs per

bed (including land)

This shews how much

more economical

the we are.  

[end]
The “Surgical Society” of Paris, in a discussion, Oct. 6 - Dec 14, -1864, attended by all the leading Physicians & Surgeons, Civil & Military, adopted the following principles:

1. Never to bring together more than 200 to 250 sick
2. Never to have more than two floors of Patients.
3. Free external ventilation - Natural (as opposed to artificial ) ventilation
4. To construct the Hospital in separate buildings completely isolated, freely exposed to sun, wind & rains
5. Wards to have ward conveniences, properly situated
6. All cleansing to be amply & immediately provided for
7. All Hospitals to be placed under a Committee of persons acquainted with Hygiene, Architecture, Medicine etc, to see that they are kept in a proper state.

All this is merely re-stating the Pavilion question, as it was stated by the R. Commission, 1857.

(Generally) people no longer consider that the old makeshift system of Hospitals will answer; - the question at issue really is that of improving up to our present knowledge, or of going back.

Nobody now thinks it humane, merely, to bring sick together. They should be brought together to recover, not to die.

Besides, in none of our Pavilion Hospitals, have we at all come up in architectural cost to what the French have done in new Hospitals, civil
& military. We have spent a small part of the sum in making our Hospitals healthy which they have spent in making theirs fine.

People not conversant with the subject are apt to be led away by the idea that we have been extravagant, when they see our wards so much better than the wards of more costly buildings.

My dear Sir Harry
   Could you get to know for me what this house in South St. is -& what its terms for May June, July - or even for a year, from Easter.
   I don’t think any house in South St would be within my price. But it may be worth enquiring.

{newspaper advertisement:}
South-Street, Park Lane - Mr. Reilly is directed to let, for the season or year, a FURNISHED HOUSE, overlooking Hyde Park, suited for a small family, & with spacious drawing, dining, and best bedrooms. Terms, &c., of R. Reilly, auctioneer and estate agent, 31, Mount-Street, Grosvenor-square.

ever yours gratefully
F.N.
My dear Sir Harry

What night will Army estimates come on? I was rather glad they did not come on last night.

Our defence against all accusation of extravagance is, besides the diminution of Army Mortality: -

the old Regulation for Hospital accommodation was 10 per cent of the strength in Barracks a short time ago, it the Regulation was reduced to 7 per cent. (by representation of the Barrack Improvement Commission) on enquiry by the Horse Guards but the ACTUAL average now of sick in Hospital to strength in Barracks is 3 ½ to 4 per cent.

Upon this average we take our stand - as proof of what we have done.

We think it wise to let the amount of Hospital accommodation (required) be still 7 per cent. for, in time of epidemics, it may still rise to that for a few days a year.

But we have the time quite within our grasp, when, in consequence of the improvement in Barracks, we shall be able to say: -

5 per cent. is the utmost limit of what we shall want of Hospital accommodation, EVEN in epidemic times.

the fact is: that, even now, if
the number of occupied sick beds ever rises to 5 or 6 per cent., it is only for a very short period.
We are accused of extravagance, because the new Hospitals,
- Woolwich,
- Hounslow,
- York,
- Hillsea
are so much larger than will be necessary.

Really it is not our fault, if the number of sick has fallen so much that they can’t fill their Hospitals.

The Army Medl Dept. make requisition (for each of these Hospitals) at the old percentage of 10, upon the strength of the Garrison. They have now consented to 7 per cent. And we mean to bring it down to 5.

The Horse Guards have formally acknowledged this diminution. It was they who made enquiry of the “Barrack Imp. Comm.” as to what it should be.

It seems very hard upon us now to turn round & say: you have thinned our Hospitals, & ought not to have built them so large, when the Horse Guards & Army Medl Dept. themselves fixed the number of beds for all these Hospitals (10 per cent), & we have reduced the number of sick to 3 1/2 or 4 per cent ever yours gratefully

F.N.
Dearie
1. I am very sorry that Sir Harry had such a long waiting here yesterday. But I am quite sure it makes a great difference in the behaviour of agents, seeing that you have a man to stand by you.
2. Does he know “C. Alex Wood” of Chesham Place, who he is? He has written to me several times on India business (very sensibly) And I have replied as if I had known him all my life.
   Is he kin to Sir C. Wood?
   He protects us against the Millingtary aggressors. Who is he?
3. Do pray tell R.M. Milnes to write & tell the Ladies’ Sanitary Assoc. whether he will attend their Meeting on the 28th. I was so good as to write to ask him.
   And he has never shewn sign of life.
4. Please send me back my “Notes on Hospitals”, which is not yours.
In 1854-5, eight Regiments {46th  23rd  
{95th  44th  
in the Crimea  {63rd  28th  
{33rd  50th  
lost in 7 months from disease alone  
73 out of every 100 men -  
a Death-rate which of course would  
extinguish the whole of these  
Regiments in ten months, or, in  
other words, a Death-rate of 125  
per cent. per annum.  
Of these eight Regiments, two, the  
46th & the 63rd, lost as follows -  
the average strength (for the 7 months)  
of the 46th was 378  
Total Mortality 438  
of whom 7 only died from wounds  
[This regiment presents the apparent  
anomaly of losing more than its  
average strength.]  
the average strength of the 63rd (for the  
7 months) was 448 -- Total Mortality 372.  
Deaths from Wounds 15 only.

China

26th Cameronians, under the command of Col. Oglander -  
900 strong when they joined the expedition to Chusan -  
not a single man, except the old soldiers, drew his spirit ration -  
Col. Oglander died -  
in two months after landing at Chusan, the Regiment could not muster 20 men. [This was entirely from bad meat, & bad lodging, & want of sanitary care & looking after.]  
Lord Clyde privately mentioned to us a case himself, (before the Crimean War) where he himself accompanied a Regiment to China, which was nearly destroyed by over-crowding on board ship. If there were time, I would get the facts of this case from the War Office.
There have been 3 cases of awful loss by Yellow Fever (from want of Sanitary care) at Barbadoes Trinidad Bermuda since the Crimean War.

But the facts of the two first have never been published.

The last is now under enquiry.

Dearest mother

I am afraid I can’t do anything for your man, however deserving.

That appointments such as those of Messengers & Porters should always be given to old soldiers, I have maintained through all my “public” life.

And, you see, it has been now acknowledged in the Ho: of Commons that they are always given to people’s old butlers & grooms.

[You know we ourselves did a job of this sort for James & poor Mary=han.] He does not appear to be a Non-Commissioned Officer. And, without this, it would be quite hopeless to get him a place as Clerk -& in the War Office -
nearly hopeless, with I suppose he would not enter the Corps of Commissionnaires ("Exchange Court" 419 Strand)
It would be quite impossible for me to make it worth his while to be my Messenger. I give 10/ a week for which I have a man - for 5 hours a day - from the Corps of Commissionnaires. [The maids give him such quantities of beer, & meat, that I am certain it makes 10/ a week, at least, difference in my bills. But that, you see, could hardly be held out to your man as an inducement.]
My Commissionnaire is the most lazy, untrustworthy, untruth=telling of men.
But, for all that, you see I could not send into the country up for a Messenger - of my own. It would be quite impossible for me to charge myself with finding him with other work, to make it worth his while. I wish he could be your keeper. I have taken the house, As you know, at 34 South St, £450 from May 1 for a year. Dear Mrs. Sutherland is exerting herself as usual for me about Inventories & Cleaning & alterations. How I am to move in my present state I can’t conceive. But I hope I shall never have to move again. I remember what you say, dearest mum, about keeping alive for this poor world.
I have to thank for many fine boxes. Don’t mind about the game being over. I really prefer a leg of pork sausages pig in general tongue chicken & above all fruit.

You have been so good as to send us pork several times: & bacon. Chickens are 9/ the couple in London now!! ever dearest mum your loving child F.

April 19 {arch:?1865}

Dearie I stayed up tonight till 7 o’cl. because the maids told me you were “coming back” here “from Eaton Sq.” to “fetch my answer.” And I wanted to kiss you on your birthday [They do make such careless mistakes in their messages] I send my answer. Perhaps it had better not be forwarded in my handwriting. I am not at all surprised at Miss Vernon’s letter. I sometimes think that my whole business in life is to defend Charitable Funds
from people who want to use them “for the poor”, whose “chief inducement” is to be sent somewhere.

Also, it is past praying for, that ladies shall ever understand the difference between Monthly Nurses for the rich & Midwifery Nurses for the poor. I am quite certain Sir J. Lawrence will never appropriate any part of Indian funds to pay for the passage out of the former. Indian ladies are rich enough. Let them do it.

2. I return Emily’s letter - what a nice letter.

3. I wanted to know whether Sir Harry wishes the enquiry into the French Poor Relief System pursued. & what course he means to take in opposition to the Unions Chargeability Bill.

4. Mr. Jowett comes next Sunday to give me the Sacrament at 3. Will you come? Would you like?

5. Could you take this poor Italian’s music back to him, with this message from me, that it goes to my heart not to acknowledge it - but that I am an entire prisoner to my bed - overwhelmed with business. I see no one. He might just as well ask a Nurse in a Hospital or a Patient in a Hospital to recommend him. [It goes to my heart to refuse him. Because other beggars will call at my house 2 or 3 times - & actually send up their photographs to me, as if I were a woman of bad character -But this man has never called once.
It is quite impossible for the “Nightingale Fund” to undertake any such charge as the expenses out to India - especially for a person whose “chief inducement” it is (in undertaking Nursing at all) - more especially for one whose object it is to be a “Monthly Nurse” in India. (for pay from the rich) It is obvious that it would be a mere mis-appropriation of a charitable Fund so to do - Miss Nightingale has not the least doubt, tho’ she cannot promise it, that the India Govt. mean to enter into an engagement to have trained in England (& to “pay the expenses out” - of) a certain number of Hospital Nurses & Midwifery Nurses for soldiers’ wives in Regimental Hospitals. But it will form NO part of this plan to pay for Monthly Nurses to be trained & to go out to India, to nurse the rich. Nor is this any part of the plan of the “Nightingale Fund”. Miss N. felt inclined to promise that the money should be raised, somehow or other, to send out Widow Scattergood. But, when she sees that this is the “chief inducement” of Widow Scattergood to learn to nurse at all, it is evident that Miss Nightingale would be quite unjustified in entering into any such engagement.

April 19/65
9001/125 initialled letter, 1f, pen

27. Norfolk Street. {printed address:}
   Park Lane. W.
   April 28/65

Dearie
   If you would kindly tell me whether I may have as you proposed, Sir Harry’s new study carpet. But, mind, I don’t want it - only to know. I should put it in drawing room - My own in my own room - in that case. ever your F.

9001/126 initialled letter, 1f, pen

27. Norfolk Street, {printed address:}
   Park Lane. W.
   April 28/65

My dear Sir Harry
   Would you think well to further the opening of Museums &c for Working classes at night - a matter in which I am much interested - as enclosed. I felt sure, the day before yesterday, when I heard of the awful American calamity, after you had been here - that you had kindly come to tell me of it. What will become of them? ever yours F.N.
Darling mum

I thought your letter
dear birthday letter was
intended for Parthe. But
I kept it for myself -
And now I keep them
both - dear to me as
shewing your love for
her - dear to me as
shewing my dearest
mum's regard for
me. So there was
nothing lost - but
on the contrary very
great pleasure
gained - to one who
has not many pleasures

I hope Papa is getting
rid of his lingering
Influenza.

I send an envelope
for him which I
opened, thinking it
a Bill. But I believe
it is only an Advertisement.

But I send you an
envelope which I am
afraid is a real
beast with a Bill.
Shall I pay it? if
you return it me, I
will.

Helen & Joanna
Richardson are now
at Folkestone. You
know they are without
a home. I am sure
a long visit to Embley
would give them
pleasure & do them
good. Their direction
can always be had
at Sir T.E. Colebrooke's
    37 South Street
here -
    ever dearest mum
    Your loving child
    F.

9001/128 initialed letter, 2ff, pen [6:335]

Private  June 12/65
34 South Street, {printed address:}
    Park Lane,
    London. W.
My dear Sir H.
    I send you Mr.
Farnall's own account
of himself, which is
very satisfactory. It
shews he has both
classes of experience.
And I can safely say,

there is no one in the
Office who can hold
a candle to him
in powers of
administration.
It shews too that
his object is = so to
administer the
Poor Laws as to

render unnecessary the
interference of
Quarter Sessions.
I need hardly say
that his letter
is for you alone.
    ever yours
    F.N.
June 14/65
34 South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.
London. W.

My dear Sir Harry

Could you see that
the question about the
V.P., Poor Law Board,
is asked tomorrow
in committee upon the
P.L. Bd Continuance Bill?
Would you, if you see fit,
communicate with
Mr. Arthur Mills
(34 Hyde Park Gardens)
about it?

It flows logically out

of the Bill, as it now
stands - as it is
manifestly impossible
that with the new
powers now taken
(& everything tending
to consolidation)
the President can do
the business without
a V.P.

I should like to
have seen a copy
of the Bill.

But I will write
to the P.L. Board
for it.

ever yours
F.N.
Private  June 15/65
  34 South Street, {printed address:}
   Park Lane, 
   London. W.

My dear Sir Harry 
   I have just heard 
   from the P.L. Board.

   The struggle, if any, on the 
   provisions of the P.L. Bd 
   Continuance Bill will be 
   on Monday next.

   The Bill is to be so 
   altered that it must be 
   re-committed, which will 
   be done tonight - & then 
   the Ho: of C. will see that 
   the President asks for a 
   continuance of the Bd. 
   for one year only - leaving 
   the new Parliament to deal 

with the questions as to 
whether it shall be then 
made a permanent Bd 
or whether it shall be 
given, as hitherto, as 
temporary existence.

   The 2 other clauses will 
be: that a creed register 
shall be kept. 
and 2. a clause (this I 
have been VERY anxious 
to get) enabling the P.L. 
Bd to order Boards of 
Guardians to expend money 
on necessary alterations 
of Workhouses (such
necessity to be left to the judgment of the P.L. Board only

This is most important.
Now for the V.P. ship: -
  if the P.L. Bd is to be continued for one year, why not try that expedient for one year? it is, beyond all doubt quite impossible for the President (who is, in himself, the Board) to do the work.
  No one but Mr. Villiers could or would have done well the amount of hard work he has done. Yet he never did what Sidney Herbert would have done (& did in the Army) viz. inspect all the buildings himself - & chairmaned all the his Commissions himself
ever yours
F.N.
A Midsummer } June 25/65
like a duet:= } stormy & orange}
      } hot fog  

Dearest mum
    Not even the necessity
of “begging”, which always
drives me, but only -
Your dear letter has
given me the strength
to write, even to beg.
    And begging must
come first:
I want two (one off, one on) skirts of
some warm light soft
material, like the
honey-comb Berlin-
wool material, of
which Papa gave you

a dressing-gown (red
& white, if I mistake
not -) which I ordered
for him. This material
It was made at
Nuneaton. But it is
not now to be had.
White was the colour
I wanted. -
To wear under my lilac
upper skirt -but
in bed in the day-
time.
All the materials
offered me in London
are horrible - rough,
stiff, heavy, dirty,
harsh
Could Mrs Webb get me some material at Romsey, & make it up? It is to be worn over her long flannel petticoats, which are the comfort of my life. - & should not, by rights, be exactly the same material - as one flannel over another clings. Still, if no other material is to be had, it must be flannel, I suppose.

The weather here is dreadful. I never remember any thing like it, except in Egypt. The air is like breathing an orange dust storm, impregnated with soot. There have been hot orange fogs with the E. wind. I long for Hampstead, tho' I am so busy I hardly know what to do.

I never knew Dr. Sutherland so contrary as now
As for me: -
I have not had an
hour's not a moment's
rest, since I came in
here on May 1. I long
for death. Worries
come in upon me, in
addition to all my
work, which almost
 crush me.
The cook must go,
who is a cheat & a drunkard.
How I wish I could get
a (single-handed)
country cook, like
Grandmama's Hannah.
I question whether
Mrs. Bracebridge's
housemaid will do -
she will not take a
message from any body
but myself - which is
exactly what I cannot
do, viz. Speak to every
servant every day
myself -
I have not got an
upper maid yet -
 thro' I cannot, take
Lady Clarges' nice
woman to Hampstead.
Temperance is my best
comfort - and I hope
she is settling down -
What to do for a cook
I know not -
ever dearest mum
Your loving child
F.
June 23/65
34 South Street,
Park Lane,
London. W.

Dearie

A little silly thing,
which would just hold
a tea cup or two, (if steady
enough) has come from
the Preventive Bags, price
15/-, - which I have kept,
('cause of “prevention”).
But two large pieces
of furniture; a What=
not with 6 shelves,
and a good=sized book
case, (with 3, to hold
Blue Books,) which I

have just bought, do not
hold all my papers,
& daily Reports &
Books in daily use -
I am consulting about
the Grenville house -
But you do not tell me
whether it is to be sold
furnished (it is quite
quite, quite, impossible
for me to furnish a
house)
You do not tell me who
is the Agent
you do not tell me whether
the purchaser enters into
possession immediately -
in which case I should
have to sub=let it till
next May - think of me with
three houses on my hands in August -
nor many other particulars
without knowing which
it would be vain “for
me to write to you
at once,” as you propose.

Mme Mohl is in London
at Dean Stanley’s
I am entirely overwhelmed
with work, Indian &
other

Would you tell Sir Harry
that M. Husson, Director
of the Administration
Générale de l’Assistance
Publique, has written
to me that he is to be in
London next month
for 48 hours - that
no one in the world
knows so much of
Poor Relief in France -
that I have told him
Sir Harry is enquiring
about this -

ever your
F.
June 24/65
34 South Street,
Park Lane,
London. W.

My dear Sir Harry

I thank you & bless you
for your most kind, feeling
& considerate note.

But it is not possible
for me “to write one word
“yes’ or ‘no’” - & so to decide
about buying a house
which I have never
seen, of which I do not
know whether it is
furnished or not, &
many &c (even if I were looking
out for a prospect of 20 years’ good life)
1. I have never taken &
would never take a house

(which I have never seen)

_for six months_ - much less
for 20 years. There are
fatal objections to many
of these houses - or what
ought to be fatal - to
every one but to me,
an entire prisoner to the
house, would be altogether
final -
2. It would be quite impossible to me to furnish
a house. It would just
incapacitate me for work
at the time I most
want my strength: as the
moving in here has very nearly done.
3. I presume that I should
have to enter upon tenancy
directly. So that I should
have In July, THREE houses upon my overtasked hands - if I go to Hampstead & i.e. two London houses to arrange for, when I can scarce arrange for this, while I am at Hampstead. And I, obliged to leave behind the only person who has a head, Lady Clarges’ maid, here.

4. When the house-buying plan began for me, Parthe represented it to me (as I believed from yourself & my father) as a good investment for Papa. It is now represented as just the contrary - Indeed

And it seems even doubtful where the money is to come from.

I must have these questions answered. I do not say ’No” to your most kind plan for me, dear Sir Harry. But it is indeed, it is impossible for me to write to you. “to try & secure” for me, without more ado, a house I have never seen -(when I may find myself with 3 houses on my hands - too - having just secured a house & repaired it for a year.)

I do not even know who is the Agent, or how I could get a ticket to view, supposing I were able to see it - (or Mrs. Sutherland)

ever yours gratefully

F.N.
Wellcome 9001

Please, when you come to London next week, bring up with you the Freehold Land scheme & and my letter to you, containing the legal opinion, in opposition to R. Palmer. I have no copy.

F.N.

9001/134 initialed letter, 3ff, pen [1:569-70]

June 24/65
34 South Street,
Park Lane,
London. W.

My dear Sir Harry

I have been so utterly over-driven with work this week -and I wrote to you in such haste this morning - that perhaps I should explain a little more concisely what I feel.

As to the amount to be paid for 35 South St, (if it is unfurnished
- if it is £10,000, as you told me - not £8000) this, for 20 years, would be much more than I have ever paid yet. If my father thought it a fair speculation for himself independently of me, that would be another matter - I should certainly accept it. But it seems to me quite out of the question that the business part of the matter (i.e. the providing the money for the purchase) should be undertaken by me or on my account.

The probable furnishing - the certainty of having one house & possibly two, on my hands, during my autumn stay at Hampstead - really make it quite impossible that I should “try to secure this house at once,” without even seeing it. altho’, to decline it absolutely I am unwilling. But I must know more about it. If you are so good as to “try to secure” the refusal of it for me, so as to give me time to see it, that is another thing. I should be glad.
in addition to all other worries, we have had a most serious continuance of questions asked in the Ho: of C. against Dr Sutherland. Another question in the same sense comes on on Friday.
I am asked to ask you whether you will ask a question in our sense on that night.
You see we have lost all in the Poor Law Board Continuance Bill - ever yours

F.N.

9001/135 initialed letter, 2ff, pen {arch: June 1865}

A thousand thanks, my dear Sir Harry
Pray give my love to Emily. I am glad you are going (for a day or two even) to Embley - as I fear you are not well.

I am well pleased about Unions Chargability. I think it the greatest step since James I abolished villenage.

But I wish that everything might be done to give facility to the working man.
for purchasing, registering & transferring freeholds for subscribing at the P.O. to purchase a small freehold:

This would be “freeing” him.

As to Miss v Zeschau

In my present state, I can scarcely speak. How then could I initiate a new person!
Wellcome 9001

What I want is a housekeeper who would entirely take out of my hands every small domestic talking, & leave me completely free for my work with out giving me one word to say - except I am quite sure I cannot go on with Ann Clarke -

a thousand thanks

ever yours

F.N.

My dear Sir Harry

If you are obliged to stay in town, & could see me at 4.30, I suppose I should have seen the house by that time, if Mrs. Boyle lets me in, & if I am able to go at all. But if you don’t stay in town, I would write to you. I have already sent word indirectly to the Q. of Holland that I really could not receive her. If she writes to me, I must write declining. I would not trouble you to do anything. That would look as if I thought she was determined to pay me a visit.

I am very sorry to hear that R. Palmer may be chancellor.
My dear Sir Harry

I think I will ask you quite positively for the carriage tomorrow at 3, if that is not very inconvenient - But I fear it would be quite impossible to me to go today. [I have had no sleep for 3 nights.] I will decide about the house tomorrow. And I hope they will keep it till then for me. I could go at 2½ P.M. or even 2 tomorrow if the carriage is wanted later.

Many thanks for your note - 34 South Street, Park Lane, London. W.

Dearest
I am afraid you are right about not seeing you today. I am so very ill today that I don’t think I can do anything.

My love to Emily & how sorry I am she can’t have all she would wish -

Your. F.
July 1/65
34 South Street,
Park Lane,
London. W.

My dear Sir Harry

Would you, after reading what took place in the Ho: of C. last night (about Dr. Sutherland’s salary), & bearing in mind the past history, say what you think is the best course for us to take?

Pray don’t worry yourself about Mrs. Sutherland’s letter. I do assure I don’t want it. I am much more sorry for the trouble to you than for not having it. My only reason for caring about having it back, was what I told you, indeed - viz. that if it were read by others, it might be misconstrued. Pray don’t trouble yourself the least little bit more about it.

My father is come -

ever yours,

F.N.
My dear

I find this among my papers. I forget whether I told you about what Hilary desired me -

I hope the gloxinia arrived safely in its basket & wrapper. Yes

If these could be sent to 9 St. James Place I should be glad -

I hope you have had pots from Embley - All dead directly when they came.

Mama will tell me if you see her whether we shall send another basket of them -

Yes: yes

Achimenes &c No

I trust you will be going now before long to Hampstead.

You don’t know of a capital Housekeeper I suppose. pray tell Mama if you do -

By all means, send me pots. They are the only pleasure I have - But
not Achimenes - they
die the first day -
Yes, I had 6 pots from
Embley - all died the
first day. What your
gardener sends me,
the scarlet lily (twice)
the white azalea,
the rose, are of
such strong constitution
that they will blossom
even under my
difficulties, (with all
the nursing I give
them). But it is no
use sending anything
else. Yes: the Gloxinia
is doing pretty well.
But I can’t give it up yet

9001/141 initialed letter, 4ff, pen

Oakhill Park
Hampstead N.W.
July 10/65

Dearest mum
I think (upon your
coming to 34 South St.)
I must explain: -

[Parthe laughed at me
for supposing last year
that you would go to
the house in Park St.
I had, when you could
have bedroom & sitting
room on the same floor
at the Hotel.

Now] I doubt much
whether you will like
No 34. The bed room
Lady Clarges,
over the drawing room,
(which I did not use
for various reasons, &
because it was close,)
is entirely upside down.
It would take several
days, at least, to put
it to rights, - the maid
of the house has just
told me. If you come
you must please to
let us know as soon
as you can. To the
room above, which
was my room, I am
sure you could not
mount. I took it
because it was the
airiest. But many
was the day I could
not leave it: from
not being able to go
down or up two pairs
of stairs.

Also, we must know
on account of putting
up beds. I had beds
taken down. My own
bed is now up in my
own room. I meant
to have sent for it
here. But I would leave it till after you have been, if desirable.

Also the woman of the house, who officiates as my maid & comes here twice a week sleeps in the dressing room of Lady Clarges' room. She supposes you would like her to evacuate this for Mrs. Webb.

There is really so little accommodation - I having had the bed taken down in my dressing room, - that, you see, it would be quite impossible for us to take in yourself, Mrs. Webb & two maids, without considerable notice.

[The woman of the house (my maid) has her sister sleeping in the house]

I shall be most glad to see my dearest mum on Sunday, 16th, if convenient.

I did not mention
my day of going; because
for me to go at all is
a matter which can
only be decided by my
not being worse than
usual.
Being, as I always am,
at the utmost strain
of endurance, body &
mind, I have suffered
dreadfully from the
move, & from having
all Papa's uncertainties
the Sunday before - &
from having to make
arrangements for every
body, as well as myself.
[I do not expect Mr.
Jowett, who is, I believe,
in Scotland. How I wish
he might have that
Canonry.]

ever dearest mum
Your loving child
F.

My being so ill must
be my excuse for writing
so crudely. You
will let us know
about your coming.

My dear Sir Harry
As the agonies of the
Elections are partly
over, & I am most
thankful to see that
you were unopposed,
I send you
1. Robert's letter
2. a "Lancet"
please look at p.47
for a Notice of the
Herbert Hospital -
& also at an
"Economic Warrior"
I have been asked
whether you could make
any use of the last. with
the Horse Guards -
ever yours
F.N.

July 13/65

9001/143, initialed letter, 2ff, pen

July 20 65
My dear Sir Harry
I am afraid it is quite
impossible for me to see
any one - And I am so
unwilling that you should
come up here for nothing -
I don’t know what I shall
come to, for 10 minutes even
with those I love best,
secures me a night of agony
& a day of incapacity for
work. I saw Mrs. Sutherland
yesterday & my mother dear
on Sunday. And this is the
result, I have not had
a day’s rest since I came,
& am worse, instead of
better. And now my election
holidays are over, & I have
gone back instead of forwards.
A thousand thanks for what you have done for me about No 35. May I say one thing? Mrs Sutherland tells me that the idea is that I shall go in there in Sept., sub-letting Lady Clarges’ house. Nothing, I believe, would make her consent to this. But, quite independently of that, may I say that is totally impossible for me to have anything to do with No 35 till next May. I can only keep Mrs. Carter (Lady Clarges’ maid) on these terms: tho’ she has said that, after that, she may enter my service. It is absolutely impossible for me to change my household again. And I should not even think of it. It would effectively incapacitate me from work to make any farther changes now - And I pray not even to be asked about it to do so.

Could Parthe send me back Le Conscrit and Waterloo? I had only just begun them.

ever dear Sir Harry
Yours gratefully
July 26/65 F.N.
Oakhill Park - Hampstead N.W.
Dearest mum

I hardly know what to say to your coming tomorrow.

Even ten minutes’ talk with those I love best secures me a night of agony & a week of feverish exhaustion.

I must make some great change. Or I shall not be able to go on with the work at all.

But, if you could come up, so as to be here about 4, & just come in & kiss me, that would be a great delight. But there must be no talk specially not about anything agitating - nor about my going this year into No. 35, nor any of that business nor about maids.

I can just keep my life in me to work. And that is all.

When you ask me what the prints are in the drawing-room
here - when you ask me why I don’t have Miss Jones (which would be indeed the greatest pleasure I could have) you little know what my life is, without husband, butler, housekeeper, or even maid of my own. And how hard it is for me to work at all, And as for going down stairs, I never go out of my rooms here from the moment I come till the moment I go.

Please send me some grapes (this is very earthy) And if

you come tomorrow, I shall be very glad to have the Lea desk, as you kindly propose, come in the carriage.

ever dearest mum

Your loving child

F.
34 South Street,
Park Lane,
London. W.

Sent to Mama by Parthe’s desire

As Mr. Whitehead wants remarks, I will mention that I never had such a blackguard rating in all my life - I who have had more than any woman - than from this Barry sitting on (her) horse, while I was crossing the Hospital square, with only my cap on, in the sun. (He) kept me standing in the midst of quite a crowd of soldiers, Commissariat servants, camp followers, &c &c every one of whom behaved like a gentleman, during the scolding I received, while (she) behaved like a brute. After (she) was dead, I was told (he) was a woman

F.N.

Perhaps Mr. Whitehead will like this curious anecdote, if you send it Parthe.

I should say (she) was the most hardened creature I ever met.

{accompanying the letter is a clipping from the Sunday Times, 9.11.58 in which the letter is quoted verbatim. This was occasioned by a review of a book about Dr. James Barry, who, "having served in the Army for more than 40 years, and having attained the rank of Inspector-General of Hospitals, was discovered on “his” death ...to be a woman."}
Oakhill Park Saturday {arch: July 65}
last house but one from top
Dearest mum

I am afraid you will be hardly able to come tomorrow, as you only come up tonight.
I shall not expect you after 4 o’clock. If you are later than 4, I shall know you are not able to come.

ever dearest mum
Your loving child
F.

Oh dearest mum
to think that I should not be able to write to you ever your loving child
F.

Aug 10/65

Aug 16/65

Dearest mum
I want very much to make a most serious proposal with regard to the Sutherlands, - and, Pop, I want you to back it, ~qua 35 South St.
They have found no house - Dr. S. has, as usual, worried her almost to death. And they are thinking of taking a lodging for a year.
They must turn out next month; it is uncertain what week.
I want Papa to write to Dr. S. offering him unconditionally no 35 till May next. It is, I understand, quite unlikely that it will let till January to any body.
Of course I do not intend Papa to be at any additional expence
I will pay him exactly the rent which the Agent fixes. If I cannot pay it at once, I will pay it, with interest, in time.

I particularly wish Papa not to lose a penny. [I imagine the highest rate the Agent could fix would be £300 from Sept. till May.]

Mrs. Sutherland would, I am sure, accept it. As for Dr. S., his pride is so insane, his vanity so inconceivable that, tho’ he thinks nothing of bringing me to Death’s door nearly every day now, of neglecting & confusing all the work, - he would not, I believe, sacrifice one iota of pride for fear the world should think he had accepted anything from us.

[If he refuses, I think it might then be offered to them on the terms that they should pay what they would have paid for a lodging. Of course this would be about £40 or £50 only - but even this would save his pride. [And I would make up the difference] And because he would tell everybody that he had “rented Mr. Nightingale’s nice house of him.”

This however is only as a reserve to fall back upon -

You might (quite truly) put it as a favour to me - - - The anxiety it would save me to have him next door for the business all the autumn and winter x - the comfort it would be to me to have her at hand.

[People little know the way Dr. S. treats me - One little instance, I will give. He told me he was “dying” (sic) & could not come to me - and went to Epsom for the Derby. Now, if he were next door, these insane tricks would not agitate me, at least not x our busiest time]
for more than ten min.]

I need hardly mention the intense obligations I am under to Mrs. S. nor the pleasure it would be to give her a little relief. {And it would really be a very great thing for me to have his work for a whole winter, without the worry of his uncertainties. As for details, we must put a woman in to keep the house. I conclude the sis would require a third servant to live there. This would do so.}

[I am obliged to part with Mrs. Bracebridge's housemaid - the only perfect housemaid I ever saw - on account of temper. Temperance declares she won't stay otherwise. So does Lady Clarges' maid. It occurred to me that I might put this woman into no 35, paying her wages myself.]

As for housing the Sutherland's furniture, I am sure I could do that at a Pantech: & pay for it, with her connivance.

There is no time to be lost. They may take a lodging at once - ever dearest mum, your loving child F.

{on the top of the first page}

It would console me for all my misfortunes if this could be brought about. Remember, it is DR. Sutherland who must be written to, if at all. And by Papa would be best [end 1:179]

9001/149 initialed letter, 2ff, pen {arch: '63}

34 South St. Saturday
Sir Harry desires me to send this. I have had a note besides from one of her Drs., saying that, tho' her position is "less critical", they can hold out "NO "substantial ground "for hope of amendment."

I believe it may last now some time. She is much easier I fear you must not expect Bulletins from me. I see at this
moment before me at least 24 hours’ official writing. And God only knows how it is to be done. The what not is come in - thanks. Thank heaven, your housekeeper had locked up Hilary’s vase. And it is not come in. How you could think of sending me anything & desiring me “to tell the maids to take care of it,” when
half my life is taken up
with putting things
out of their way, &
with taking care _MYSELF_
of things I _can't put_
out of their way - in
fact, with servant-ing
them.

The bill for their
damage at Norfolk St
is

Seventy:Three Pounds.
Of course we are going
to dispute this legally.
At least half is about
things I locked up

with my own hands, &
which were _never used
at all during my_
tenancy - Other charges
are fraudulent. But
I can quite well see
how the excessive idiotcy
of my maids, in never
putting anything in
its place, _altho' ordered_
by me, subjects me to
all this worry. And now
I have law on my hands.
The only thing, a little marble
stamp case, which I set
a particular value on
that I left in Ann Clarke's

(on the top of the first page)
charge, she broke coming here,
3 minutes in a cab -
Dearest mum

I am in despair that I should have expressed myself so ill

1. it is Papa who must write to Dr. Sutherland, offering him No 35 till May.

Whatever I can do with Mrs. S. has been done already. She would accept.

It is Papa who must write to Dr. S.

[I offer Papa £300 (from Michaelmas till May)

to be paid by instalments with interest, when I can (this, not, of course, to be told to the Sutherlands)

IF Dr. S. refuses, then Papa to write again, offering it him for what he would have given for a lodging, probably not more than £50]

I to pay the difference.

There is no time to be lost. Unless it is done & settled before next Wednesday, it is no use.

They are actually looking out for lodgings at Dulwich
2. about Corser:
Unless I keep no 34, I
don't have Corser.
She positively stays
in Lady Clarges' service
till May in No 34.
I may as well ask
her to go to Timbuctoo
with me, as to go to
35 with me.
No no 34, no Corser.
If you doubt this,
ask Mrs. Sutherland.
It is positive it is
part of the Agreement.
Till May, Corser stays
in 34, as Lady Clarges'
servant.
Only the day before
yesterday, she repeated
this to me & to L[...]
Mrs. Sutherland in
the most positive
terms. {Unless I stay in 34,
{I lose Corser.
I am sure, I should
be glad enough to
go into 35 - For, all
this winter, I shall
probably never go
into the drawing room
at all at 34, owing
to the two prs of stairs.
Burch leaves me
at all events. If I offer
her to stay, it will be to take
no 35.
Aug. 25/65

Dearest mum

You misunderstand Dr. S.’s letter. [He always writes in that way.] Mrs. Sutherland told me herself that it meant, (like Lord Burleigh’s nod) “We cannot make up our minds; but we wish to keep open the offer of 35 South St.; till we may not be able to suit ourselves by Michaelmas.” With this I am perfectly satisfied - especially as you can’t let 35 at Michaelmas.

I am sorry to say they are looking out on the other side of the river - which will be tantamount (for me) to the being able to depend upon no appointment of Dr. S.’s.

The accts of Hilary since Tuesday week have been too distressing to send. Would God it were over! To day’s is quieter - My love to Mme Mohl.

Tell her I would have written to her about Hilary. But I could not.

Tell Papa Dante ought to have been whipped for complaining: “- come sa di sale

“Lo scender e’l salir per l’attrui scale.”

I have to knock my head against one stair to break my legs against another, sometimes to be pitched head foremost down the whole stair-case (& all of ‘other people’s stairs)

“It is all very well to dissemble your love,

But why should you kick me down-stairs?”

This is particularly my case with Dr. Sutherland ever dearest mum

Your loving child

Wed Friday

F.
Up to 10 o’clock this morning (Monday) the account was of greater ease - otherwise just the same I believe more stupor. The suffering has been so dreadful that, till the great rest comes, one is only too thankful for this.

F.N.

The accts of Hilary are so distressing - one can only trust it will soon be over -

She was more fit for heaven than earth.

My love to Beatrice & Mr. Godfrey. I can write no more.

ever dearest mum

Your loving child F.

Please thank Parthe for her letter & word picture just received

{printed address, stroked out:} 34 South Street, Park Lane; London. W.

{arch: Sept 13 65}
The Sutherlands have no house yet. I believe they have quite determined on Dulwich. As far as that concerns me, it would determine my not coming to Hampstead again.

F.N.
My dear Sir Harry

I shall be most glad & happy to continue my Guarantee of £10 to the Association for providing Lodgings for Soldiers’ Wives & Families at Aldershot. And, if they want a little more ready money for furnishing &c, I shall be most glad to contribute my mite.

The Scarlet Fever which has raged among the children at Aldershot (& of which we have only heard of one or two cases among Col. W. Lennox’s lodgers) makes it incumbent on the W.O. - A duty which they recognize & say they will perform as fast as they can get money for it - to build for every Soldiers’ family in the Camp - But this will take time. [And the W.O.’s broken promises “lambs could not forgive - no, Sir, nor worms forget.”]
I am most glad that a prize should be given to your Claydon Rifle Volunteers - in any way you think best - And I think your way a very good one. But I had rather pay my £10.10 at once, please, (which I therefore enclose) as I hope I shall be somewhere a long way off "two years hence" - And if I might pay for the "small medal", I should be very glad.

Please thank "Freddy" for his beautiful Guernsey pears.

I am so very glad that you like Mr. Calvert's marriage. And I hope that it will contribute to his happiness, as much as he deserves. I do hope Emily is keeping well & not the worse for her bridesmaid’s exertions.

I go back to South St. this day week at latest ever yours very affectely & gratefully

F. Nightingale.
I shall be most glad & happy to continue my guarantee of £10 to the association for providing Lodgings for soldiers wives & Families at Aldershot & if they want a little more ready money for furnishing &c I shall be most glad to contribute my mite.

Hampstead Sept 18/65
The Scarlet fever has raged among the children at Aldershot (& of which we have only heard of one or two cases among Col. Lennox’s lodgers) made it incumbent on the WO= a duty which they recognised & say they will perform as far as they can get money for it - to build for every soldiers family in the camp but but this will take time (& the War Offices broken promises “Lambs could not forgive, no Sir nor worms forget”-) I am most glad that a prize should be given to your Claydon Rifle Volunteers in any way you think best, & think your way a very good one.
I had rather pay my £10, 10 at once please as I hope I shall be somewhere a long way off two years hence & if you pay for the small medal I should be very glad.

I hope Emily is keeping well & is not the worse for her Bridesmaids exertions, ever yours very affectionately & gratefully

F Nightingale

9001/157 initialed letter, 2ff, pen

Hampstead, N.W.
Sept. 18/65

Dearest mum

Mrs. Girdlestone (you know who she is - of Kings’ College Hospital) has been dangerously ill & not expected to live. Miss Jones writes me word that she “hopes” to “take” her away “soon” “for a week or two” into the country to recover.

It occurred to me whether you would like to invite Miss
Jones, Mrs. Girdlestone
and a Nurse to
Embley for this recruiting - which
I am sure must be
as necessary to Miss
Jones as to Mrs. G.
I do not know that
they would go - [Miss
Jones says nothing
about where they
are ordered to go =
to me].
I have not seen her.
for I have been totally
unable to see any one
here - the greatest of
disappointments, as
I have always so
enjoyed being able to
give a whiff of country
air to Miss Jones,
Revd Mother Mrs
Wardroper &c.
I could say a great deal
about Hilary. But I
cannot bear it now.
I can only think with
joy of what she is now
& of what she would
wish us to think.
But the details are
too painful to be
dwell upon yet - tho’
I am well aware that,
by Elinor’s great
kindness & consideration
I have been spared
the knowledge of the
greater part of them.
The suffering was so dreadful.
I am going from here
every day. I ought to
be in London to-day -
I cannot delay here
beyond this day week,
on account of my
business.
   ever dearest mum
   Your loving child
   F.
Indeed I am but too well
aware how ill Mrs.
Bracebridge is. I wish
they would go abroad for
the winter.

Dearest mum
   I am back here,
as you see -
   ever your loving child
   F.
Sept. 28/65
34 South Street, Park Lane, London, W.
My dear Sir Harry
   About the enclosed:
& your kind offer
to go to Sheffield: -
   I have no paper
to read there. But
there is to be a
discussion on the
Freehold Land
scheme, I find today, -which you

were so kind as to
bring before Mr.
Gladstone last Session.
   The Chairman of
Cobden’s Freehold Land
Society in Southampton
Street. (for political
purposes) brings
forward a paper -
so does Mr. Thos. Hare
on the Law Amendment
side of the question.

Neither takes exactly
my view, which
I believe is yours.
   If you really
thought of going to
Sheffield, I would
draw up just a
rough note, in case
you thought of taking
part in the discussion,
which I think would
be really important.
But I should not
do it as from myself,
because whatever
I can do must be
done by thro’ Ministers
in private.
The Solicitor of Cobden’s
Freehold Land Society
takes up my view
& might be of use
to us ultimately
in giving his law
knowledge.

ever yours
F. Nightingale

(on top of first page)
I am sorry
you had the
trouble of
writing about
my Volunteer
Prize letters.

Sept. 29/65
34 South Street, {printed address:}
   Park Lane,
   London, W.

Dearest mum
I think ALL these things
are good. I am delighted
to see my (printed) opinion
so near being carried
out, viz. that all Counties
should have their
Convalescent Home as the best preventive of pauperism - all
Hospitals their Convalescent
supplement. But I am
not at all delighted to
see them all expecting
me to subscribe to all.
Croesus could not do it x -
Not a week elapses that
x Also, I never subscribe to any
building that I have not a voice
in the plans of -
I don't have a paper of this kind from some county or Hospital.
No: I have not subscribed.
If you like to do so, I shall be very glad - Hospitals & Conv. Homes bear so very hardly upon me -
Winchester £200
Miss Jones £100
Herbert Mem: 50
and now I have promised £25 to Swansea - Besides which, every body writes to me to go about collecting for them.
That is adding insult to injury. I have just collected £200 for the Fliedners.

About the house No 35 and what I wrote to Pa yesterday: - in the uncertainty of all my affairs, I have determined to keep Burch, at least for the present - So that she will not be at liberty to keep the house 35, during the interregnum when it will stand empty before it is let, or before I go in. I explained all these this yesterday to you & Pa.

ever dearest mum
Your loving child F.
Sept. 29/65
34 South Street, {printed address:}
   Park Lane,
   London, W.
My dear Sir Harry
   I have this morning seen
Mr. Beggs’ paper to be
read (on the town Freehold
Scheme) at Sheffield.
   It will do us much good,
tho’ it is too diffuse, too
exclusive on the side of
the Freehold Land Societies,
& not from our point of
view.
   He shows the increase
of disease, pauperism &
crime from bad dwelling
houses - the benefits already
accruing from Freehold
Land societies - he
argues for increasing
by all means the
possibilities of obtaining
freeholds in towns, &
for house & land going
always together. He
argues for facilities of
registration, & transfer
of small freehold titles
of working men, so that
a man, going from one
town to another for
work, might transfer
his freehold & buy another
where he is going.

He limits the measure to towns.

The paper is one of general principles, & is to be followed up in the Jurisprudence Department in London in the winter.

They talk of bringing forward a Bill next Session.

Do not you think it possible that, if there were a good discussion supported by M.P.s, at Sheffield, Mr. Gladstone might take it into his head to anticipate them, & ask us to consult Solicitors & prepare a Draft for him to bring forward?

If you go to Sheffield & would support the application of the principle to areas within Municipal boundaries, and to a certain distance beyond them to provide for increase of population?

The manner in which Mr. Beggs proposes at present to apply the principle is: to grant powers to Municipal authorities to
purchase any land, within their boundary, which they may require for any purpose, under sanction of the Home Office. This power would enable them to buy entailed land in towns, & leasehold land, to convert it into freehold & dispose of it for building, or to build themselves.

I would suggest to you to support nothing but the general principle, because everything will depend on the details.

After the discussion, we might determine our own course.

There is nothing revolutionary in Beggs' plan. [Bright’s plan was revolutionary.]

Beggs' is only the extension of a power already existing, but in a more beneficial direction. [That is the beauty of it.]

He goes on about Suburban villages, which has been a favourite scheme, with some, for carrying away the poor from Sanitary defects in towns. [But such defects ought not to need not exist. F.N.]
Town dwellings ought to be & might be quite healthy. These villages might become nests of pestilence, unless placed under local authorities with specific powers - and then they would become towns under the Local Government Act, & so would cease to be villages - F.N.

[In London there is plenty of unoccupied or badly built land, which would afford space for building for a vast working population on healthy principles, if only it were to be bought. But it is not to be bought under the present law.]

Our scheme, which you have, & a part of which was sent to Mr. Beggs, goes more into detail & rests on different legislative principles. But his will do good, tho’ it is not all we want.

In haste ever yours
F. Nightingale

Mr. Beggs sells Sanitary appliances in Southampton St. Strand & is an active {printed address; upside down} 34 South Street, Park Lane, Director of Cobden’s Freehold Land Society.
Monday
34 South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane,
London, W.
My dear Sir Harry
Ly Clarges has left
Norwood, without
leaving any address -
And her maid here
does not know, or
pretends not to
know, where she is.
I don't think there
is anything to do but
to wait. And I would
not trouble you to
call upon the Agent.
She is such an
erratic person that
she may turn up
at this door
tomorrow - & go away,
leaving no address.
Many thanks for
all the good things.
I did not know till
Mme Mohl told me

that Parthe was coming
to town to morrow.
And I have engaged
to see Mme Mohl
to morrow. We
are particularly
busy this week -
and I have two
more out of four
men to see -
I believe that
Mr. Jowett gives
me the Sacrament
on Wednesday at 3. And I do not like not to tell Parthe of it, tho’ she may well be too busy to join me.

 ever yours
 F.N.

Saturday {arch; 1868}

Dearest mother

I shall hope to see you tomorrow (Sunday) about 4 p.m. But, I fear, only for 10 minutes. [Talking for more than 10 min. is as much as my life is worth.] I am very much obliged to Papa for buying the house for me. And it is on the whole a great relief - tho’ I am afraid it is mainly for the relief it will give to my dear & unwearied friend, Mrs. Sutherland, (in looking for houses for me,) that it is a pleasure to me.

I am so weary -
ever dearest mum
 Your loving child
 F.
Oct. 2/65
34 South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane,
London, W.
My dear Sir Harry

Mrs. Corser (Lady Clarges’ maid) does not appear likely to make up her mind between Ly C. & me.

And therefore I am very anxious now to obtain Ly C.’s leave to sub-let this house - I moving into No 35 about November 19, when expire the 3 month’s trial of my service Corser herself decided upon -

Mrs. Sutherland has already been to Reily, the Agent; who says that under the circumstances, (of No 35 having been bought) Ly C. cannot possibly refuse.

[I think she both can & will. But I think she is the sort of woman who will be more likely to be “agreeable”, if you write to her. Reily writes to her to morrow (Tuesday) And I should be truly
obliged to you, if you kindly would write to her on Tuesday too, after the manner of the enclosed.]

The going up two pairs of stairs to my bed-room here is now all but impossible to me.

I would not, I think, mention to Lady Clarges anything about her maid (Mrs. Corser -) of course she knows. And of course she will tell Corser even before she answers you -

But I would not let

her answer to you come to this house.
I do not propose to move before Nov. 19, for the reason above stated. [I think that would be unfair to Corser].

Please do not to let any of this reach my household here -
I am sorry to give you this trouble.

Ever your affectely

F. Nightingale
Oct. 16/65
34 South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane,
London, W.
My dear Sir Harry
Ly Clarges turned up
quite suddenly today -
& stays at
Fleming's Hotel
10 Half Moon Street
till Wednesday.
Reily, the Agent, sees
her tomorrow at 11.30.
I am afraid she has
not had her Norwood
letters.
If you could write
to her now, if you are so
kind, I believe it
would much facilitate
Reily's success -
There is a great deal to be
done in No 35, & to
be put in. And I
don't see a chance
of its taking less than
5 weeks, - during which
time, of course, no
one can stay in the
house.
Much furniture will have
to be put in also. E.g.
The whole of the kitchen furniture, consists of
 1 tray
 2 black coal scuttles
 1 coffee mill, to cook in.
  
  ever yours gratefully
       F.N.

The whole of the sinks, traps, &c paving, &c have to be taken up
& relaid I shall be surprised myself if the house is ready much
before Christmas {or at least {December 10

for any body to inhabit.

I had not had the builder & Dr. Sutherland over it when I saw
Parthe on Wednesday -
       F.N.

Mrs. Sutherland says that Mr. Fortescue has almost gutted the
house of furniture.
       F.N.
Lady Clarges {arch: ?1866}
Queen’s Hotel ]34 South Street, {printed address: Norwood Park Lane,}
London, W.

for permission to
sub-let this house, she
approving the tenant, as
in terms of Agreement.
that, if Lady Clarges had
given Miss N. any
hopes of having this
house beyond May next,
No 35 would never have
been bought -
but Ly C. sent an
express message (to Miss
N.) thro’ her maid Mrs.

Corser, that she, Miss N.
could not have this
house after May next.
that it is of great
consequence to Miss N.
in her state of health
to be permanently
settled in a house of her own
as soon as
possible - and before
the winter -
As Miss N.’s ill-health is
continually increasing
e.g. she was 11 weeks
at Hampstead without
ever going off her
bed room floor -
(or something to that effect)
(I would make great capital of my state of health)
(also, that no tenant, if she, Lady C. accedes, shall be taken without Ly Clarges’ special approval - & that the sub-letting shall be done by her own Agent, Reily - of course.)
This, put in your own gracious way, is, I think, the substance of what is to be said.

F.N.

9001/167 initialed letter, 2ff, pen

Oct. 16/65
34 South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane,
London. W.

Dear Papa

I think I ought to tell you what is going on at No 35. I did not lose a day in sending for the Builder, Humphrey, to look at it. And Dr. Sutherland has twice gone over it with him. I have this day drawn up a statement of the points essentially necessary, (for him to furnish me with an
These comprise, I am sorry to say, a good deal. - the ventilating W.C.s, taking up & relaying all sinks, traps, paving of basement, drain pipes - &c &c &c thorough cleansing of basement.

There is not a chance of any body being able to inhabit the house for 5 weeks. And I shall be much surprised if it is done much before Christmas.

The whole of the cooking utensils consist in
- one tray
- two black coal scuttles
- one coffee mill.

The whole of the bedsteads but one are falling to pieces. The whole of the bedding is filthy & must be washed. I have told my housemaid, Burch, to go in & see to these things which appear to have been entirely neglected for 4 months. There is no woman in living regularly in
the house, which is in an awful condition. And we are going to engage one. Mrs. Sutherland is, as usual, doing every thing. I am afraid, I am sadly afraid, that there may be £150 or £200 to pay before any body can live in the house. Mrs. S. says, Mama would not know it again since Mr. Fortescue has taken away the furniture - I understood Parthe to say that Mama could go to her house - 32, I mean.

ever dearest Pa your loving child.

F.

9001/168 signed letter, 1f, pen

My dear Sir Harry

This is the parcel you were so good as to say you would take to the Foreign Office to be forwarded to Paris.

Many many thanks for your note

F. Nightingale

19/10/65
Oct 26/65
34 South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane,
London. W.

My dear Sir Harry
I am glad about your dinner: You will be a wonderful man if you induce my Pa to go to it. But I give MY full consent.

ever yours
F.N.

Oct. 27/65
34 South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane,
London. W.

Dear Papa
A little line only to say that a van full of furniture was returned last night (with 4 drunken men) from Mr. Fortescue’s to 35. My good Mrs. Sutherland received it - my
housemaid being in Hospital - glass, china, kitchen utensils are in great quantities. A good deal is very bad. But I am happy to hear that there is plenty to enable me to give the largest dinner parties, & the largest of my evening routs. And Mrs. S. says £30 would not replace the kitchen utensils alone, now restored. 

*No Inventory came.* The furniture (strictly speaking) is irrecoverable, being gone to Mr. Fortescue’s country house - of which I regret most two small book-cases. I only hope he will be made to pay for it.

Mrs. Cowper’s letter was so asking for sympathy for Lady Palmerston & them all, that I have written to them a long letter, (please tell Sir Harry) tho’ with some small hesitation. ever dear Pa

Your loving child

F.

Au revoir when more of this.
Matrons & Probationers)

Then it amounts to this: -

that, in order that the Probationers may be
neglected by the Matron, they are to be
placed at a distance from her

[which is, of course, a reason for us to
place them at a still greater distance,
by removing them out of St. Thomas’ -
altogether -

since it is deliberately put to us - that
St. Thomas wishes them to be neglected.]

that the Matron is to be prevented by
mechanical means, both from having
leisure to enjoy & from not enjoying leisure
which she is not to have - (since how
can she have leisure when all her time
is to be wasted in running?)

that the Matron’s duties are not to be
facilitated by saving her steps & her
strength - but are to be hindered
as much as possible by giving her
the greatest distances to traverse

[The Treasurer does not know his Matron -

And, if his Matron were what he thinks
her, better get rid of her altogether -

Let us have her. We will soon find
another Hospital thankful to build
for her & for our Training School.]

that -

Of course, if the Treasurer’s arguments are
valuable, it would be better to remove
the Probationers out of their Matron’s
reach altogether - except while in the
wards -
N.B. The circumstances under which women have to perform their duties about the sick are so different from those of men.

If Mr. Hicks’ argument were correct, the Head Nurse ought not to have her room adjoining her Ward, so as to be in command of it day & night - but ought to be, on the contrary, as far from it as possible. Yet the former construction for Head Nurses’ rooms is now universally admitted.

Till this moment, I have always heard (& always admitted) as an objection to the “Pavilion” principle of Hospital -building that it is essential for a Matron to live within her Hospital - so that she may go to all parts of it at unexpected times, without being seen coming, without being expected. But it is now put forward as a principle for (I should think) the very first time that the contrary should be the case.

Objections(1) & (2) surely cannot be serious. Proximity of Matron’s Office & Residence can do nothing but save time in the Hospital administration. In all modern Hospitals, Military & other, the whole Establishment of Matron’s quarters & office, Linen store & Mending room - all Nurses’ quarters (except Head Nurses’) including Day & Dining Room, are all within one outside door - this being considered absolutely essential to efficiency.

Objection (2) Any one who could put this forward can know very little of the principles of action of a good Matron.
2. They think nothing of the time & strength they compel the Matron to waste in going to & fro thro’ all these quarters scattered as much as they possibly can be.

3. In working a long line of building, it matters very little whether your office is at either end or the centre. For distances are the same.

4. Cost of extensive alterations. Why did they not take our opinion at first, if they wished to retain our School. It seems a very illogical logic not to ask our opinion about our own affairs - {line cut off}

& men to tax us with the necessity of essential alterations.

Do not we pay rent - for good accommodations not for garrets & cellars? [end 12:161]

9001/172 initialed letter, 1f, pen

12/11/65
34 South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane,
London. W.

Dear P

The three plants, - two of them ferns, one given by Miss Mayo (after death) - one by Lady Belper - which Sir H. was so good as to take down, -are all pets, have all been kept in Miss Mayo’s greenhouse (now dead) many winters. Will you please have them ticketed for me & kept in you greenhouse for me till next spring? ever yours

F.
32 South St
            Tuesday Nov 12 {arch: ? 67} [16:697]

With regard to the Salisbury & Southton Hosps - you ask me to tell you what is bad about them - we - the Big Prigs don't like to do what the little prigs do- namely: give an opinion without recent data - I had all the plans - & Rawlinson's reports about Winchester & Reading before me - when I gave those opinions - All that I can say generally about Salisbury & Southton Hosps is: that they are founded upon the prevailing mistake - that tho' construction of a private house will do as the pattern for a place where
there is to be a con-
gregation of sickness
whereas we know
that the const
ruction
of a barn would be
better & more fit for
the purpose. But
I would suggest to you
as a work worthy
of you, & of your
genius for construction -
to look at my book,
(first & last parts -)
& particularly at the

figs: and then to ride
over to Salisbury &
Southton & compare
principles with practice -
[I hear from Malta, that
they have no disease
in the huts, - although
the heat in them is
much complained of, -
whereas in the building,
altho’ very much
preferred for coolness
fever & epidemics are
never absent - The
same at Gibraltar]
12/11/65
34 South Street, {printed address:}
   Park Lane,
   London. W.
My dear Sir Harry
   I yesterday concluded
   a compromise - the
   best terms I could
   make - with Lady
   Clarges -
   viz. that she resumes
   this house on Dec.1.
   that she remits in all
   £130, viz.
   £105 from rent
   20 for windows
   5 “    gas fittings
   £130     ____

And I give Reily £5.5
because this unprincipled
old woman takes
this off his Commission
If I could tell you
the history of the
worry & exhaustion
of the last 2 months
about these houses,
you would think with me that I
have come well off

out of this "most
filthy bargain".
To get rid of Lady
Clarges’ maid is
not the least of it.
   ever yours gratefully
   F. Nightingale
My dear Sir Harry

Pray don’t say,
as (as you do to me,)
that you are sorry
for the “trouble
about houses” you
have “got me into”
!! Because it is
all owing to you

that I am in this
beautiful house.
And, on the whole,
(tho’ we must not
sing before we
are out of the
wood - I mean
the Inventory -)
I think, after
Dec. I., we shall
be well out of

Lady Clarges’ hands.

I write about

a thing which
troubles me much
more at present.
And that is St.
Thomas’ Hospital
(Probationers’ Quarters)
Harry B. Carter
tells me that he
has (or will) put
into your hands
letters of mine to
the Treasurer &c
explaining what
is the construction
we positively
require for a good
Training School -
& which both
Sidney Herbert &
Mr. Clough distinctly
understood was

essential to a good
Training School.
I would ask you
not to conclude
any arrangement,
except “subject to
my approval,” -
or “to another
Meeting.”
We must
be very cautious with them
{printed address, upside down::}
34 South Street,
Park Lane,
London. W.

{a page seems to be missing}
to be provided for us
in the new building.
It would therefore be
only troubling you
unnecessarily for
me to go over all
the same ground
to you.
Mr. John Clark, who
will be your colleague
at the Meeting,
proposed for the 30th,
holds exactly the
same views as I do out of his own conviction - which I do out of my experience.
I am particularly glad that you should be the actor at this Meeting, because you will be perfectly conciliatory, which we ought to be -

And yet you will let them see that we mean business - i.e. that we will come to no permanent agreement with St. Thomas’ to have our Nurses’ School there (which is a great & acknowledged advantage to them) unless they give us the accommodation
My dear Sir Harry

I will not say but that we are very anxious about the result of the Meeting on Thursday (Probationers’ Quarters at St. Thomas’)

The (friendly to us) party at St. T.’s have written to me repeatedly - urging that our Committee men should all be united in what we intend to claim - urging us to be firm - urging that, our Probationers are of so much importance to the Hospital, if we only say: “unless you give us what we want, we go” - they will never let us “go”.

=urging that we should only consider this Meeting as the first Reading of the Bill - that we should let the
Opposition (Mr. Hicks & Co=) say their say at this Meeting, not debate much on our side, but have a second & a third if necessary, Reading of the Bill in subsequent Meetings. Any thing rather than give in.
I am going to see Mr. John Clark on Wednesday at 4 p.m.
If I could see you, if you happen to be in town, any other time

before Thursday's meeting perhaps it might be as well. [end 12:160]

ever yours
F.N.


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

Dear Uncle Sam

A thousand thanks for your kind letter of Thursday.

I told Papa (at Lea Hurst) that I estimated the getting into this house at £200 including, of course, Humphrey’s Bill. I think it will be a little more -

Tho’ I devote my life to getting in tradesmen’s bills (having no maid with the least nous) I am slow in getting them
I have paid Humphrey £139 -odd
I have just got in the
Ironmonger's bill. £20 odd
but I am afraid there
will be another for about
£30. I have paid a
Scourer & Cleaner's Bill.
Every article (in the house)
of furniture had to be
cleaned. Not a coal=
scuttle would hold coals.
And so with every thing.
I suppose it is so with
all, Bu in buying a house,

where there was absolutely
no one to act on our side.
But even I could hardly
have anticipated, that
there was but one article
in the whole house
which has not required
something done to it.
Every cistern, tap &c was
out of repair - & has
had to be done since I
came in.

This is all I can say
with exactitude at present.
And I don't at all
wish to charge it all to
Papa, if you think best
not. Considering the enormous expense I am of to him, I should be quite satisfied to pay all above Humphrey's great Bill. If you think fit. And about that there is no hurry -
   I have paid Clowser -
   Could you be so very good as to write a note for a Cheque book for me to the London Jt Stock Bk, & send my messenger with it ever yours gratefully
The replacing those F.N. Kitchen scales alone cost £1.1.6.

9001/178 incomplete letter, 2ff, faint pencil

35 South Street, {printed address:}
   Park Lane,
   London. W.
I disbelieve in miracles - not from the historical but from the moral point of view - I mean from that of the character of God - i.e. if I believed in Christ's miracles, I should not believe in Christ. I dislike Strauss Colenso &c &c because I do not think they have contributed anything to what is now the main want of the age, - the conception of a perfect God. [Ewald] has.] Someone says: that Phidias brought "the noble & beautiful
into his representation of Gods & heroes - & that he thereby incurred the enmity of a bigoted conservative priesthood.

Whether that is true or not of Phidias, it is eminently true now of any one who stands up for the idea of a perfect God - either in practice or theology.

Doubtless it has been true of all ages - Tho' Christ's God was not perfect yet Christ, who was, above all, "Agnus Dei qui tollit peccata mundi" certainly suffered (more than for anything else) for announcing a more perfect God practically.

I once asked M. Mohl whether any of the ancient religions announced a perfect God. He said: Plato did - but not the Stoics at all -

I wonder: is that true? - & why did not Plato suffer more?

The whole controversy, it seems to me, between Mr. Jowett & Oxford, & the way he has "incurred the enmity of a bigoted conservative priesthood is: that they can't a-bear a more perfect God.
I am afraid he has had to
give his life a ransom for many
(at Oxford)

9001/179 unsigned letter, 2ff, pen [1864] black-edged paper bundle 136

Confidential
27. Norfolk Street, [printed address]
Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir harry
Ld de Grey’s letter to
you is offering nothing
but what I compelled
him to do two months
ago - viz. apply to Col
Gambier for P. Jackson.

I will write to Sir
J. Lawrence - But I
know him to be in
exactly the same
position that I am

with regard to the
his Horse Guards in
India - (to compare
a pygmy to a giant)

Let me keep your
letters to night - and
I will write to you
in the morning.

I do not like to take
the sacrament without
telling Parthe, tho’ I
don’t want to tempt
her to do any thing
unwise. I take the
Sacrament (from Mr.
Jowett) next Sunday
at 3.
27. Norfolk Street,
    Park Lane. W.

Dearie

If Sir H. could be
so kind as to come
over here for a few
minutes, I think I
could tell him all.

I returned to you
your copy of “N. on
Hospitals.” But for
a wonder I have one
of my own, which
I will send, if Sir
H. cannot come.

Dear Papa

A half hour between twelve
and one or between two and five
would suit me. Pray say when.

And I hope you will like
to take the sacrament with me
from Mr. Jowett tomorrow
(Sunday) at 3.

But I shall hope to see you
in the morning too tomorrow.

F.

Saturday
Thursday

Dear Papa,

The splendid evergreens arrived quite safe on Tuesday night so late however - consequence of its being Christmas eve that I couldn’t send them that night. - I sent them the first thing on Xmas morning. & they were received with acclamation at King’s Coll. Hosp. at Revd Mother’s, & at Sister Gonzaga’s -

I don’t think the mince pies would be disdained even if they were to come now.

The letter which you had on Tuesday morning was posted on Sunday night - ought not you to have had it on Monday afternoon? -

Now I do assure you for once the postmaster was wrong I weighed that letter twice in 2 weighers & it was only 1 oz.

Our information looks more like war instead of less like it. but we’ve already spent half a million in sending out this expedn & whether there is war or not, it is all up with our getting our
improvements into the estimates next year.
I had a long & dismal letter from poor Mrs. Herbert at Mentone
She appears only to live on my letters because they are the only ones which tell her about her husband’s work in the W. Office - & yet how can I write to her when I can scarcely do my own work

"There is Sutherland", just think what the difference of the moral atmosphere is! Living in the society of Dr. Suthd & Dr. Williams, to me who can seek no other society, & living with Sidney Herbert & A.H. Clough!

But instead I care so much for this poor world that even now I assure you, with these & all my friends gone, I cd gladly, if I had only the health that I had when I
came back from the Crimea
go forth & pursue my
own work, leaving
that which their
death has rendered
impossible. But in this
lies the very sting of
my fate, that I have
sacrificed my means to
work in order to carry out
work with others which
their loss renders impossible
& have left myself none
to work alone. I need
hardly say how different
it would have been, if

it had pleased God to take
me & let Sidney Herbert
survive.

Farther, about my health
I don’t think it is exactly
possible for any one to
appreciate, who has not
felt it, the impossibility
of any faith taking the place
of physical capability.

Mind I am not here
speaking of physical
suffering, but of physical
want of power. When I
read of Jacob Bell, in the
midst of the acutest
suffering being able to go on
with his work till up to one hour before his death I think: what a happy man! I am quite sure on the other hand that my dear Clough suffered more from being unable to do anything for 14 months before his death than from any other cause, & I can truly say that I pitied him more than myself & that I cd rejoice at his gain when he died more than I grieved for my own loss - But now see the state that

[end 1:264]

9001/183 incomplete letter, 1f, pen

far better than this, it appeared to me. It is a house I should never have hesitated, if between that & ANY OTHER whatsoever of all the many houses I have had in London. There is no comparison. [neither Old Burlington St, nor Dover St, Chesterfield St, Cleveland Row, Norfolk St nor this 35 South St is so infinitely superior.
9001/184 incomplete initialed letter, 1f, pen

I send back with thanks
the original of the Poona
letter. I have kept the
copy. But I fear we
shall not be able to
use it publicly.

We have however
completed our reply
to the Bombay Commission's
slanders & blunders.

ever yours

F.N.

9001/185 unsigned letter, 1f, pen

Dearie

I meant you to read my letter
to Mrs. Fowler please - Also please
send her the accompanying Fliedner
paper. I want her to go to St. Thomas'.

I want flowers very bad - ALL
you have. I don't think I have any
tin.

I really am so hard pressed, I
can't speak a word.

9001/186 initialed letter, 1f, light blue pencil, bundle 134 {arch: ?1860}

Dearie

As I am a little better today
I think it would save trouble
if I were to see Helen Richard
myself if she would be so good
as to come out to me straight
from you. And “from 12 to one”
would just suit me only, the
nearer 12 the better for me

And save her from telling
her story twice.

F.

Tuesday
Dearie
I like your Ashley
Lady Verney Hay VERY much -
F.

I shall be too glad if Sir Harry likes
to come to the Sacrament tomorrow
here. But I understood him to
say that he had an objection to
Mr. Jowett's opinions, which,
I am SURE, is very natural.
F.N. {printed address sideways:}
27. Norfolk Street,
Park Lane. W.

My dear
I have written this for the
Sanitarys who wanted a tract:
on the Whibock child murder-
I half thought of sending it to
Good Words or Chambers in order
for a wider circulation, but it
bears its “tract” origin too
strongly on its face I believe?
I meant it for the poor to read -

Good words is too literary
I suppose?
Dearie I think this
should be a Tract.
But I am the poorest
judge possible.
I don't think Good
Words or Chambers
are at all read by
what we call ‘the poor’.
And their style is so
different. But I am
a bad judge
There is said to be a very good
version in French of Marcus Aurelius
“Les Pensées de Marc Aurèle -
- traduction de M. Pierron.”
[I don’t know whether you would
care for this.]

In the Montesquieu says “there
is not a greater object in history
than the Antonines.” I agree - Marcus
Aurelius seems to me a Garibaldi in,
purity, with the administrative
faculty (which he wants) - &
above all with the willingness
to let the waves pass over his
head, which is always the fate
of the man of thought struggling
to incarnate his Ideal in politics.
He thanks Rusticus, his tutor, for
having withdrawn him “from what
is purely speculative” - He exhorts
himself to “heroic truth in all his
words.” He says (to himself) Thou,
when thou dost not like to rise in
the morning, say tell thyself ‘I wake
to do the work of a man.’
‘Thou dost not love thyself if thou
dost not love the calling of thy (better)
nature - Even the artisan forgets to
eat & sleep for his art’s sake. Is the
public interest less worthy of thy care?’

[How much finer this is than
the constant drumming of the Christian
chord, that “self-love” is to be destroyed,
that you must ‘hate’ yourself-]

Every where he reminds himself
that he is “put into the world for the
salvation of men”. How sublime
this is: - “offer to the God within (thee)
a man, a citizen, an emperor, a soldier
at his post, ready* if the trumpet calls.”
Can anything be truer of the vocation of
man, in general? And elsewhere: -
“think every hour how to act as a Roman,
as a man. What is not useful for the beehive is not useful for the bee.”

take care not to Caesarize” (sic) a “Life divided from the rest of the community would be a factious life.”

Everywhere he turns himself away from simple contemplation. He calls philosophers “real children” who do not turn it into action.

“Do not hope for a Plato’s republic, content thyself with making things advance somewhat, & look upon the least advance as important.”

*Note. I have always felt - F.N. that health was not worth preserving, except for an object for which it was worth losing.

How absurd it is to be always declining to do good things, in order “to save your health,” which you only want to do good things.

He, telling himself “never again to criticize the life around him - and not to declaim nor to be indulgent to others - exclaims, to himself - what a noble word! - “be neither a tragedian nor a courtezan,”*

* It is most singular to me, F.N., how all human thought, all men’s words are taking the turn of simple historic contemplation or judgment.

I am sure I never make an observation, - I making it with an intention of leading to some practical result, - that people do not immediately begin either the indulgent line - & people none so very amiable either - or the tragic line.
Dearie

I am very glad dear Emily looks forward so hopefully to her next winter -

I am glad that Sir Harry likes Mr. Calvert's wife. I should look forward hopefully to that, for my own affair, but that I think Col. Percy Herbert the most hopeless (because he has many great qualities,) of men. He spent a life in opposing Sidney Herbert. And all for what? -

The maid is not promising enough for me to look after - thanks - I must have some one who will take her own place at once as my factotum, as Corser did - & be the head of the household, without contests. It may do for some good mistress to raise a housemaid to this. It does not do for me - I am less than ever incapable of it - I can make no more experiments with Ann Clarkes, or Temperances, or Burches. 

"£18 & all found " is just what I gave Ann Clarke, what I give Burch.

Understand, I am sending away Burch to keep Temperance. But T. is just as fit to do what I want doing for me (now that Corser is away) as she would be to take a cook’s place with a kitchen-maid under her. \{Except under such as Webb or Corser, she \{is nothing.

I secure Corser till next May - she has £30 from Lady Clarges & is to have £32 from me. Still I shall be glad to hear of any body permanent to take that sort of position with me. But otherwise I stick to Corser ever yours

Please thank Sir Harry for his Guernsey Eau de Cologne & other benefits. F.
Dear Sir H.

I am so poorly I cannot write. The acts of Hilary these last 2 days have been more suffering - but I do not know whether materially worse - Could you, if I were to send you a copy of my scrap about the facilitation of purchasing &c of freeholds by working men, get the opinions of competent men about it? I have not been able to come downstairs for some days. I saw the “Poor Law Board” last week. We are going to get a power for compelling Guardians (in the “Omnibus” Bill next week).

My dear Sir H.

This is a point I am excessively anxious about, the V.P. of the P.L. Board. Could you interest yourself & other M.P.s in it?

I have lost all connection with M.P.s since Sidney Herbert’s death. Independently of that, I could not now canvass men - But if there were one M.P. who you thought would do, (A. Mills is one of the Workhouse Visiting Committee & might interest other M.P.s) I would write to him. so that you might be several urging it in the Ho: of C.

Are you not going to return to town after Saturday? I do not think the objection to the “freehold” scheme is “having
one law for small, & another for large freeholds:” a new law would refer to local limits, not limits of size.
And all local Acts are limited.

ever dear Sir H. yours
F.N.

Confidential  Poor law Board

We want a man to direct the energies of the Poor Laws under & next to the President. We want a Vice-President, a permanent V.P. - such an official would manage matters for the President in such a manner as to enable him to see distinctly & quickly the right road. The President is a Cabinet Minister, an M.P., a man overburdened - a V.P. would be steadily seated at the P.L. Board daily & would, by dedicating all his time to one object, gradually & surely work out a system of Poor Relief in accordance with the spirit of these Times days.

When the Poor Law Board continuation Bill is before the Ho: of C., some one (& the stronger he is the better) should ask why such an Officer as a V.P. of the P.L. Board is not established.

The Parliamentary committee on the Poor Laws, who sate for something like 3 sessions, were of opinion that such an Officer would be of the greatest service.
And we know that such an appointment is positively requisite here - if we are to move on in the right direction.
Dearie

The Inglotts are devout Catholics, Maltese-born. This makes me hesitate, & feel that perhaps you had rather not have the introduction. They are in terrible disgrace, however, for their liberal notions, & prefer London a good deal to Rome. I have never seen Mrs. Inglott, but Mrs. Sutherland answers for her - Still you know very well that Maltese-born are different from English.

Dearie

I am afraid G. is behaving like a lunatic. But I have a great sympathy for a boy in the Army who wants to marry, knowing as I do that all the other boys in the Army ( & many out of it too) want to do something just the reverse, especially in India. I have no doubt there is, as you say, a misgiving that Miss H. won't wait. But even this is more respectable than - the more usual thing I won't particularly specify.

As for Emily writing to Miss H., it was a great imprudence but one excusable at 21 - much better than the contrary extreme of worldly prudence, (which combined with immorality notions in the young people of this day is what I most often see!) She will be sure to come round.

My dear Sir Harry

I am up to my neck writing Heads of Returns for Mr. Farnall. He proposes a great plan for us, to train girls from Union Schools (under our Head Nurses) in Workhouse Infirmaries as Nurses. I should be very glad to hear anything about George.
I understand Genl Peel is going to move the omission of the vote for stables to the Herbert Hospital. I am sure I am indifferent about the stables, if that is all.

Saturday

Dearie,

I will go to see 34 today if you please. And if you will tell me the coachman to take me afterwards to see the places you mentioned, I shall be very thankful. I believe it is better for me to go quite alone. I could quite well go at 2;30, if you want the carriage afterwards - I don't suppose my whole affair will take more than an hour.

IF I go at 2.30, perhaps I had better see the sights first & the house last. But pray do YOU tell the coachman.

F.N.
I could see you to-day at 3 or
at 4, please.
    But if you would go to the opening
of the S. London Working Men’s Exh.,
I should be better pleased still.
    Sir Harry was so good as to say
he would go - They want “‘sponsible people”
    And I am very glad even that
the little half-crowns should be put
in their pockets.
    The whole was set on foot &
practically worked by a common
clerk in the W.O., Mr. Frederick,
now, I am happy to say, a Commission
Secretary. And he scraped together
upwards of £1000 from Guarantors,
of whom I am one -
    The men, when my name was
given out, all cheered - tho’ they did not cheer
the Pr. of Wales. I could not help shedding tears. [end 1:334]

he did not know about
Torquay. He thought her
better
    ever yours

F.
My dear Sir Harry

1000 thanks for your most kind persistency. But what I want (for my work’ sake) is not a lady but a servant x. I could not possibly speak with her more than x to take entirely my housekeeping & parcel=making

10 minutes in the day. She must do up all my parcels for India & home. I should be miserable to have a lady on those terms. I cannot possibly give her either bedroom or sitting room. I have two maids sleeping in Ly Clarges’ room. And they
complain!!! I have not one bed in the house unoccupied, except an attic where there is no fire place. The dining room I must keep for men. I cannot give up a room on my own floor.

If, as you say, a year ago, or, as I say four years ago, I could have begun an arrangement of this kind, it would have been a godsend. But now it is totally impossible. What I must have (& what I have not) is a first-rate upper servant, who shall also attend upon me, (in fact, a MORAL Walker -) so that the same person shall be my maid & my house = mistress.

{on the top of the first page}
ever yours gratefully
F.N.
My dear Sir Harry

I should very much like to hear about Ld. Clarendon. Could you come in for 10 mins between 2 & 5 today? Or perhaps you are busy? -

If Emily is going to-morrow, I should be so very sorry not to see her that, if it were convenient to you, I hope she would come for 10 minutes before or After you -

Otherwise I would put seeing her off till another day -

Every thing in our work seems to come at once

ever yours gratefully

F.N.