Karpeles, Santa Barbara

USA2 Other American Archive Sources Part 2: mid-west, south, west; 694 pages

Yale shd go to USA1; where is ucsf nutting?
Ucsf to add, in web

University of Alabama at Birmingham, Reynolds Historical Library
Emory University, Pitts Theological Library
Duke University, 10 letters
National Library of Medicine, Washington, 4 letters
Library of Congress, 5 letters
Johns Hopkins University
University of North Carolina, 10 letters
Clendening History of Medicine Library, Kansas Univ Med Center
International Museum of Surgical Science, Chicago
Wayne State University Archives
University of Iowa
University of Illinois at Chicago, Midwest Nursing History Center, 9 letters
University of California, San Francisco, 14 letters
Brigham Young University, 3 letters
Gannatt Healthcare Group, 2 letters
University of Maryland, 2 letters
United Health Services, 2 letters
MUSC College of Nursing
Smithsonian Institution Libraries, 1 letter
University of Virginia, 1 letter
Texas Technical University, 1 letter
Karpeles Manuscript Library, Santa Barbara
UCLA
Hawaii Nurses’ Association

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

UIC letter 1 signed letter, 1f, pen

Scutari
Dec 16/55
Sir
May I request that you will have the kindness on arriving at Balaclava, to forward these two Government Nurses, each to her destination? Each bears a note to you, naming the Hospital to which she is bound.
With many apologies for the trouble which I am giving you
I remain Sir
yr obedt servant
Florence Nightingale

Madam
Your Majesty was
pleased to send me
(thro’ Sir James Clark)
a gracious message
regarding a paper of
mine, on the late
Lord Herbert’s reforms
in the Sanitary
administration of the
Army, whereby he
reduced the Death
rate among Your Majesty’s
troops at home by one half.

You, Madam, and He who is always present in your faithful subjects’ longing & grateful recollection, personally & directly originated these reforms, through the Royal Sanitary Commission which you were pleased to grant to my prayer at Balmoral in 1856.

Nothing but the memory of the interest which Your Majesty & His Royal Highness personally took in that matter could embolden me to approach you on this occasion.

The only man who is cognizant of all Lord Herbert’s plans for the welfare, moral as well as physical, of the men the only man who, I believe, can carry out the organizations necessary for the purpose is Lord de Grey. Lord Herbert himself earnestly desired him as his successor & repeated this to me again & again up to the last fortnight of his life. I feel it, as it were, a duty to communicate this to Your Majesty. Lord de Grey was served under Lord
Herbert during the greater part of his time of office. He has the administrative power. He has all the threads of Lord Herbert’s sanitary reforms, which would, in other hands, be snapped asunder.

On the knees of my heart I entreat Your Majesty’s pardon for the extraordinary step I have taken in applying to Her Majesty directly - a step to which Lord Palmerston’s consent to deliver my letter alone could warrant me -

Your Majesty is perhaps not unaware that, for five years, I worked daily, hourly, with Lord Herbert at his Army sanitary reforms. Indeed his last words in this world were, “Poor Florence - our unfinished work” -
In my conviction it is not a figure of speech - it is a literal matter of fact that it is a question of life & death to the men whether Lord de Grey is enabled, as Secretary of State for War, to carry out that work.

I write from my sick, I believe my dying bed - I am, in life & in death, Your Majesty’s humblest, most dutiful subject

Florence Nightingale

UIC, letter 3, 23 April, 1863 Bagshot Park, Surrey, from John Clark to FN congratulating FN on Lord de Grey’s appointment as Secretary of State for War

UIC, letter 4, (should precede letter 3) suggesting FN not send her letter about Lord de Grey’s appointment

UIC, letter 5 signed letter, 3ff, pen (black-edged)

Sir

I am afraid you will think my writing to you an impertinence in any case.

I am not sure that I should much diminish that impertinence by enclosing letters of introduction from “mutual” friends.

I prefer launching at once into my only real excuse for writing

Rt Honble

Gathorne Hardy MP
to you on the reform of Workhouse Infirmaries, which is: - that I have been in communication with the Poor Law Board for some time past on the subject - besides having had opportunities of discussing it with Mr. Villiers personally.

But my immediate reason for assaulting you at such short notice is the reading of Dr. Edward Smith’s Report. And I need scarcely say that, if I agreed with its practical proposals, I should probably be the only person who did.

He appears to be unacquainted with the centuries of consecutive experience which have led to the adoption of a certain minimum of space for the sick. And he rests his argument for returning to the Hospital construction of the Middle Ages on certain experiments of Dr. Angus Smith as to
the amount of carbonic acid
in sick wards, which
are not new - and which
moreover have little or
nothing to do with the
question at issue.
The proposal made by the
chief leading Medical
authorities in London
to Mr. Villiers to give
1000 cubic feet per bed
remains in no sense
invalidated by Dr.
Edward Smith’s Report.
Also: – Dr. E. Smith appears
not to have sufficiently
considered the fact
that, when extensive
alterations & additions
have to be made to
defective buildings, it
becomes really more
economical to build
anew - and thus to
introduce all the known
& established principles
of healthy construction
into the plans.
In as far as regards the
nursing & management
of sick in Workhouses,
I speak from a life’s
experience - & say that,
if any improvement
in this direction is to
be carried out, it must
be done under a separate
organization & management
from that of the Workhouse.
You may perhaps also be
aware that, at the
Liverpool Workhouse,
by the munificence of
Mr. William Rathbone, -
an experiment is being
tried of introducing
Trained Nurses &
training others in the
Infirmary. We, (i.e. the
Nightingale Training School)
supplied a Lady Superin-
tendent and twelve
head Nurses for the
purpose. [This has
been at work above a
year.] The Liverpool
Workhouse Governor is an
excellent officer - the
Committee in charge are
willing. But we have
had practical experience
already that, altho’ the
nursing has been a
success, the administration
has been far from
satisfactory - And
all sides, I believe,
consider that the best
thing to do would be
to separate the sick
administration altogether
from the Workhouse
administration.

One main object we had in trying this experiment was: to introduce Trained Nursing into the London Workhouses. But unless the administrative & structural improvements required are carried out, it will be absolutely useless to make the attempt.

The antecedents of all the London Workhouse authorities appear to be opposed to improvement -

35 South Street, Park Lane, and this London. W. difficulty can

only be overcome by beginning from the foundation -
Classification of Workhouse inmates -
separation of the sick - consolidation of sick wards into Hospitals with a separate administration - are absolutely necessary to success.

These opinions I have already expressed both to Mr. Villiers & Mr. Farnall. And, if I could venture to hope that you might
think me capable of rendering you even the slightest assistance in the great work on which you are about to enter, I need hardly say that I should esteem it a privilege to be called upon by you to do so, as far as my feeble health, (for I am entirely a prisoner to my room from illness,) will enable me -

I beg that you will believe me with great truth
Your very faithful servt
Florence Nightingale

Please address Sept 28/74
35 South St. 6 a.m.
Park Lane W.

My dear Sir
I have always heard with pleasure of you till this time when your severe accident fills me with sincere regret. I trust however that your recovery will be perfect.

I shall always remember your great kindness with gratitude: & the efficient labour you were so willing to undertake
for us.
I am sorry to say that I am quite unable at present to comply with your request for information. It is 18 years ago: all my Crimean War records are packed up in chests which have not been opened for years. And it seems to me 180 years ago: so far am I removed from that time by War Office business, India business, Nursing business – [N.B. In answer to your one question, I came up 3 times to the Crimea from Scutari in 1855 and ‘56]

I am & have been for years entirely a prisoner to my couch from ever increasing illness & at this moment I am in charge of my poor widowed mother away from home.

I am sure that your kindness will receive this excuse for not doing what you ask: (I who would so gladly do anything, however trifling, at your request:)

as well as for this brief note, written under pressure of business & illness –

But pray believe me, dear Sir, ever your faithful servt
Lt. Col: Baird R.E Florence Nightingale

10 South St
Park Lane. W.

March 6/11/80

My dear Sir

The consensus of the newspapers [10:157-65] about the “flourishing state of the Indian finances” is incomprehensible.

Therefore I venture to appeal to you.

What makes them “flourishing”? -Does it come out of the people’s stomachs?

What is the improvement due to?

Opium & cheese parings?

Last year the Government made a merit of submitting to your Motion for ‘retrenchment’ & economy.

‘See how we follow the

Henry Fawcett Esq M.P.
'popular voice: we go further even than it calls': they said.
See now what has been their retrenchment. They have cut down the Public Works: all that constitutes the welfare of the people who have no voice: ‘hit him hard he’s no friends’: doomed hundreds of thousands to semi- starvation from being turned out of work. And they have clapped on for the War expenditure - what? - something like 5 millions? - I refer to the figures in the ‘Times’ of Sir John Strachey’s Budget.

“The war expences in 1878-9 amounted to £676 000
in 1879-80 £3,216 000
in 1880-81 £2,090 000"
“After setting off the increased railway & telegraph revenue the total net war expenditure to the end of 1880-1 is estimated at £5,750 000"
“The Budget estimates for the coming year:
“The estimated expenditure includes excess of military charges £4,360 000, of which £2,690 000 is for military operations proper, & £2,270 000 for frontier railways.”
The interest is so keen in your coming discussion on the Budget that I venture to trouble you. I am not here dwelling upon the cutting down of useful rather essential Public Works expenditure: because all, all in India, from the Viceroy, Governors, Lt. Governors, down thro’ all the officials who know anything about the people, deplore it as lamentable. But I would gladly ask your permission to mention a few only of the type cheese-parings which come to the knowledge of an Indian drudge alone like me. And is it not impossible, in a country like India, to separate the social from the finance question for two reasons: 1. in England finance is governed by Parliamentary majorities, therefore, by social majorities: in India social questions do not govern the political or finance question in the least - simply because the enormous bulk of the millions, the agricultural millions have no voice:
2. but social questions are further let to take care of themselves in India, or rather they never rise to the dignity of questions - in England there is an immense social world of influence quite apart from the small political world of the Cabinet & Parliament. And this can more or less manage its own affairs, thank God. There is a vast world of mercantile, upper, & middle, & professional classes and the Press - and the public, who treat their social questions apart from the Political & Administrative machinery.

In India there is nothing of the kind. If the “social questions” are not treated by the Financial & Political authorities, they are not treated at all. There is no society to treat “social” questions. There is no world with a voice outside the infinitesimally small official despotic world. There is no free Press: (in any sense like the English Press:) there is no public.

In India, wholly unlike England, financial questions are at once kept wholly apart from social questions - & at the same time there are no social questions.
apart from financial ones: i.e. there are no social agencies apart from Political ones. yet Political agencies are wholly ungoverned by social interests. some will call this a paradox: & some a truism. But is it not true? In India there is, alike, no world to treat its social questions for itself: & no world to influence the treatment of social questions by the Political world: whereas in England the social world exercises both functions.

3 However, I can better explain, having no gifts for exposition, by instances: And - India being an agricultural country - my type=instances should be agricultural: In the sole Agricultural College & Model Farm (worth the name) in all India, & to which enterprising students come from very distant parts in other Presidencies - - come purely with the view of obtaining a professional knowledge of agriculture - not to recommend themselves to Govt employment, the bane of India - many such
students have spent in travelling, in classes, dress, board & lodging, ten times the sum that any could possibly earn in the shape of prizes or scholarships. But, referring to scholarships, Govt, in cutting down expenses (by order), have reduced the number of scholarships from 15 to 5 in a Division.

The result is: the saving of a few hundred rupees (under £100 a year) annually, and the removal of an encouragement which in England is afforded to all students under technical education, whether in the Science & Art Depts of Kensington, or elsewhere.

The expences of students at the Agricultural College in India in question from distant parts are great: & the 10 Rs a month that might be earned by gaining a scholarship did something to lessen that cost.

No promises of appointments either are held out to Students as is done in Engineering & Medical Colleges.

Now, if this were a Class for Astronomy instead of Agriculture, it would matter nothing.

Or if India were a rich country like England, it would matter nothing - Rich
people or Societies would put Students to the Agricultural College.

But it matters very much under the circumstances of India.

And that is why we cannot separate the social from the financial side: can we?

If you but knew the letters which reach me from India:

"the policy appears to be to put every possible hindrance in our way"

[And all for £100 a year!]

The Revenue Officials - this is what is believed - know well that when the agricultural population is better educated & trained, they will not be content as things now are: they will

demand new roads, Irrigation works, tree planting, drainage &c to be carried out with some of the £20 000 000 that is yearly drawn from Agriculture.

They prefer (this is what is believed) - ignorance to intelligence as a rule: the ignorant ryot gives no trouble, he submits to the village headman, better educated men would worry the English officials to have Irrigation works, or roads, or repairs, or new appliances &c.

It is so common to say: 'oh the ryots don’t care about
Irrigation: they won’t take the water if we give it.’

We give them no practical instruction: if we did they would call out for Irrigation most inconveniently loud to us. Please God they may yet! Just let them come to know what Mr. Caird tells us, viz. that Egyptian cotton, which is a ‘wet’ crop, is from 6 to 12 times the value of Indian cotton which is a ‘dry’ crop.

Lord Hartington’s allusion to Indian ‘public’ works in his Address of this morning warms my heart.

If this is electioneering, then may God bless electioneering!

But it is a proof that Englishmen will not long deny India justice, when such a topic can find place in an Address to constituents by the leader of the Opposition at a General Election.
To return to Agricultural Model Farms:

In Ireland a large number of Students are educated & boarded & lodged at the Agricultural Schools & Colleges almost entirely at the expense of the State.

But in India not only has the small encouragement we were able to afford to deserving students been greatly restricted: but the buildings, promised over & over again for carrying on the educational work have been again, for cost-reasons, left & not yet begun. Under such treatment can it be expected that the better class of natives will join an Institution?

Yet of what incalculable importance is it to encourage agricultural enterprise in India? of what incalculable importance that landlords’ estates should be centres & nuclei of improvement: examples to peasant proprietors!

It would not signify if these were classes for English poetry:

It signifies more, I believe, than anything you can conceive: & is more (justly) commented upon: that drawing 20 millions £ a year from the land (‘land revenue’), Govermt
does little or nothing for agriculture -
Is it any answer to say to this that finance
cannot deal with “social” questions? - Finance in
India is Agriculture: & Agriculture is the “Social
question”. Finance is the “Social question.”
A single show of our R. Agricl Socy here costs
more than Govt spend over all India in efforts
at Agricultural reform, - and in Gt Britain there
are hundreds of Agricl shows, local & country-
there being in England the “social” world, the public

    besides Govt, which there is not in India.
The allowance for the Kew gardens is larger than
the whole sum allowed for Agricultural shows,
farms, colleges, &c in British India.
    I wish Kew were India or India Kew.
    But the Govt says: India is poor: therefore she shall be poor. And from her that hath little shall be taken away even that which she hath.
    Yet I have known young men actually cross India to learn manures, rotation of crops &c at this one & much tried Agril College,
knowing that they can only learn these from European trained men. All the best men of its first class of trained students (the only class yet trained) have got employment at fair salaries. Unfortunately the natives of India are to the Govt of India, - in one sense, that of dependence, - a great deal too much like soldiers to Military authorities. And ‘retrenchment’ in India has been far too like a Commissariat retrenching its bakeries, - Reading rooms left intact & Ordnance & arms increased.

II. Here is another small project concerning a country only two & a half times the size of England, & of which the capital is the first town in the Empire after London - a project carefully matured & zealously advocated by its Govt. Its remarkable, tho’ not first object was: to make practical agricultural knowledge an essential not only for the Native Revenue & other Officers, but also for the village headmen & village Accountants in an Empire where almost all is agriculture. It is almost impossible to
calculate the reform which might gradually have been worked, could this scheme have been set a-going & thoroughly carried out. It comprised the opening of 6 High School classes in Agriculture: 3 of which were to be in that province which sent students to an Agricl College, exactly on the other side the Indian Empire: such is its thirst for knowledge in scientific agriculture, - the teachers of which, it knows, must have been trained in Europe. It comprised the taking of an University degree in scientific Agriculture after a 3 years’ course, including practical out-of-doors farming instruction. It comprised the taking of “School certificates” for proficiency in agriculture, after a 2 years’ course: & of “College certificates” after a further 2 years’ course. Land was provided for the ‘out-door curriculum’ for a vernacular class in the Middle Schools: - for each of the High School agricultural classes - - for the University degree course. Now it can scarcely be said that this bears any comparison
at all in its supreme importance (India being an agricultural country) with any other College in India’s world – not with Law – not with English literature – scarcely even with Medicine & Engineering. Let us live first: afterwards we will doctor & engineer ourselves.

Yet this scheme was disapproved by the Secretary of State; he objected to the cost which was considerably under £1000 a year for the whole Presidency, 2 ¼ times larger than England.

It was as if the whole trade & commerce of Gt. Britain had (unhappily) depended on Govt: – Govt drawing from it the bulk of its revenue – And as if Govt had refused a petty £1000 a year to give the first elements of progress in it, – for the livelihood of the poor, – for the instruction of the officials in whose hands is the livelihood of the poor,– & for the indication to those poor of the Methods by which they might make themselves rich – & to the few rich of the methods by which they might
profitably invest capital
& show enterprise in the
way in which we pretend
that we wish, of all others,
capital should be invested.
It is a **sine qua non** that
Village headmen & ‘Village
accountants’ in India
should have to “pass” in
Agriculture: it is a ‘reductio
ad absurdum’ that they
should not.
All this was **negatived**
for £1000 a year & under.
We are often told (& most
truly told) that we cannot
judge for India here.
But here was a scheme
carefully matured & zealously
urged by a Government in India,
& a Governor who is the man
of greatest (living) experience
now in India.
And we **negative** it at home
for the saving of a paltry
sum which there is many
a Society in England would
have been thankful to give:
& many a rich man in
England who would never
have missed.
Indians may indeed truly say:
‘we do not care for them -
And - not truly but naturally
- they infer, as said before,
that we **prefer** to keep
them ignorant & poor,
that they may not
give us trouble.
I have given only two instances of this horrible petty cheese-paring in order to appear to be following out the ‘Ho. of C.’ ‘cry for economy’ - while adding £5,000 000 to Military expende, Few know as you do, few labour as you do, knowing what that is for India - where the five millions £ have literally to be made up out of the ‘coarse grain’ of the poor - the daily food of the people. And the Govt of India is ostentatiously declaring, as if Sir John Strachey were a Cavour, or Lord Lytton a V. Emmanuel, that ‘India farà da se’.

Therefore I wish your discussion ‘God speed’ from the very bottom of my heart. But I have plunged into a subject of which there are whole branches in which only Anglo-Indians of great experience - the race is dying out - can instruct us.

One is the tendency of native India to pass the most admirable Examns in what they know nothing at all about. Another is: that Scientific Agriculture does not as yet exist in the Agricl Empire called India.
A third is: that neither do any landlords make their estates centres & examples of agricultural improvement - nor do we, the Govt, upon whom all depends, make the least effort to encourage them to do so. Rather we may say we prevent their doing so.

[It is well known that, in India, what the natives think the Govt does not care for, they will not care for themselves].

1. and 2. Scientific husbandry does not exist in India the science has not yet been solidly founded on experiment & induction: Axioms of agricultural science there are, supposed to be generally applicable: - such as men might learn & reproduce who never saw a field of tobacco, or Sugar-cane, or indigo, or rice, or cotton. [please remember what we know about the inferiority of Indian cotton.]

The basis of agricultural knowledge is laid in about two corners - literally corners - of an Empire nearly the size of Europe - & with 200 millions of people.

And meanwhile we are told on authority which cannot be successfully challenged that the soil of India is becoming more exhausted every year.
If courses of speculative agricultural instruction are opened, and Govt insists on the Tahsildars, Mamlutdars, & Revenue & other Officers frequenting these classes, & 'passing' in this science, any number will do so, & pass the most admirable Examns, & write papers in the most 'luxuriant phraseology'. And some good might thus be done by leading to a more intelligent local study & observation of the popular agriculture & to the dissemination of some ideas.

Govt does sanction: at least

it has just sanctioned & made compulsory an Agricultural Primer, a Sanitary Primer. And the latter is to be a subject in all Govt scholarship Examinns.

The result will be that both Schoolmaster & children will learn the Primer beautifully by rote: & neither the one nor the other have the least idea of applying either the one or the other to 'my Father's land' or 'my Father's house, water-supply, drainage &c.

Without the palpable exhibition of practical results
in local model & experimental farms - deliberately ascertaining the various methods of rotations, manures &c that can be profitably adopted - the new productions that can be usefully introduced, - the new or improved machines that can be economically employed, - the improvements practicable in the breeds of sheep & cattle, - the result will be next to nothing.

N.B. On a very small scale, of course, an outdoor curriculum was provided in the (£1000 a year) scheme which was negatived.

Show all these things on the ground - open shops & sales - institute shows & exhibitions And the result would be astounding.

You who are going to give us improved Water supply in London would/will think of water-supplies in India With regard to the Sanitary Primer, then, unless the Students can be taken to the ground, (as Dr. Acland does in Oxfordshire & Bucks with his students - as we do with our District Nurses in London) - unless they can be shown these things on the ground: ‘Look on this village & on that:’ this village has a stupid
headman: it is a model
of bad water, bad air,
dirt & dirt diseases:
that has a selected
headman: it is a
model of cleanliness,
good water, good air.
Cholera & Fever never
touch it.
And if the children of
headmen, the future
headmen, could in this
way be instructed, it
is not exaggerating to
say that it would be
the saving of millions,
for Hindoos are always
either under Fever or
the consequences of Fever
- just as Famine lasts

10
in the constitutions of the
living for years after the
dead have been counted.
3. You know by Mr. Ghose,
that Bengalee, who was
merely a paid agent of
the Zemindars, who
came to England to cry
up the Permanent Settlement
- & Meetings were got up
for him both in London
& Birmingham - & even
Mr. Bright spoke for him.
- & he, Ghose, made a
(or perhaps it was his dress)
a great impression here -
- [that is the misery in
England - our ignorance -
we think we are listening
to a representative of the
people of India — we are listening only to an attorney of the Zemindars]
- - - - but, - - - - you know, - by these Bengal Zemindars, & by the writings of the Poona Sarvajanik Sabha, (National Asson), which again pretends to represent the people — & merely represents the money-lenders, officials & a few effete Mahratta landlords — what a stir is being made in Bombay as well as Bengal to further ‘Permanent Settlements’ in favour of landlords. But when they write to me, I venture to answer back, & tell them that the estates of gentlemen-landlords ought to be centres & models of improvements, — examples to the peasant proprietors, — & that it should be their aim to prove that a peasant is better off as the tenant of an improving & intelligent landlord than as a proprietor who has to stand by himself.
You know it is just the contrary. The Poona S. Sabha, a very powerful Asson, urge upon our Govt that there are so few gentlemen-landlords in Western India — that most
of the land is held direct from Govt by the cultivators & that this is the reason of agricultural backwardness poverty &c
You know that the gentlemen-landlords do nothing for the soil or for improvement. All that is done is done by the tenant, cultivator, or peasant.

What the Poona S. Sabha urge is: a measure like the Permanent Settlement in Bengal, creating a landlord-class - handing over to them half existing rents & all future increments of rent: & making all the peasantry their tenants -

[“Set the example: show us the improving landlords”, I venture to say].
[I trust the House of Commons will never advocate/listen to this scheme -]

But what do the Govt do to inform, reform, inspire with knowledge & practice of agricultural improvements either landlord, peasant or Revenue official, native or European? They themselves say that we would rather they were ignorant.

And in the meantime
the soil is deteriorating
year by year –
And our remedy is: English
Law!!
The only fault in our
plans for India is that
we leave out the people.
The financial without
the social question is:
– India without the Indians.

I have written far more
than I ought.
But your questions are
so keenly interesting I venture
to say my say.
The Govt says that India
must bear the cost of
the War because
otherwise the Govt of
India would be “so
reckless in making
war”: it is much
nearer the truth to say
that ≠/England must
bear the cost of the War,
because England has
been “so reckless in
making” India’s war.

With many apologies,
pray believe me
my dear Sir
ever your faithful servt
Florence Nightingale
[end 10:165]
Henry Fawcett Esq MP
My dear Sir,

Thank you for your brief note about the letter of deplorable length, with which I troubled you, upon certain matters of Indian finance, just before the Elections.

I did not expect that you could attend to these matters then -

But the time for taking some steps about the Ryots appears to have come. The Zemindars Henry Fawcett Esq MP have sent an agent over to plead nominally the cause of the people of India: But this means of course of the Zemindars of India Bengal.

It is curious & strange how this man has the ear of what are called the Radicals here.

The alliance between Liberals & Zemindars must rest on the most wonderful misconception on our parts.

It is a question now: by what means we can best uphold the Rayats (Ryots) - is it not? Is not
their unrepresented & defenceless state is the question great point?

The glorious Spirit of the Liberal elections, in which the defeats may have been as great a success as the victories — principle versus beer — shews that England is again herself, twice herself.

Mr. Rathbone writes “It is sufficiently glorious for me to have been even among the slain in such a fight.”

This uprising of the English people for freedom & justice for themselves — & for freedom & right to be promoted by England throughout the world — is so solemn & the consequences so momentous, for Europe as for England, & for India too — that one asks: has there been any greater crisis since the Commonwealth?

We have Mr. Gladstone as a sort of Cromwell — mutatis mutandis: And can we foresee much more what the march of things will be than they could when they had got rid of the King?

12 years hence, shall you see the Restoration of a Charles? and then
Then look forward, not much more than twice that time ahead, to the ‘glorious Revolution’? Could but Milton & Lord Lawrence have looked forward! O that men, administrative men may rise to the height & width & fulness & greatness of this time! And we must never forget that, in no Ministry have Indian questions been so systematically ignored or shunted, as in Mr. Gladstone’s. Somebody prayed for only “one pulse’s beat” of omniscience

O θ/for “one pulse,’s beat,” (say I,) of Mr. Gladstone as Chancellor of the Exchequer for India! [und 3 times]

[If a verse of ‘God save the Queen’ could be given to India, it would make a/how great a difference in the national feeling for India.] Yet it is the logical consequence of Empress!

You will soon be immersed in business: might I pray - not that you will re-read my letter on some points of Indian finance, but that these
points may receive a far wider attention than I could possibly draw in a letter at your hands:
And if I might be commissioned to procure any information for you from India, I should be only too highly honoured - take it for what it is worth.
Pray believe me ever your faithful servt Florence Nightingale

In India must we ever forget that we cannot attain the people’s good without the people? This seems a paradox: but Indian finance is always attempting it: is it not? F.N. [end 10:167]

UIC letter 9 signed letter, 1f, pen

April 1, 1881
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.

Sir
I write scarcely to excuse myself for my long & most unwilling silence, for I am at least as much interested in the subject of Hospital Orderly Nursing as yourself, & more sorry to put off your kindly offered interview than you can be. Could you be so good as to fix some day about 5 o’clock that it would
be convenient to you to come & call upon me -
Or rather please give me the choice of two or three days -
I will not say more till I have had the valued opportunity of some conversation with you on the subject on which you wrote to me but that I am ever your faithful servt Florence Nightingale
1 Upper Harley St.
Sept. 20, 1853

Dear Mrs. James:

The half-guinea wards have been adopted, and to such an extent that we have now only two guinea patients, and soon shall have none perhaps, as an Institution always sinks to the lowest rate for which it is intended.

You will see by the papers what constitutes the "Necessary" for admission, viz: two letters of introduction, a certificate from a medical man, and a guarantee for payment. I enclose the forms of Application and of Guarantee. Nothing more is required. Though 6 out of 7 of our present cases are dying, it is not ostensibly the custom to take in cases, where no cure is expected - and the medical man is expected to certify that improvement, at least, may be hoped for.

All denominations of religion are received - the class, of course, which does come, is almost without exception, governesses.

We are thoroughly and completely busy and have five more patients coming in this week.

With many thanks for your kind note, believe, me, dear Mrs. James,

Very truly yours

F. Nightingale

Patients are only admitted for two months but the term may be pro-longed.
July 15/66
35, South Street [printed address]
Park Lane
London, W.
Private
Dearest Madame Schwabe
You treat me far [15:616-17] better than I deserve.
[All letters, not exactly business letters, I write necessarily in such haste that they must seem impatient.]
I think the enclosed will do-
I would rather have had it to look over quietly on Monday morning as Sunday is always rather a busy
day with me. But, as you wish to have it back to-day, I send it at once.
Indeed this is a frightful war.
My brother= in =law (Sir H. Verney) has left London & lives at Claydon tho’ he comes up for Ho: of Commons Committees-The change of Ministers, - tho’ it overworks us, the drudges-- releases the Ho: of Commons men.
I have not seen him for
a week. Some time. But if he is in town this (coming) week, I will give him your message. His address is always:--

Claydon Ho: Bucks

I was so very grateful to you for seeing the Hungarian. I know & am quite sure that you must be overworked. People, like you, always are. I did not send you the Hungarian, because I wanted to diminish my own work & add to yours, but because I thought (but I believe I was wrong) he might come within the scope of your exertions. [It was the fifth application of the kind I had had that day.]

Pray believe me ever yours

F. Nightingale

Will you give my love to dear Mme Mohl & tell her how sorry I am not to be able to see her yet?

Two things more: 1. I think you ought not to put my name at the top (more especially as I do not work) of your circular.
2. I think I should have explained that it was not the mere receiving of contributions that I was afraid of—but that nobody will go away without seeing or writing to me. During the thickest of my business hours, which indeed last all day, I often have messages every 10 minutes from people whom really I might just as well beg of as they of me—You would laugh if I could tell you—or rather cry—of some of my other petitioners.

A well dressed woman, professing to be in labour, comes & says she fears she shall be confined in my front hall, if I don’t arrange for her. (I do arrange for her (in a ward nursed by my own Nurses) And I afterwards find she does not go there

To me, besides the waste of time, is the waste of spirits. In my long sleepless nights, I can’t help thinking to myself: now, suppose that poor lying-in woman
or that poor creature (like the Hungarian) whom you, F. Nightingale, refused, is lost, body & soul, in consequence.

I trouble you with this, dear, kind Madame Schwabe, to explain my inability to do anything which necessitates publicity & giving my address. F.N. [end 15:617]

[in pencil] (F. Nightingale)

Signed letter Reynolds Historical Library, University of Alabama at Birmingham 5097 pen, black-edged stationery, 9085/24

Private
   Embley
   Romsey
   Hampshire
   Sept. 21/66 [15:619]

Dearest Madame Schwabe
   Five minutes only have I to say that Princess Louis of Hesse Darmstadt joyfully accepts your kind offer of the £50 odd for the Sick & Wounded. It should be sent to herself, for she, it appears, does these things herself. She has great powers of business & of self-denial & perhaps will dispense the money better than any one. She, thinking it is in England,
v

says it will reach her
directly & most safely
thro’ Buckingham Palace.
But I enclose a letter to her
by which if you send it
from where you are, it
may reach her direct—
But if it should, after all,
be easier to send it by
letter of exchange on London,
then please destroy my
letter enclosed—& send
the money to me. And I
will still send it thro’
Buckingham Palace to her.
Of course, the danger is that
it may fall into the
hands of some official,
& not reach her own, if
not sent by the Queen’s bag.
You will know best which to
do.

I believe the money is a perfect
Godsend to her. For her
charities are quite drained.
I doubt whether either the
Queen or Prince Louis know
their extent.

43 of my old friends, the
Deaconesses of Kaiserswerth
on the Rhine, (near
Düsseldorf) served in the
War Hospitals at Sadowa
& near Königgratz. I wish
you had time to go & see
Kaiserswerth & my old
mistress, Pastor Fliedner’s
widow.

Pray believe me
dearest Madame Schwabe
ever yours
Florence Nightingale
Private Oct 29/88

Copy

"In my opinion Mr. Hewlett ought to write a short reply to each of the attacks made on him in the several paragraphs of the Memo:, and either endeavour to see Lord Cross or else see Sir James Peile (probably privately should be best in the first instance). Should also forward the reply to Lord Reay. The Reply should be printed.

I agree with you that
Mr. Hewlett’s work is admirable, and his description of the Guzerat village capital for us who do not know India --but I can well imagine that every point of his report is attacked because he spoke disparagingly of the "young Civilian" who criticizes Sanitary Comms’ reports. That seems to have been the gravamen of his offence.

D. Galton

P.S. Most unfortunately Mr Hewlett’s letter about General Post Office has been left at Himbleton with other Indian Sanitary papers. I intended to have brought them up last Saturday: but they were forgotten to be packed.

D.G. [in pencil] Sir D.G. inclines to think that Mr. Hewlett should not only print his reply but send it to "all concerned," & to each of the "Commissioners"—but
that he should beware if "making it" (his reply) "sharp."

Hand copy Reynolds Historical Library, University of Alabama at Birmingham 5064 pen

Copy Miss Nightingale to Mr. Whitfield, copy 9085/30

June 8/67

35 South Street
Park Lane
London W.

Dear Mr. Whitfield

I feel like a criminal for not having answered your note before about your nephew, Mr. Hewlett’s truly magnificent work as Health Officer of Bombay. It is most instructive, full & graphic. The illustrations are a great addition, as it is always well to speak to people through their eyes. It is much better & more full of information than the Report of Officers of Health in England usually are—as to what is to be done as well as what is to be observed. It is very good on the subjects to which it is especially devoted.
devoted, namely nuisances resulting from
bad management & want of sanitary
works. [end 9:568]

I do not allude to the Appendix I
Trades--simply because it is a matter on
which, of course, I am no judge. But it
forms a most important addition to the
Sanitary Report.

If you see your way to making [9:568-69]
the suggestions I should add--not as if it
were a want in the Report, because, of course,
as Health Officer he has reported completely,
but as a suggestion as to how it should be
followed up immediately -- before we
can know really what Bombay & other
Indian cities require, we must have
Engineering reports showing all the existing
Engineering defects & the plans of water
supply, sewerage, house drainage, & surface
paving, improved streets &c &c necessary
to make the cities what they should be.
We have sent minutes to this effect over
& over again--not that European Health
reports embody the Engineering points one
bit more than Indian Health Reports do
but that Sidney Herbert established a new

principle in our Reportings which, had he
lived, he certainly would have extended
to India. He said: A report must
have unity-He insisted upon the evils
to be pointed out, the Engineering remedies
to be proposed,--the constructive "
arrangements to be carried out--always
appearing in the same Report.

Otherwise a Sanitary Report is only
a report to somebody else--that somebody
else is to examine into & report what are
the essential improvements necessary.

I fear too there is a disposition in
India not to take the advice of those
whom she has herself constituted as her
advisers. e.g. a Health Officer, or
Sanitary Commissioner ought to be the
responsible advisers, if constituted the
adviser. Instead of that, they send
the foolscap round India to see how
many heads it will fit--of course it
fits a good many--& then they decide
by the majority (of fools heads)-
Also: I think there is a tendency "to "make the best of things" (not in Mr. Hewlett) "to make things easy & pleasant" &c &c &c when I see people "making the best of things" then I know that somebody is to pay for it somewhere.

Sir Bartle Frere has arrived in England & I hope he will introduce something better into our India Council here. [end 9:569]

You cannot praise your nephews work too highly--I wish I could send him something as full of good as he has sent me I have never thanked you for your long & valuable letters on the Sydney Infirmary which formed the basis of my letter to the Bd of Directors.

I send you a printed paper which the Colonial Secretary sent me on the Infirmary. It is to be hoped such a state of things is over--It is curious how like abuses are in all countries.

I send it only for your information as it does not appear that it reports evils now in existence. Perhaps you will return it to me at your leisure. I hope that you may be able to go to Liverpool to inspect the Workhouse Infirmary.

Ever yours faithfully
Florence Nightingale
Dear Sir,

I have to thank you very much for your kindness in sending me your Report on the Prevention of Cholera.

I had also received a copy with the Municipal Commissioner’s letter prefixed to it, from the India Office.

Let me also thank you very much for your kind letter.

You will perhaps be glad to hear any little hints I can collect from Europe on the sides on the subject of your pamphlet.

The best scientific opinion in Europe rather tends now to consider that on which the prevention of Cholera is here based as a groundless theory.

And we have nothing to do with theories.

The system of disposing of house sewage which you mention is essentially the same as has been tried for 30 years at an enormous cost in Paris--& which the Emperor is now putting an end to by having Paris drained.
In a Report on Madras drainage, by Capt. Tulloch, R.E., which he has just brought to England, he shews that the dry system costs more than ten times as much as much as the sewer system.

But it is not only the cost which is fatal to the dry earth system in towns. Is it not the fact that it is impossible to carry it out with the same safety to health as the sewer system?

I know of at least one large Institution where an outbreak of Cholera was distinctly traced to this.

It is always interesting to know what has been said on both sides. In the Madras report, the Medical Officer recommends the adoption of the dry system & gives an estimate. The Engineers shows that it will be ten times as much. Doubtless I am not telling you anything new-- Doubtless you know all that can be said much better than I do-- All the Paris sewage is now to be taken away in pipes & applied to agriculture. The Dutch method removes only about a two hundredth part of the sewage of a town.
As to value, the latest estimate is just published in the "Rivers Commission" Report & shews that sewer water gives actual produce equal to £100 per acre.

Would it not be at once concentrating & intensifying the energies of each side & preventing waste of power if, as a general rule, the Officer of Health deals with pointing out causes of diseases; the Engineer deals with removal of those causes & estimate of cost? And tho’ the one Report should never be made without being accompanied or closely followed by the other--yet it would save much time & energy if neither were confused with the other.

We have grievously erred in this respect in England--And often I have observed (especially since Sidney Herbert’s death) that the Engineering Officer has usurped the Medical Officer’s functions and vice versa--It is probably most easy to avoid this when the two go together--

I hope to send you shortly some Reports which our Government officers are about to issue on the subjects on which you
write so ably.
   And therefore I will not write at greater length
   Pray believe me ever your faithful serv:
     Florence Nightingale
If I can get you anything worth your notice to send by this mail,
I will not re-open this letter but you will know that it comes with my kind regards.
   F.N.

Signed letter Reynolds Historical Library, University of Alabama at Birmingham 5066, pen, black-edged stationery, 9086/5

   Oct 2/68
   Private
Dear Sir
   I cannot tell you how sorry I was to hear some weeks ago from Sir B. Frere that you were obliged to come home on sick leave, owing to your too great exertions-And your own account confirms it.
   On the subject of your letter I can could say nothing till I have communicated with Sir B. Frere-But I immediately, on receiving yours, made a private enquiry merely to ascertain "how the land lies."
   I trust that you will
understand, first of all, how much every one here admires the exertions of so earnest & so good an officer—and if any one says a single word in opposition to your views, it is never but for one reason: that things appear to be taking the course which I am going to try to indicate.

The Indian practice, which you have been so nobly & successfully following at, Bombay—of being Executive officer is the very natural sequence from the state of things with which the Health Officer has to contend.

It is a very difficult thing for a man who knows what ought to be done to stand by & see it not done, especially when he knows that this neglect will endanger health & life—

The whole question of the duties of Officer of Health was considered fully as far back as 1844 in this country. There were two views in regard to it:—one that he should simply supply advice and be a check on the Inspectors in their duties—the other, which was
actually embodied in a Bill, was: that he should be both Officer of Health & Nuisance Inspector. After careful discussion, it was decided that the Offices should be separated. This separation has worked very well in England.

As regards India, any arrangement must still be considered as tentative.

If the Sanitary work cannot be done unless the precious time, as well as the health, of the Medical Officer has to be devoted to it,

Oct 5/68 2 there is no help but for the Officer of Health to be head of the executive Department. But there are so many duties which the Officer of Health has to do, apart from mere executive duties, that, if the time has arrived for separating the Offices, so that there may be an efficient head over all persons engaged in sanitary work, which the Health Officer
is left to his special & arduous duties, & acts as a check on the Executive Officer, it will doubtless be an advantage.

This is the question now to be decided. You find the matter discussed in the "Suggestions" of the "Army Sanitary Commission." They appear to have arrived at the conviction that the Sanitary Medical Officer had a class of duties quite distinct from the Inspector of Nuisances (which in England, are of an executive character.)

I will write again—I must apologize for this short & interrupted note—

I have an inflammation in one eye—an extremely unlucky thing for me, who had scarcely any thing but my eyes left.

I trust to hear of your entire restoration to health—which you have so ably employed & wishing you the ultimate accomplishment of your best wishes, the triumph of the Sanitary cause, I beg that you will believe me dear Sir ever your faithful servt.

Florence Nightingale
Gilham Hewlett Esq MD
Dear Sir,

Since I wrote to you, I have had communication both with Sir Bartle Frere & with Dr. Sutherland. Dr. Sutherland informed me of what had passed between you & him as to the question of the administrative position of the Medical Officer of Heath in India—& that he had agreed to address a paper to Sir Bartle Frere on the subject. As I feel very strongly that this ought to be done—that the whole question is likely now to be raised, perhaps to be included in a Scheme—& that it would be very important to have your views as soon as possible on the point, because your great activity, your knowledge & experience & ability in Indian practice would ensure your views a hearing, I venture to write to say this—and to remind you that, the sooner you can write such a statement of them, the better for the decision of the question.

Pray believe me ever your faithful servt=

Florence Nightingale
Gilham Hewlett Esq MD &c &c
W. Dear Sir
I beg to thank you very much for your interesting pamphlet—but I only write one line now to acknowledge it. It shall be carefully studied and probably you will be asked to elucidate some points.

Have you seen a

Blue Book, just issued by the India Office:
"Memorandum on Sanitary Improvements up to the end of 1867"—If not, shall I send you a copy?

Pray believe me ever your faithful servt:
Florence Nightingale
Dear Sir,

First of all, let me say that I have mentioned the subject on which you are so justly indignant, (viz. the omission from the Blue Book ("Memorandum") of all mention of the energetic & successful Sanitary works at Bombay of the "Municipal Officers" at the India Office.

This omission arose, as I dare say you know, in the following manner: the Municipal Reports were actually pointed out to the compilers of the Blue Book--It was shewn them that they emanated from the Government press--But, because unfortunately they had not been sent officially by the Government, they would not be inserted. I believe we are quite safe in saying that this omission shall be fully & satisfactorily repaired in next year’s Blue Book and an Abstract of the Municipal Report.
given from the first.
I feel sure that Sir Bartle Frere shares your feeling,
as indeed I do.
I have seen your very able answers to Dr Sutherland’s queries relative to your printed statement about the position of Officers of Health for India.
The whole question will now be discussed with a sincere intention of coming to some decision, some practical organization, some Executive in short. [end 10:50]

ever your faithful servt=

Florence Nightingale

Initialed note Reynolds Historical Library, University of Alabama at Birmingham 5098, pencil

35 South Street, July 23/70
Park Lane, [printed address]

W.
My deepest sympathy my most anxious heart is with you-
I enclose the £5 & shall have more at your disposal
F.N.

Signed letter Reynolds Historical Library, University of Alabama at Birmingham 5099, pen

Aug 28/70 [15:684-86]

Private

collecting for the Socy, without being able always to agree with its methods of distribution I feel how hard it is for you-And that is I think our people are quite convinced that what they do is "only a drop in the ocean."
My dear Mrs. Schwabe

I do most truly feel with you. The sufferings of the Wounded are insupportably ghastly & hideous. To me who have seen the thing in all its ghastly reality on a small scale tho’ we called it a colossal calamity at the time, to think of it now multiplied in all its horrors on a scale which could never have been calculated upon, I assure you that it haunts me day & night. I feel as if I must set off to do what I can at this front. I think of nothing else.

But what use is it offering to God one thing when He asks of us another? That is what I say to myself.

I will not waste a post tho’ much harried by business, in answering your question, as you are so good as to think my opinion of any service.

I do not think the Gentleman’s Committee or any Gentlemen’s Committee could or ought to accept the offer which you are generous enough to think of making.

And, speaking for myself, I never would make an offer which would be thought inadmissible, because it lessens one’s influence for good. Take myself-suppose me in perfect health— I am of a very proper age to do what you propose doing. I have a kind of experience in Wounded, & in battle fields & in supplying the needs of the War Hospitals of three large Armies that no other woman can have had. I am not in the least afraid of anything but doing what is foolish. Yet I would not, speaking for myself, make such a proposal, because I am quite sure no Committee would accede to it. And one should never make a proposal of which there is not a reasonable prospect of its meeting with the concurrence of reasonable men.

In this, I am sure, dearest Mme Schwabe, you
will agree with me. Besides, as you are aware, the Aid Socy have received frequent petitions (from abroad): Send us Surgeons-men in charge of things—don’t send us ladies.

I make no apology. Because I know I may take you at your word. You ask me frankly to say what I think. And if I frankly say what I think, I know I am doing what you kindly wish. Next: I quite understand & feel with you how wearing it is to think that people are not doing enough or not doing it quickly enough or not in the right way, when one feels that one’s own information is so much better. I think that the Aid Socy has been dilatory, has been inefficient. But I think it is improving every day & that a great deal of good work is doing now, which, in some individual parts might be better done by individuals, no doubt—but which on the whole could not be done except by a
National Society recognized as part of an European Convention.
No one has suffered more than myself, throughout my whole life, from having to work with Government Offices, Committees, Commissions &c &c
But one cannot have two contradictions. If you distribute by a few individuals, you must collect in the names of those individuals.
Certainly only a National Committee could have collected so much money & matériel. All the local Committees of the large towns choose, you see, to work through it.
But, if we have such a National Committee to collect money, we must defer to its methods of spending & distributing it.
I myself think it might have been quicker, I myself have had deluges of applications from French & German War Hospitals, pressing for immediate help. I may have thought it would have been better to grant some of these at once. But we must, if we choose a head (& fountain spring,) leave much to its decisions, even when we don’t agree with them.
Dear Mrs. Schwabe, how I wish I could soothe & comfort you. I thoroughly understand what you feel. I feel it too. But I am sure it is better to work in. [end 15:686]

Signed letter Reynolds Historical Library, University of Alabama at Birmingham 5101, pen, copy 9086/32 9086/32

Sept 29/70 [15:718-19]
Madam [Mrs. Russell Gurney]
I believe I must trouble you tho’ I am a stranger to you, with the enclosed note from Mrs Paget
46 Euston Square
who desires to join your Committee for raising a Fund for the Widows & Orphans (French & German,) in this War.
I received a similar offer from Lady Mayne
80 Chester Square
which I forwarded to Mrs. Salis Schwabe.
Mrs. Russell Gurney
Having received no answer from Mrs. Schwabe, I conclude that she may be gone to Germany. Lady Mayne offered to collect contributions at all events & to join our Committee, if desired. I have answered both Lady Mayne & Mrs. Paget (in the same sense) that we shall be most thankful for contributions— that I am unfortunately unable, for pressing business & from illness, to take any part in your Ladies’ Committee— but that I have referred Mrs. Paget’s letter to you— Lady Mayne’s to Mrs. Salis Schwabe. You might perhaps think it well to communicate with both these Ladies direct. Trusting that you will excuse my writing to you at all & will forgive a hurried note written under great pressure, pray believe me, [end 15:719] 
Madam, ever your faithful servt=
Florence Nightingale
Private

Oct 13/70

My dear Mme Schwabe

I am sure that you will excuse my having kept your letters, which I now re inclose, so long. For the fact is, I am, like you, so busy I have not scarcely the time to go through anything, which does not require an immediate answer.

I have however read them attentively—And I need hardly say how extremely sorry I feel for your griefs & sorrows. I will not enter into details, both because it only renews your sorrow &

v

because it only seems now of no immediate avail.

What, I think, was very hard was, as you say, their telling you that you had better employ yourself the money you had collected yourself, when you had just given all you had collected to them. Col: Lindsay, I am sure, acknowledges this & in his letter therein inclosed, I think means to imply it distinctly. I think that they should have returned to you, (if they haved not done so already,) such sums as you desired & as you have certainly
collected yourself for you
to apply yourself— & that
you should collect in future
not for them but for your
immediate objects
If you like it, tho’ I am sure
that you have more influence
with them than I have,
I will tell them so—
[At the same time, it is not
the course I mean to pursue.
I, tho’ far from satisfied
with their organization,
collect for them & work
for them as usual &
carefully avoid anything
that will discredit them
tho’ I think perhaps I have
felt their shortcomings
even more than you have.

But I believe that, on the
whole, to try & work up
a great organization like
this "Aid Society" for this
awful war & any future War, is: the best
plan for individual
workers.
I have no reason to believe
that the faults committed
by the Berlin & Paris
Central Societies have
been less, perhaps more.]
I am sure with you that you are too
magnanimous, (in view of
ultimate good to be done,
to discredit the Society
with your "friends of Manchester
& Liverpool.")
I think the main error of the "Society" has been that no body of any authority or savoir faire appears to have been sent out on the German side until Capt Brackenbury went. But this person could hardly have been a woman. And even, had I been in perfect health, with all my experience, tho’ I should certainly have gone out myself as a Hospital or Ambulance Matron—I should not have expected the Society to appoint me as a Travelling agent of distribution. I hope I have said enough to shew you, dearest Madame Schwabe, how truly & deeply I sympathize with you—And I fear it is no use my saying more since I cannot remedy what is past. God bless you I am writing before it is light in the morning—& beg you to excuse a harried note which does not say half I wish to say. [end 15:726]

from yours ever
Florence Nightingale
My dear Mrs. Schwabe

I enclose a note from the
Revd. George Thomas Clare
offering to pay the proceeds of a "Concert"—for the
widows & orphans—into my hands by P.O. order.
And I enclose my answer, (exhorting him to
pay the amount into yours—) which, if you
approve, please be so kind as to close & post at once.
Perhaps you would enclose him a Circular—or
one of your Post Cards.
And if you would kindly send me some more
of your Circulars or Post Cards, I could dispose of them.  

in great haste
ever yours
Florence Nightingale
Oct 21/70

My dear Madame Schwabe

I hope that you know
from my former letters
how truly I enter into
your troubles
I have now done what I can
to carry out your present
demand with what
success I do not myself
yet know—tho’ with much pains

yours ever truly
Florence Nightingale
28/10/70
Private

Nov 7/70 [15:736-37]
7 a.m.

My dear Mme Schwabe

1. I return your two letters (to Col. Lindsay & to Sir H. V.). I am grieved to say (what I fear will grieve you) that it is simply impossible - there are no degrees in the impossible for me to undertake to do for any one what you therein propose (which I have scratched out in red) & that it would simply defeat your purposes for me to pretend to do so.

I could not undertake even to read any applications which should be thus sent me - much less to urge them on the Committee.

Oh dearest Mme Schwabe, how could you give me the pain of refusing you?

I thought you knew my circumstances - I thought you knew that I am overdone with work - in 17 years I have had 2 weeks holiday - & with illness - that I have all my own work to do in addition to the War work that I have an enormous correspondence with all the Seats of War that the Aid Society gives me no "aid."
Also: I fancied you were aware that I hardly ever join a Committee - when I do, it is only on condition that I do not have their work put upon me & that they do not even give my address-

But to undertake what you, dear Mrs Schwabe, now propose is what I would not undertake, with all my business, if I were as strong as I was 16 years ago-

And it would be simply deceiving you not to make this quite plain.

2. Miss Rumpff
I return her letter-
I have 40 or 50 closely written pages from her, up to a later date than this-lying before me- I have last week obtained £50 for her from the "Socy" (the first & only thing I have ever obtained from them) to be paid her in French gold. [She has had previously £35]. M v. Normann wrote to the Socy= that the Crown Princess took charge of all her expenses- This has not been done.

The "Socy" have given the Prussian Hospitals before Paris £20,000- And of this £20,000 little or nothing seems to have reached the Hospitals- For this the Prussians are to blame & not the English.

I am trying however whether anything can be done to secure the proper & immediate application of this £20,000- I wish Miss Rumpff’s letters were less contradictory.

Miss Rumpff expressly declined all "remuneration" from the Socy, in a letter I have now before me, of the same date as yours- She offered to go to Versailles U pressed the Crown Princess to send her M v Normann telling us that the C. Pr. undertook all expenses.

3. Of course I do not & cannot judge about the rest of your 2 letters to Sir H.V. & Col. L. (but only about what concerns myself)

But I can assure you, dearest Mrs Schwabe, that they do not think that you wanted "to give this money in your own name" that they thought, as I thought, that "a few hundreds," "returned to you," so that you might give it where it was most wanted in your opinion, without waiting for what has so much distressed you in the "society’s" doing-was the desirable & desired, thing.

They may have misexpressed themselves. You may have misunderstood them. But this, I am sure, was what Sir Harry understood-& what I said to him.
v
4. I think I understood you to say that it was not only of no use but undesirable to send round the "Widows & Orphans" cards now.
   I am of that opinion.
   Are you not so still?
If you are urging the "Starving Peasantry" (which certainly is the most pressing want now,) would it not be better either to print a new card or in some way to urge—not the "Widows & Orphans" at present but the starving & homeless?
   It is impossible for me to send round one card & urge another.

5. I have been interrupted at least 5 times while writing this
   Nevertheless I will let it go—
   I will look over the rest of your letter another time, & answer you, dearest Mme= Schwabe, as well as I can—

[end 15:737]
yours ever (but so pressed) F.N.

Initialed letter Reynolds Historical Library, University of Alabama at Birmingham 5108 pencil 9086/38

Nov 17/70 [15:741]
My dearest Mrs Schwabe
   I return your letter (with many thanks) which I very much "approve."
   Sir Harry Verney is gone this morning to an Education Meeting at Aylesbury & I scarcely expect him back till Monday or Tuesday (which I mention that you may not expect him "to night")
   I have forwarded him your letter.—
   The pressure from Orleans, Blois, Amiens &c is immense just now— The private letters
v
I receive are urgent—the
needs overpowering—
I can scarcely suppose the Socy
will do anything for "Wiesbaden."
[But of this I know nothing.]
The Bingen Hospital was a
ridiculous failure & an
extravagant expense. The
Patients treated must have
cost about £200 a piece
We have sent upwards of
£88,000 in money & goods
since Sept. 1 to German War Hospitals
alone—The great need is now
where the new battles are & will be
in great haste [end]
ever yours
F.N.

Signed letter Reynolds Historical Library, University of Alabama at
Birmingham 5109, 9086/41 pen

35 South Street, Dec 27/70 [15:754-55]
   Park Lane, [printed address]
   W.

My dearest Mrs. Schwabe
   I ought long since to have
   returned you the enclosed—
   It answered its purpose
   I am sure you were a very
   kind friend to her not to
   publish the scrap you have
   sent me (with the rest).
   I believe we have succeeded
   in sending her another £30
   from the "Society" - Of her
devoting every penny & herself
too to the Patients there is
no doubt. But she seems
to have the most irrepressible
spirit of intrigue & meddling:-
& she is not clever enough
to know that of course men
are influenced by it only
once & the second time
they see that it is she & not
the persons she intrigues
against whom they have
to avoid. E.g. she wrote
to our Agent (at Versailles,)-
denouncing, tho’ not by name,
the very person who got her
in to the Lycée—for having
received the goods she offered. Of course, the Agent

shewed the letter to the person
concerned. [The writer does
not know this.] But of course
she is not now trusted by
either. She has played the
same double game, without
the cleverness to carry it out,
about the Johanniter-
This is the worst I know
against her- & this I did
not know till lately- [I
have never seen her.]
How miserable it is that, in
these overwhelming crushing
calamities, which one
would think, would at least
 crush out all jealousies, all
conceit, all meanness, we
should not be able to work
all as one!
I should have written to wish you Christmas’ best blessings & so I do wish you them with all my heart & soul—
But this Old Year is so sad & dreary & bloody & wicked.

People tell me to be thankful that we are “not in it.” And so I am truly thankful that our country is not in it—but that I am “not in it” is the greatest regret of my life. My whole head & heart & hands are panting to be with those wretched sufferers of the Loire. And I wake every hour of the night fancying I am with them.

I continue to have the most terrible letters from both sides in France—But we will not talk about this—you have, no doubt, more I am glad that you have had that one great pleasure of your son’s marriage.
I am sorry that you have not heard from Sir Harry Verney & that he was not able to answer your kind invitation But I must just explain
that he was not in London at the time & that he has only slept in London one night in each of two weeks during this month since- having been very busy in the country. [He was in that dreadful Harrow accident to the Express Mail train on the Saturday before your party. And, tho’ not much hurt, we wish that he would have been quieter since. but the very night of your party he was at an Education Meeting at Buckingham.]

If you could kindly send me more of the "War Victims" Fund Society papers, I could make use of them. I have given away all I had- & I hope have secured some good contributions. [Mr. Bullock is gone to the villages round Paris- a vast congregation of misery.]

In haste, believe me, ever dearest Mme Schwabe, yours
F. Nightingale
Let me not forget to thank you

for sending me that enclosure from a good clergyman, Clare, (some verses.) I do dislike those things in general very much. But this I consider a real boon. It is true feeling towards God & man, to whomsoever addressed. Thank you for sending it me, dear friend.

F.N.
35 South Street, Dec. 28/70 [15:756]
Park Lane, [printed address]
W.
My dearest Mrs. Schwabe
I have the pleasure of sending you
£22.8.2
for the Widows & Orphans Fund
(being the proceeds of a Concert)
from the Revd= John Denman
Rector of Newmarket.
[This, it is desired, should be for
the Widows & Orphans. There
are other sums coming for the
"War Victims’ Fund."]
Would you have the goodness to
send me a proper receipt;
specifying from whom & for

v
what purpose it comes?
ever yours
Florence Nightingale
The Rector of Newmarket, whose
congregation has already sent
large contributions for the
Sick & Wounded Soldiers,
wrote to me to ask if our
"Widows’ & Orphans’ Fund"
Committee was dissolved.
I answered, informing him
of the state of the case.
His congregation still wish
that the "Widows & Orphans"
should have the £22.8.2
enclosed [end]
F.N.
My dear Mrs. Schwabe
   I have the pleasure of
 sending you
   for the "War Victims’ Fund"
   £26.12.7
   (from collection in "St. Mary’s Church")
from the Revd= John Denman
Rector of Newmarket
also:
for the "War Victims’ Fund"
   £8.7.6
   (from collection at the
Congregational Church in Newmarket)
[would the War Victims’ Fund Society
distinctly specify this in
   their receipt?]
transmitted by the same Revd. John Denman

Would you kindly obtain
from the "War Victims’ Fund"
Society acknowledgments of
these sums for me to
transmit to Mr. Denman,
who has been even more
active & benevolent than
the rest in active & benevolent
England in collecting &
sending contributions to
nearly all the Funds
raised to help the sufferers,
(soldiers, peasants, widows,)
in this atrocious War, for
the horrors of which a new
word must be invented-
for surely no word we have
can come near to them, to the
sorrow & agony which now
extend to millions-
If it will save you trouble to
send my Messenger with the
money to the War Victims’ Socy,
pray do so-
I should be glad of some
more of their papers for
distribution
   Ever believe me yours
   Florence Nightingale
Dec 28/70

Undated partial letter Reynolds Historical Library, University of Alabama at
Birmingham 5096, pen, black-edged stationery [c1870]
Wellcome 9085/23

well have asked Sidney
Herbert, dying at the
War Office, (as he did)—
to receive bundles in
his room during business
at the War Office.]

My whole time & more
than my whole strength
is engaged—I have
neither strength to eat,
nor to sleep—And I have
no one to help me.
I am consulted by all both
sides as to their Army
Hospital arrangements.
And I always reply
with my whole mind.
They perfectly understand that I am at their command now & henceforth. More than this I can’t do. And I don’t think I should be called on to act otherwise. [The Italian Volunteer Committee cruelly published a private letter of mine, (written at their own request,) with my address - And since that time I have been baited & badgered by beggars from all parts of Europe to an extent which would be considered incredible]

And I have no one to protect me. 
in haste 
ever yours
F. Nightingale
I am obliged to say: this letter is "Private"-
For I have been so ill used-

Signed note, poss part of letter Reynolds Historical Library, University of Alabama at Birmingham 5112 pen, black-edged stationery

Madame Caroline Werckner
No. 15 Neue Schweidnitzer Strasse
Breslau (Silesia)
is the address-
sent by Mrs Schwabe’s kind request-
with F. Nightingale’s love
14/1/71
I meant to have sent you several messages for Mrs. Schwabe—when I have left off yesterday—But it seems scarcely worth while—One need not bother her about the past.

One was: that I was unable to obtain any grant from the St. Martin’s Place people for Dr. Laseron. And I did not know the reason till now—It was that an “insurmountable obstacle” (which was, I believe, Mme. Gallenga’s incomparably foolish letter in the “Times,” but do not know) had arisen—If Mme G.’s invidious comparison had been true, and I can attest from my own personal knowledge it was not, so much the more flagrant an indiscretion putting it in the newspapers [“Save me from my “friends.””] However, if Mme Gallenga’s letter got money for Dr. Laseron in other ways, I for one shall say that folly was right—tho’ it prevent him from having money in one way—

Never in my life did I do or try to do anything for these good ladies but something, some letter they had written, something they had put in the newspapers, appeared the next morning to undo all I had tried to do at their request. But this is unsavoury writing about. I will stop.

I hear from Paris a very unsavoury account too of the charity of orthodox Protestants, the Mallet set & Cie= England subscribed very largely to them, (both thro’ the “Société Evangélique Française” in London & also by large grants from our more national Societies).

kept all these grants for themselves &

It appears that they^ would not help the unorthodox French protestants at all—neither then in their Ambulances nor now with their Paris “pauvres honteux” — And the unorthodox French protestants have issued a separate appeal now to us—& to the “British & Foreign Unitarian Association” (whatever that may be) — for their “pauvres honteux.” It makes one sick & disgusted to hear all this. F.N.
Widows & Orphans

I think you may like to see the enclosed letter from Madame Werckner, of Breslau.
Please return it to me-
I know not whether the (your) "Widows’ & Orphans’ Fund" makes grants now-or whether it is reserving its forces.
If it does make grants possibly you may think that a small grant to the unfortunate "Widows & Orphans" in Silesia, whom Madame Werckner speaks of, may be well bestowed thro’ her (3000 Breslau Widows and 5000 Breslau Orphans)
In case grants are being made by your Committee, I enclose also a letter from a French ‘Sister of Charity’ at Sheffield.
[I know nothing whatever about her or of their Sheffield Institution, tho’ much of M. Etienne.]
Please return me her letter—
ever, dear Mrs. Schwabe,
yours (in haste)
F. Nightingale [may be contd with note]

Signed letter Reynolds Historical Library, University of Alabama at Birmingham 5113 pen, black-edged stationery

Jan 23/71

My dear Mrs. Schwabe
"30 to 40 lbs of English lint" will come at once to your house (from St. Martin’s Place), for the purpose you wish, viz the Hülfsverein Baracken at Berlin. I hope in time
In answer to your question, Hodzkinsons Stead & Treacher 127 Aldersgate St are the people from whom our Committee buy their lint—The best is 2/6 a lb- & some discount is given.
Our Committee say, the
Carbolized Lint, of which
they have sent out a quantity has been very successful. They offer to put a case of this carbolized tow at my "disposal."

Have an immediate object for it? Please tell me— for, if you have, I think I will accept it for you— to send.

I have written to Calais about the prisoner "Charles Rabick" to a lady who has done most charitable business among the German prisoners there for us— in haste

ever yours sincerely
F. Nightingale

how deeply I sympathize with all the "sick & wounded" I need hardly say— if I could, I would be off this afternoon to the Seat of War to organize something.

— if a fund is formed under Trustees for both French & Germans, I would give (if that is thought of any use) my name to it & would subscribe— small sums at first because, as Mme Schwabe herself stated to me in 1866, people who can only subscribe very small sums are deterred, if they see others giving £50 & upwards, from subscribing at all.

Under the present calamity, I could take no part in a Fund which should not be general— i.e. in a "wicked war," I could not subscribe for Germans because the French are wickeder— I can only know
sick & wounded apart from quarrels or nations. I cannot give my "advice" - 1 - because
to undertake one more claim of business
is simply to neglect business already
undertaken 2. because no "advice" & no
system drawn up will be of the least
use - What they want is one able head
to organize, to work, & to be believed in - And
without this, no "advice," no system is
fruitful.

[I have, this very moment, another
lady asking me for "advice," for "a plan,"
for working in the same direction-
- & shall in all probability have two
more before the week is out.]

Mrs. Godfrey Lushington is so good
as to take this to Mme Schwabe, as
Mme S. wished to "see" some one from
me.

Mme Schwabe will probably be so
good as to communicate with me, if
she wishes to do so, thro’ Mrs. G. Lushington.
[It is hard to say whether L. Napoleon
or Bismarck is the "wickeder."]

No address of mine must be given in any list
And it is of course utterly impossible
for me "to receive contributions," to be
on any "Committee," or to see or write to
anyone.

It is one of, indeed the greatest
misery of my state: --the absolute
impossibility to work as I know these

things alone can be worked. 

[end 15:631]
Private
10 South St.
Park Lane W.
Feb 11/81
My dear Sir
I sent in, last week, to the S. of S. for India, Lord Hartington, a statement of your services (& your sacrifice) which I had the greatest pleasure in making.
And I earnestly hope that you may have the Star of India: as you deserve I sent my letter by my brother in law, Sir Harry Verney, who has been 40 years in the House of Commons on the side of the present Govt. & has stood ten contested elections for

V
them.
You may possibly remember his sister, Mrs. Cunningham, at Harrow-
I should much like to know something about your work at Karrachee
God speed [blue] in great haste [end 10:183]
ever sincerely yours
Florence Nightingale
Dr. Gillham Hewlett &c &c
Dec 2/85
10, South Street [printed address]
Park Lane, W.
My dear Sir,

You are aware of Lady Dufferin’s scheme for "reaching" the native "female population" of India, in order to "teach the most ordinary facts relating to health to the women themselves, & to the young girls in schools."

You have kindly offered to give your invaluable help in this important matter which must be begun quite from the beginning:

Dy Surgeon Genl Dr. Hewlett
Sanitary Commissioner of/for Bombay

The special points of information required as a very first step would be, as I think we agreed:
1. how to organize a female Sanitary Mission
2. what books or Sanitary Primers to put into the hands of the (so-called) ‘Missioners’
3. if a Sanitary Primer for native women is requisite, who should write it? [And, what is of equal consequence, who shall read it?]
4. to find out a native gentleman who could write a practical sanitary Primer, & submit it before publication to the Sany Commissioner who, if he approves of it, would send it on to Governmt: with a request that it might be translated & printed in the Vernaculars.

5. to enquire from your native friends (medical men) whether they know of any woman who would go into the native houses with these tracts.

The advice you would give on these points would be simply priceless—Success to the endeavour to get the women of India on our side. And success to all your noble endeavours in the great cause of Sanitary progress in India which have wrought such great results as to be almost a revolution to the right way.

Pray believe me ever yours faithfully Florence Nightingale
Private
My dear Sir

How can I thank you enough for your two most valuable letters & papers? -the one on the drainage & water supply of Ahmedabad & the other a critique on the Annual Sanitary Blue Book Proof. I have sent in my papers on the latter, including every point in yours. And I wrote a letter to Mr. Runchorelal which I trust will answer the purpose I was well aware that you had inspired every step he had taken. And I wished to be in the same 'story' as yourself - & to say what you would have said. I hope he will send full plans & details to Col. Ducat, & take his advice in combination with yours-

I write in haste, but will write again. Pray believe me ever sincerely yrs

F. Nightingale
T.G. Hewlett Esq

[written up left side of paper]
I think it is well to represent the "Resolution" as a great step forward & to rest our exhortations on that as a beginning.  

F.N.
PRIVATE
Claydon Ho: Winslow Bucks
Oct 9/88

My dear Sir
I have this moment received an answer to your question, which is:- there cannot be "the slightest objection to Mr. Hewlett asking Sir J. Peile (or any one likely to assist him) to work to get him Dr. Sutherland’s place- In fact x x x he had better take any steps he thinks will best avail him.” “Dr. Sutherland’s retirement is quite known at the War

Mr. Stanhope has not yet returned to work, I am sorry to hear.

If you hear whether the "5 pr cent Loan” for the water supply of Ahmedabad was all taken up, locally & 'above par value’ by "Sept 1,” please tell me- I trust it has

T. Gillham Hewlett Esq D.S.G. &c
London October 10 1888

I have been asked to give my testimony to the work of Mr T. Gillham Hewlett, C.I.E. Deputy Surgeon-Genl in H.M.’s Indian Service, late Sanitary Commissioner for the Govt of Bombay

I have known him for many years. I have known his work well whether as Health Officer of Bombay city, or in the Famine, or as Sanitary Commissioner I have been in the constant habit of consulting him on all Sanitary subjects, to which his life has been devoted, head & heart & body & soul—whether

His work lay among our troops, European & native— or among the native populations, gentle or simple—men, women or children.

He was the first Health Officer of Bombay. And for upwards of 7 years, he was a Sanitarily-engineered city in himself: up at 2 or 3 a.m. himself leading & organizing his army of scavengers. In this war against the Death-rate, it fell from 35 to 23 per 1000—And Cholera in its intensity almost disappeared.

He was the Sanitary Missionary of the Famine of 1876-8, while acting as Sanitary Commissioner—travelling often for 20 hours out of
the 24, without tents-sometimes
without food-organizing,
arranging, supervising, advising,
providing health for the relief
camps & centres -truly a
noble work & which added
immensely to his experience of the
rural inhabitants.
He was the Sanitary Missionary
of the Presidency, as Sanitary Commissioner, for the last
five years, & on two previous
occasions, for several years:
instructing, teaching the people,
whether native gentlemen, who
might be Presidents of Municipalities
or Panchayats, headman, villagers,
as to the causes of death &
disease among them, & how to
remove these causes of the sad
degeneration of their physical
strength.

Without this, without the engaging
the people themselves on our
side, without convincing them
of what is their own interest,
we may pass what Sanitary
Acts we please, but they
remain a dead letter: we may
have the most exact knowledge
of what is wanted, but we
cannot carry it out.
Mr. Hewlett has the most remarkable
influence over the people-from
his unrivalled practical
experience: his knowledge of
the customs & habits of the townsmen and
villagers: his sympathy & insight
not only as to the cities but as
to the villages where live the
greater part of an Indian population
As to water-supply, conservancy,
sewerage & drainage, surface & sub soil,
as to building & ventilation, his practical knowledge is unequalled—his powers of work are unrivalled. No expert knows better how a Sanitary bill for Villages should be drafted. No writings or reports give more essential practical information. No man is better versed, perhaps no man is practically so well versed in all Sanitary problems & details, & how to deal with them: his is no mere theoretical knowledge; and he has the requisite Sanitary Engineering knowledge to tell the Engineer what he wants to be done. As I have spoken of Mr. Hewlett’s great influence with the people, I may perhaps mention a curious instance—out of many: When he began work in Bombay, the people might die of Cholera at the rate of 200 or 300 a day, & none would take any notice except to scold the Goddess of Cholera or Small-pox. Now they will cry out, if there are 2 or 3 Deaths by Cholera: Bestir yourselves, Gentlemen, don’t you see we are all dead? This is a great step. But that of bestirring themselves is a greater: & one begun by Mr. Hewlett. I give the Government joy which enlists his services whether for home or for India.

Florence Nightingale
PRIVATE
Claydon Ho: Winslow Bucks
Oct 11/88

My dear Sir,

I received your note this morning, saying that you would "send in an application to the War Office" at once "for Dr. Sutherland’s appointment" x x x and "as soon as I have applied!!! I will write to Sir J. Peile."

I telegraphed to you at once, asking you not to write to "W.O." till you heard from me.

I think there must be some mistake, unless you have received advice from some other reliable quarter to apply to the W.O.

Your question of Oct. 3 to me was; "as soon as it is known (i.e. Dr. Sutherland’s retirement) or I am permitted to speak of it, I am quite sure it would be for my interest to let Sir Jas Peile know x x &c &c as he would I know work for me” &c &c

v

adding that you did not feel at liberty &c &c

I immediately asked advice & information (as for myself, indeed I believe I am almost more anxious than you are that you should be on the re-organized A.S.C.) in the following terms:

"Is Mr. Hewlett at liberty to mention to Sir James Peile that Dr. Sutherland has retired & that he, Mr Hewlett, hoped to get the appointment, as he, Sir J. Peile, would work for him?"

The answer came to this effect, which I copied & sent you:

"I cannot see the slightest objection to Mr. Hewlett asking Sir J. Peile (or any one likely to assist him) to work to get him Sutherland’s place- In fact I should think he Mr. Hewlett had better take any steps he thinks will assist him—"

Then (in answer to a remark of mine =viz "they must know at the I.O. of Dr. Sutherland’s retirement:)

"Dr. Sutherland’s retirement is quite
known at the W.O. so I imagine also
"at the I.O."
You will perhaps remember that we have
uniformly received the same answer as to
the wisdom of your applying to the W.O.
now: to the effect that the answer from
the S. of S. for War would (the A.S.C.
not being yet organized) probably be:
‘the appointment is not to be filled up,’
& that this would be a severe check
to us
Quite recently, about other things, e.g.
the putting forward Sir D. Galton’s Memn.
for the I.O. Annual Sanitary Blue Book,
which Memn has been sent in,
(on which Blue Book you were so good
as to contribute your invaluable notes)
& other things, I have always been told
Everything had better wait” x x
that is, "till Mr. Stanhope has made up
his mind.”

With regard to the answer to your
question, & to your question: - I understood
it to mean that, failing the re-organization
of the A.S.C., [which failure may the Gods
avert!], it would still be desirable to
set on foot any influence at the I.O.
because it was possible that the I.O.
might make an appointment of its own
of a Sanitary adviser—having now that there are to be these
Central Executive Boards in India
which might induce the I.O. to think an
Ay Sanitary Comm: (of which however the
W.O. has hitherto borne the whole
expen$e & will no longer) here
unnecessary or invidious—And they
could have no such good man as
yourself for such a post.
But I know nothing of this— I have
only had a few words about it with one
of my advisers— And it comforted me
to have ‘two strings to our bow.’
I have only to add what I have so often said before that I will always get you the best information in my power (as for myself—indeed it is for myself—)
but then I pray you to act according to your own best judgment & perhaps you have other information than mine
Only kindly tell me what you do.

Your letter of the 3rd, I understood strictly to mean that you were (wisely) collecting "certificates" for Mr. Ritchie & that you wished for mine for Mr. Ritchie. It would never do for you to the W.O., (take it for what it is worth) when I am expressly advised to "wait." And I mentioned to you that I held in my hands a letter from Dr. Sutherland recommending you as his successor

on the re-organized A.S.C. but that I could make no use of it at present as the A.S.C. was not "reorganized—"
None the less do I hope that you will get a "certificate" from Dr. Sutherland while he is still able to write one, which may not be long. [You proposed to get one from Mr. Ritchie from him.]

I think I have only to add that I did not say "the question" of "re-organization" was to be referred to a Committee but that I was told it might possibly be.

Many thanks for the welcome information about Ahmedabad.

Good speed. Make way with

SIR J. PEILE

ever yours sincerely

F. Nightingale

T. Gillham Hewlett Esq &c &c
I will send you back your Draft to S. of S. for War immediately if you wish it. Indeed I felt I ought to have sent it back at once. [end 10:207]
My dear Sir,

I received on Monday a letter from Simla saying:

"We are, however, now engaged in remedying this defect" (viz "defect" in "fostering" the village organisation in Bombay," & in "establishing "an executive Agency,")

"and I have at present under consideration a proposal "for the introduction into "the Bombay Council of "an Act which not only T.G. Hewlett Esq.

"provides for Sanitation in "villages, & establishes "that executive agency "to which you refer, but "will also link the "Village community to "the larger territorial "area under the control "of the Local & District "Boards."

I feel so very anxious as to whether this "prospect" is practically satisfactory. Can you tell what it is? It must be something,
I suppose, on the lines of which Sir Raymond West is to draft the Bill of which you told me.

Lord Dufferin is evidently in earnest in laying down those lines—in pursuance of his "Resolution"—for the 'Subordinate Administration' to work on, as far as he can, in preparation for his Successor.

2. I am reminded that the "recently re-cast "Municipal Acts" confer large powers "for promoting Sanitary &

"other improvements" & for "entertaining the "agencies necessary for "these purposes."

In the Municipalities in Bombay Presy are you satisfied with these "powers" & these "agencies"? Or is Ahmedabad the only Muny which uses them properly?

3. In the same letter from Simla he refers again, in answer to the question "how funds are to be "provided for the sanitation

2 "of villages," to the fact that some of the Local Govt Acts "give power to "impose taxation locally "for local purposes." And that Madras especially exercises it & that others (other Local Govts) I suppose, Bombay, are being "urged to arm themselves with it."

Copies of the Madras, & Bombay Acts (of which last you kindly sent me an abstract)—of the N.W.P.
Act, of the Panjab Act, of their Central Provinces Act, & of the Bengal Act are sent me from Simla.-

I have glanced thro’ them, but do not find them very satisfactory. I always remember what you told me that "villagers" do not so much object to be taxed as to find that nothing is done in their own villages of what they have paid for-

Only in one Act (Madras) do I find a provision even of this sort, viz. that each Taluq shall receive back from the District Fund for certain approved purposes at least half of the amount of taxes/taxation said Taluq has paid. However I have had time to look but cursorily at these Acts. And I had much rather hear your opinion of these things.

ever sincerely yrs F. Nightingale P.L.O.

v

I bear in mind your excellent Notes on the "Resolution" itself-how to work it out-

What other Province has a village organisation workable like that of Bombay? [end 10:208]

F.N.
Oct 25/88
10, South Street, [printed address]
Park Lane, W.

My dear Sir I am in very deed [10:208]grieved & astonished & aghast
at the uncalled for "Resolution"
on your last Annual Report
which you have enclosed to me
The "young Civilian" is taking his
revenge.
You cannot consult any one
better than Sir James Peile, as
you propose.
But I will, on my side, take
advice as to what you had
better do--as you ask--
The account of your "visits to a
"Deccan village & a Gujerat
"town is one of the best &
most useful illustrations of how

v
a Sanitary Commissioner’s duties
are performed in the highest
sense that even you have
ever written.
It is a most singular & unprovoked attack—the attack
of ill temper—
But I confess I wish that,
in no Annual Report was a
word allowed that could even
form an excuse for a
forward young gentleman to
write such an attack.
I was quite struck down
by it last night. But I trust
that you will not allow it
to prey upon your mind
or disturb your health.
Such things are sure to find
their right level. And in
the mean time we must find
out what is best to be done
so that the cause which you
justly call ‘sacred’ may
not suffer.
You will not delay writing
to Sir James Peile?
God bless you.
ever yours faithfully
F. Nightingale
T.G. Hewlett Esq
I keep the
‘Resolution’ for
a day or
two.

Signed letter Reynolds Historical Library, University of Alabama at
Birmingham 5079 pencil, copy, Wellcome 9090/13

10 South St.
Private Nov 4/88
My dear Sir
I am extremely grateful to you for your great kindness in
sending me such a valuable paper on that abominable
little Draft, which yet we must try to make as good
as we can, as a stepping-stone to something better-
You will see a Sanitary Dept. yet in Bombay, tho’ I
shall not.
As you kindly offer it, I shall telegraph to you first
thing tomorrow morning to ask

v
you to send me by 12 o’cl
post, or earlier, if there is
any, Mr. Crawford’s (Confidential)
letter of Aug 21 1885 & his
Draft Village Conservancy
Bill—of which I saw
a copy at the time.
2. I am anxious to understand exactly why you think the proposed Cognizance (in this Bill) of the Committee (Panchayat) of offences against the Bill will be an "engine of private spite" on the part of the members of the Committee & why Mr. Crawford’s bill would not have been. Is it because the "inhabitants" might "establish" Mr. Crawford’s Panchayat & the one proposed now would be selected & appointed by the Collector? Also 3. what are the names of the Districts where there are no hereditary Officers & no Govt. land granted to Mahars? Are they the Konkurs & Kumaon? Please write them names clearly.

Also 4. I presume, Part II, the "magistrates" are native "magistrates." Are they what you call Mamludtars? I presume they are incorruptible but know nothing necessarily of Sanitation.

5. Why will this Bill be such an "interference" & so "irritating" to the people, while the others tho’ much fuller, would not be —I agree that it will but should like to be able to put it in a correct manner to carry conviction, as you would do.
Duke University

2
to do "Précis" for me & "procure information". I think I trouble you enough in giving me information & advice.
yours very sincerely
F. Nightingale
T. Gillham Hewlett Esq &c &c
missing from earlier volume

Nov 27/88
10, South Street, [printed address]
Park Lane. W
My dear Sir
I was very much obliged to you for sending me a copy of your triumphant answer to the Govt. Of Bombay, which ought to have the desired effect. I am glad that Sir J. Peile says the Bombay Village Sanitation Draft Bill is “unworkable.” And I am not without some hope that a change may be effected in it.
Thanks for Mr. Runchorelal Chotalal’s good letter. He has sent me almost the facsimile which I was just going to send you. Good as it is, I was afraid you would not like the Govt. Engineers having charge of the works. I mean that you would be afraid of mistakes being made.
I return your letter. And on second thoughts I think I will still send you mine, if you will kindly return it, & suggest what I should answer.
I grieve to hear of your loss. Was General Ducat Col. Ducat’s brother? Thank God that you are so well. I trust this continues.
Pray pardon this scrawl. But I would not delay my answer any longer, I have much anxious work.
ever sincerely yours
F. Nightingale
T.G. Hewlett Esq

Could you kindly tell me what Chair of Hygiene & Sanitary Science and practice there is at Bombay, I mean under a Professor (such as Dr. Parker was) with two laboratories under his control, one for Chemical (water, food, & air analysis) one for practical physiological instruction & work, including bacteriology? And are these laboratories more than little rooms? And could you tell me whether Medical Officers are instructed how to do the analysis of water-supply in the field. I don’t mean quantitative analysis, but enough to prevent troops being poisoned with bad water?
F.N.
T.G. Hewlett Esq
10, South Street
Park Lane

My dear Sir

I am extremely obliged to you for all your letters, which I have made considerable, though confidential use of. There is a printed Paper by the Ex-Officer of Health of Bombay, Macarty, I think, is his name, which is on the state of the Port of Bombay. He has sent it to the President of our Army Sanitary Commission, and also to Sir Douglas Galton. I should be very much obliged, if you could let me see a copy.

With regard to the re-organisation of the Army Sanitary Commission you must not forget how very slow we are in England. I should let you know of course the instant we heard anything decisive, whether it were satisfactory or the reverse. The subject is not dropped, but it is not by any means decided. I hope you will take patience.

I shall trust to see you before very long, but I am not able to at just at present.

Yours faithfully [hand of FN] ever & sincerely

F. Nightingale

My dear Sir

I hope that your conclusion -[on the
ground that Dr. (I cannot read the name) is it)
"MacRury"? told you "that the Govt. of I. had
"ordered the Medical Budget, including the
"Sanitary Dept. to be reduced by 125 000
"rupees,"] inferring therefrom that the order for dismissing 2 Dept
"San: Commrs. was actually issued for the 1st
"of last month, ?April 1/" -- is not absolutely
legitimate- For it was on that ground which

strictly private
you kindly told me some 5 or 6 months ago
that on February 22 I wrote to Lord
Lansdowne--On April 27 he writes to
me: I have that he has ascertained from his
Home Dept., which has charge of these questions,
that it is not aware of any present intention of
the Bombay Govt. to reduce the number of Dy
Sanitary Commissioners- that what happened
was this: the Finance Committee recommended
that the number, which was five, should be
reduced to three, [was it six and four?]
& this view was accepted by the Govt. of India
The Bombay Govt. thereupon moved the Govt. of I.
to reconsider its decision, upon the ground that
the difficulty of carrying out sanitary measures
would be greatly increased, should the staff
available for sanitary supervision be curtailed
--that the Govt. of I. yielded to this representation
& determined not to press for the reduction-
that it is, however, possible that the Bombay Govt=
may, of its own accord, be contemplating a reduction
of the Staff. x x x If, however, it has any intention
of taking such a step, it will have to apply to the
Govt= of I. before carrying it out & directions
have been given that, should this take place, the
papers are to be sent to the Viceroy, who will
do all he can for us. x. x. [This is dated April 27.]

I trust to your kindness to keep this
absolutely private. It is not to be mentioned
to Dr. MacRury or to any one- & to burn this
I only send this, because I am as anxious
about the matter as you are- And I would
fain hope that your fears are not confirmed [end 10:219]

Dr Hewlett

Typed, dictated letter, signed by Nightingale, Reynolds Historical Library,
University of Alabama at Birmingham 5082

10 South Street
Park Lane
10th Dec 1888

My dear Sir

Thank you very much for your kind note. Will you kindly tell me what you hear about the pro-
bability of having a famine in Western India? We have heard so many
threatenings of this year.

Another of our private bulky Reports "of the Sanitary condition
"of the city of Madras," which possibly you may not have heard of, has
come in to the President of our Royal Army Sanitary Commission. This looks
as if India meant business. The Sanitary state of Madras is repre-
sented as abominable. I have never known so many appeals to the
Army Sanitary Commission come in direct.

I will write again in a day or two. [end 10:211]

Yours faithfully [FN hand:] ever
Florence Nightingale

My dear Sir

I have written to a Member of
the Army Sanitary Commission to send me his copy of the
Report of the Bombay Port you wish to see, and I hope
you will see it at this house next week.
Pray do not torture yourself with conjectures of what is
most improbable in the mean time. There are tortures
enough in this world already.

I am so glad to hear the good account of
your health- & of the blessings you find in
your family.

ever yours most truly

Florence Nightingale

T.G. Hewlett Esq.

My dear Sir

Would it be possible for me to ob-
tain your leave to use Col. Duncat’s letter? This is asked not only
by me but by the one person to whom you allowed me to show the Extract
He thinks it essential and says: Col. Duncat has left the service, has
‘he not? - and is now established in England. Could it do him any
‘harm? If we cannot use his name it is so difficult to do anything, we
must have authority for what we urge.’
2. May I write to Mr. Runchorelal Chotatall and tell him that it would
be far cheaper to employ a good Sanitary Engineer from England, such
as young Chadwick, at 5 per cent; than to take a man to do the work who
has had no experience in Sanitary work, although he pays him only Two
and a half per cent- that the saving on the superintendence will be
very soon eaten up by the extra cost entailed by the cheaper man
having to gain his experience at their expense.
   (Possibly this might be put so as to compromise neither
Col. Duncat nor any one else.):]
At the same time it is almost a ridiculous position for me to say
this on my own authority. Of course Mr. Runchorelal must consult his
Municipality before he can do it. And he ought to be able, if he is to influence them against the local people, Doig & Co:; to quote professional authority.

3. But to do anything in England or at the Indian Office is simply impossible without having Col. Dunnet's high authority to quote: so my adviser and yours tells me

[FN hand:]
We are very busy. Affairs are very anxious-

Excuse these brief notes-

& believe me

ever yours most sincerely

Florence Nightingale

T.G. Hewlett Esq.

Signed letter Reynolds Historical Library, University of Alabama at Birmingham 5086 pencil

10 South St. Park Lane W. 2 May 21/89 [10:349]

Bombay Village Sanitation Bill [red underline]

My dear Sir

I am very much obliged to you for sending me the 'Pioneer's with your letters in them, which I will return as soon as I have read them- But I am sorry to say my eyes are suffering so much from over-work that I cannot read difficult print or difficult hand-writing as much as I would.

I take the liberty of sending you a copy

of a letter which I was requested to write (by a Govt= man) to the leading Native Associations in Bombay on the subject of the Bill, & which has been translated, & very fully commented on in the Bombay newspapers.

I will ask you to return it me x

I am sure I shall relish your printed letters when I am able to read them- And I am certain that you are master of the old fable that, when they wanted to get strip a man's cloak off him, it was NOT the sharp & violent wind which succeeded—he only held his cloak the tighter- It was the SUN shining which made him strip throw it aside.

x I had received a copy of the Bombay Village Sanitation Bill before writing it.
I have many things to write about, but cannot to-day-
My eyes are now so bad that consulting letters not plainly written or papers not plainly printed blinds me for a week. [end 10:349]

I cannot say how glad I am that your health is so good.
God bless you.
  yours ever sincerely
  F. Nightingale

Incomplete [first page missing], undated letter Reynolds Historical Library, University of Alabama at Birmingham 5084 pencil [34 years tomorrow from Battle of Inkermann, 34 years today from landing at Scutari], Reynolds has this as contd of 5094, check pencil [4 Nov 1888]

People say that the times of heroes & martyrs are over.
I think there never was such a time for heroes & martyrs.
Let us live up to our "cloud" of "witnesses"-
  What reminds me of this is that it is 34 years tomorrow since the Battle of Inkermann & 34 years to-day since we landed among that crowd of Cholera & Fever & Wounds at Scutari-
    People say that soldiers are malingerers, & carry a wounded man to the rear to get out of the battle.

v
My experience of soldiers is that they will go back into the fight to find a prostrate comrade or their wounded Officer - & fight their way out again bringing him with them-or as often happened leaving their own lives behind [end]
    May I be worthy of them!
But I don’t at all approve of your not taking care of yourself. As an old Nurse, I think you ought never to get wet—never to hurry yourself—certainly not to talk more than you can help on subjects which are agitating—I by no means advise, even if I could, to do nothing upon these—On the contrary, you have now to draw up a confuting statement.

I was grieved to see you so poorly on Thursday—And that is why I take heart of grace to scold you.

ever believe me sincerely yours
F. Nightingale
T. Gillham Hewlett Esq &c &c

Signed letter Reynolds Historical Library, University of Alabama at Birmingham 5087 pencil [5:315]

May 23/89
10, South Street [printed address]
Park Lane, W.
My dear Sir You wished for an introduction to Lord Rosebery— as Chairman of the London County Council— If you can make it convenient— I have just seen him— to call upon him on Thursday next, May 30, at 12 noon, at the Office in Spring Gardens, (the old Board of Works), he will be very glad to make your acquaintance
ever sincerely yours
F. Nightingale
T.G. Hewlett Esq
10 South St. W. June 17/89
I have been unable to write, but have taken
advice about one or two things, & hope to
write in a day or two & return your
letters- Ahmedabad &c
Pray run no kind of risk in your recovery
With kindest regards to Mrs. Hewlett,
ever sincerely yours
F. Nightingale

Private
& Confidential
June 22/89
10, South Street [printed address]
Park Lane, W.
My dear Sir
You suggested some time [10:222-23] ago that the Viceroy should be
asked to "lay down a rule that
"no money would be sanctioned,
"or that permission to borrow
"money on loan would not be
"granted to Municipal bodies,
"unless the Govt. of India approved
"of the Engineer to whom the work
"would be entrusted."
I have only lately recovered
my answer. The I.O. does
"not see that any interference
"with local action in the
"selection of executive instruments
"could be carried out." [This is
from a friend]

In the course of now more than
30 years confidential intercourse with
India & the I.O. on Sanitary
matters, I have always found
the greatest prudence & caution
necessary in order to carry
our good objects- e.g. not
to propose or suggest (or even
to ask questions upon) what
measures diametrically opposite to what
one knows to be the policy
of the day, when
founded on great principles,
however otherwise desirable.

A recent instance is this:
the settled policy, & on the whole

is it not a good one? necessitated
by the times in which we live-
is evidently to de-centralize
Lord Dufferin’s "Resolution" of
July 27, 1888, for Sanitary
Boards in the several Presidencies,
is an example of this. Do you
think they would go back
upon this, & make let the Govt.
of India make Sanitary rules
for the whole of India? instead
of the local Government.

By the way, could you
kindly tell me what you
hear of the position of the
proposed Sanitary Board
in Bombay Presy? has it been
organised? & how? ever sincerely yours

P. Turn Over
F. Nightingale

Probably you have heard from
India on this subject.
Or perhaps you have heard
from Sir J. Peile at home?
viz. how the Sanitary Boards as proposed
by Lord Dufferin--in India
(or at least in Bombay,)
are being organized. [end 10:223]

F. Nightingale
T.G. Hewlett Esq.
10 South St   June 29/89
My dear Sir

Thank God that Sir M. Mackenzie has given what we cannot but call a favourable view of your case. I do thank God- & His loving-kindness- & that you have been able to accomplish this trying ordeal & to be safely landed at Harrow which I hope is "dry & "bracing."

Thank you so much for writing to me

Before I had your kind note, I wrote to-day to Bedford about the proposed "pamphlet"- dwelling upon its importance

God bless you
ever sincerely yours
F. Nightingale

Pray don’t worry about any of these things--It is only because you are so good as to write to me about them that I do to you.

I have been hearing of the great distress in Ganjam & particularly of the state of the tanks & the Cholera supervening. They do want Sanitary supervision;

For less urgent times, the little Sanitary tract proposal for domestic popular use, on "Cholera," which I mentioned yesterday as planned in Madras might be useful- But I don’t want to urge you on to use your head. [end 10:223]

F.N.

Pray don’t worry about any of these things. It is only because
Duke University

you are so good as to write to
Excuse a short
ragged note-
July 11/89
10, South Street, [printed address]
Park Lane, W.

My dear Sir
I have been so pressed
that I have had no strength
to thank you, except in my
heart, for sending me your
printed Reply, which seemed
to be very good, temperate & clear-
I should be so glad to
hear that you are going on
quite well. God bless you
ever yours sincerely
Florence Nightingale
T.G. Hewlett Esq

My dear Sir
I was very glad to hear from you; and it was very kind
of you to send me your Doctor’s verdict; because you know how
anxious I was to hear it, and
I hope, on the whole, we may
consider it a favorable one.
Thank you for sending me a
proof of your pamphlet “Village
Sanitation in India.’ I don’t know what you will say to
me; but as I understood that you had sent out only one proof, (this to me), and none to Sir Douglas Galton, whose suggestions are so much more valuable than mine would be, I sent my proof to Sir Douglas Galton, asking him to return it if he had received one from you. But, to my great distress, I found he was not in London, and they did not even know his address. (He is often on arbitration business tours of inspection in England & Paris, and has not his letters always forwarded). But it was said that he would be in London within a week. I do not quite know what to do. I was in hopes that the pamphlet would have been printed in a larger and clearer type, because it will be almost hopeless to get the great men, like Lord Lansdowne, to read it unless in a fair type. And yet it is so important, if this vital subject (in a land of Villages) is to make real progress, that the Rulers should be properly incensed. You truly say that there is no more urgent subject. I myself can hardly read it, with my defective eyes, and I am afraid I should be a long while--reading little bits at a time, in making the
v

suggestions you desire, without blinding myself, and these suggestions might after all be of little use to you. You desire to have the proof back "as soon as possible." I think I will keep the pamphlet, if you give me leave. All I can hear from you and Lady Galton has promised to send me her husband’s address as soon as she has it herself, which may be today. I do not underrate the value of the pamphlet, believe me; it is because I think it impossible to overrate it that I wish so very much it should have good clothes on. [end 10:351]

[FN hand:] ever yours
F. Nightingale
T.G. Hewlett Esq.

Signed letter Reynolds Historical Library, University of Alabama at Birmingham 5093 pen

2
August 3/89
10, South Street, [printed address]
Grosvenor Square, W.

My dear Sir
I am glad after all that I did not send my meagre note No. 1 yesterday. I hear from Lady Galton this morning that Sir Douglas Galton is "now in Paris on business of "The Jury of the Exhibition, "but he is expected to return "to London on Monday” or a day or two later. And she does "not forward letters "to him."
I think if you see no objection that I had better keep your valuable Proof
till he returns. You may
depend upon me to make
no unnecessary delays.
And I may be able to do a little to it myself.
Another thing which I could
not say by another hand:
The printer must not hurry
you. If he can’t spare
his type, I will gladly pay
for any extra expense in
keeping it. It is impossible
to hurry very busy persons
in criticizing such a
valuable document.
And if it could be printed
in a better type, I would
for the reasons in my No. 1,
gladly pay for it— for your
sake & that of the cause.
I trust that its gist does not run
directly counter to Govt.
They honestly think they are getting
in the “thin end of the wedge”
by their present Bill. I believe
they would have adopted some
of the suggestions I humbly
made to the native Association
But they will not stand
lecturing. And I doubt
whether they will make
much change now—but
will try to administer the
Act sympathetically to the
people. God grant they may

Your “thick end of the wedge”
will follow.
And may all God’s best
blessing be yours.
I trust you are going on
well.
ever yours sincerely
Florence Nightingale
Dr Hewlett
My dear Sir

I feel my great stupidity in not consulting you again about my eyes which are worse. My health being worse too—indeed for the last few weeks I have scarcely left my bed.

Could you fix some day & hour to come kindly

in the afternoon to see come & me?

yours faithfully
Florence Nightingale
Henry Power Esq

Book dedication: Mortality of the British Army, at home, at home and abroad, and during the Russian War, as compared with the Mortality of the Civil Population in England. Illustrated by Tables and Diagrams. London: Harrison 1858.

Mrs. Nightingale
Accept, my dearest mother, these little (!) works from your ever loving child Florence Nightingale
London November 2, 1867
30 Old Burlington St. [3:246]
June 28
I thank you very much for all your kindness.

The poor child is at this moment at Richmond, but where we do not know. I went into the country yesterday afternoon to organize something for Mrs. Chisholm, & found the mother of the girl (an Irish widow living in a shed by the road side) in great distress about this child, who had run away. I had known her before.

She thought that she could catch her again if a place could be found which would receive her when taken. She has been about a month in this life.

I am sorry that you should have the trouble of going to the Good Shepherd on purpose for this.

If you were to write? I am to see a person at 12 o’clock about this poor child - but, as I shall have nothing then definite to tell her, it will not be of much consequence if the answer
Duke University

is put off till tomorrow.

I shall be truly glad to see Miss Lockhart, if we are still in London on Friday.

Florence Nightingale

Since I wrote this I have learnt that a girl can be received at the Good Shepherd upon the payment of £2,2, if they have room. I think therefore it would be wrong in me to trouble you to go.

very gratefully yours
F.N.

Editor: Erb paper notes a lost letter, also of June 28 1852, quoted in Shane Leslie (180), states, "There is no time to be lost. It is a miserable child of fourteen." This is in the Columbia University collection.

Signed letter, pen, Pitts Theological Library, Emory University Manning Collection 13/16 Letter 2

30 Old Burlington St. [3:246-47]

June 29

Mrs Chisholm lives at

No 3, Charlton Crescent,
Islington

I fear she is not to be seen anywhere else, as her time is occupied in these days, every hour, nor there till after Friday, as till Friday she will be at the Docks with her ships. On Wednesday & Thursday evenings she has Group Meetings at 8 o’clock p.m.,

National Mission Hall,
Cripplegate.

But the evening at her
home after Friday is the best time to see her.

Your name will, of course, be known to her, but if you wish to be introduced, I enclose a note, if you will not think it impertinent of me to offer an introduction to you-

As soon as I have seen Lady Lothian, which I shall do, by your kind permission, if she gives me hopes of a vacancy, I shall go down to Richmond & with the assistance of the police, track & try to persuade this poor thing to go with me at once to Kensington, as the mother, who is a poor feckless thing, could not keep her at home even for a night.

If I fail, do you think you could, do you think you would undertake it yourself? It seems a great deal to ask, but she would not resist you. God bless you for your tender mercy to this poor child.

Florence Nightingale
30 Old Burlington St. [3:247-49]

June 30
The child is safe- Thank God- If, when you go to Kensington, you would ask for Margaret Daly & speak to her as you know how to speak, you would be doing a true kindness. You will find her absolutely ignorant but, though she has led the worst kind of life, I do not believe hopelessly hardened. But I never knew a case of that kind permanently regenerated-

I should have preferred placing her under regular Sisters, with whom I believe the blessing of God more particularly rests - But the kindness with which she has been received at Kensington is beyond all gratitude. If, however, you should have such a chance come in your way, perhaps you will remember this poor child. And I should look to Emigration as her ultimate best chance. But they will kindly refer to me when means are wanted. And I must thank you once more in her name for all your kindness- Without you, she would never have been rescued.
I will answer what you have written because I know it was written in the spirit of the purest kindness, & of love to Him, whom we both serve, & not in the spirit of proselytism. But I think you mistake my state of feeling. You think the defect is in the will. All Catholics do. You think it would be a sacrifice to me to join the Catholic Church- a temptation to remain where I am-

If you knew what a home the Catholic Church would be to me--all that I want I should find in her- all my difficulties would be removed. I have laboriously to pick up here & there crumbs by which to live- she would give me "daily bread" - the "daughters of St Vincent would open their arms to me- they already have done so. & what should I find there? My work, already laid out for me, instead of seeking it to & fro & finding none- my home- sympathy, human & divine. No one asked last night, Is it well with the child?

I dislike & I despise the Church of England. She received me into her bosom, but what has she ever done for me? She never gave me work to do for her nor training to do it, if I
found it for myself-

I say, If you knew- But you do know now, with all its faults, what a home the Catholic Church is- And yet what is she to you compared with what she would be to me? No one can tell, no man can tell what she is to women- their training, their discipline, their hope, their home- to women, because they are left wholly uneducated by the Church of England, almost wholly uncared for, while men are not.

For what training is there compared to that of the Catholic nun? I could see that yesterday at the House of St Joseph at Kensington. Those ladies, who are not Sisters, have not the chastened temper, the Christian grace, the accomplished loveliness & energy of the regular nun?

I have seen something of different kinds of men, am no longer young & do not speak from enthusiasm but from experience- There is nothing like the training (in these days) which the Sacred Heart or the order of St Vincent gives to women. And do you think I do not love her, my mother, tho’ she will not acknowledge me as her child? I have never had any other love.
"O Lord, my heart is" not "ready," it longs to find its home. All "will" for me is on the other side from what you think- Conviction alone hangs back-

The wound is too deep for the Ch. of England to heal. I belong as little to the Ch. of England as to that of Rome- or rather my heart belongs as much to the Catholic Ch. as to that of England- oh how much more- The only difference is that the former insists peremptorily upon my believing what I cannot believe, while the latter is too careless & indifferent to know whether
I believe it or not—She proclaims out of the Prayer book what we are to believe, but she does not care whether we do (and we don’t), while the Catholic Church examines into the fact. If it were not for that, I might have a home where now I have none—What I have said now I have never said to human being—& to you I say it as to a Catholic priest.

You say well, Controversy is no use for me. The reason why every body agrees about Euclid is that we all go out from the same premises. We all agree upon the twelve axioms, the 3 Postulates, the definitions &c—But in this case we do not agree upon the premises—& therefore it is of no avail going on to conclusions.

Forgive me for writing my private feelings to an almost stranger—but I answer the letter which you have had the kindness to write to me—& I know Catholics too well to suppose that anything that is human is strange to them—You will probably have nothing more to do with me now—but I thank you all the same—What I have suffered
let God only know- But
my whole soul is His- &
provided He makes known
His name to the world, I
do not care what He does
with me- to the world,
which, at least in England,
so I believe, is very near
losing His name- It seems
very strange that, when
such men as S. Ignatius
of Loyola, S. Bernard &
Wesley could find no rest
without finding God, &
travelled up & down the
earth to look for Him,
all the most moral & most
intellectual of the artisan
world in England are now
learning to live very
well without Him, &
even to think it does not
signify His not being there.
They say, I don’t know
whether there is a God or
not- but if there is we
cannot understand Him &
shall not therefore look
for Him.

If your Church will
send a Mission to the
heathen, let her send one
here- to Manchester, to
Huddersfield, to Leeds,
Halifax & Bradford- for
spirituality is dying out
of these places-

I hope you will not
think me impertinent,
but believe me, sincerely
grateful for all your
kindness-

Florence Nightingale
initialled letter, pen, Pitts Theological Library, Emory University Manning Collection 13/16 Letter 4 draft/copy 8993/133

30 Old Burlington St. [3:249-50]

Saturday
I found the poor child
at Kensington bent upon
going- I staid till
half past six, hoping that
there might be a change
& that you might come-
But, unless you were
more successful than I
was, after I went, the
poor thing is lost- I have
seen legs cut off, & horrible
operations- but that was
nothing to this-
Will you forgive me
for troubling you to go, if
it were in vain, & tell
me what the result
was?
Let me thank you
again for all your
kindness-
F.N.

unsigned, incomplete letter, pen, Pitts Theological Library, Emory University Manning Collection 13/16 Letter 7, copy, Wellcome 9095/2

Lea Hurst [3:252-53]
Matlock July 13

Yes, it was very nearly
what I expected- nearly,
but not quite-

I acknowledge the truth
of every word you have
said- It is a matter of
fact that the Catholic
Church has done all the
things you say & that no
other church has done so.
These are facts of history.
Would I could believe
in more. Empirically, but
not scientifically, I believe
in her- she has no more
fervent disciple than I.
I believe in her with all
the power of my eyes, as the early Chaldeans believed in the return of eclipses which they could ascertain by observation, but could not account for-

You will say, as my dear Madre at the Trinità used always to do, And is not that enough? What would you have more? She is too beautiful not to be true—Ye shall know a tree by its fruits—

But there is a difference between conjecturing empirically & knowing certainly—My observation shews me the uniformities which exist in the Catholic Church of faith, of simplicity of aim, of love & self-sacrifice—as the observation of the Chaldeans shewed them the uniformities of the celestial motions—But I hesitate to rely, for want of being able to believe their theories, as we waited till Kepler told us the law, which the Easterns had only mistaken—

You would have me snatch at the blessings the Catholic Church has to give, without having given her my unconditional allegiance—& make my own conditions (tacitly)

instead of receiving hers. So have I done all my life with the Anglican Church— I have snatched her Sacraments (a faithless child— but she never asked me why) tacitly making my own conditions to myself—

I stand now trembling
where I stood firm before.
Those I have known left the
arms of one Church but to
go to those of another- a
more faithful mother- I
have a precipice behind me.
If I do not reach the Church [breaks off]
[contd upside down and crossed out]
This horrible system dooms
some minds to incurable
infamy, others to incurable
misery.

[contd in Leslie article 183] of the Catholics, I have no church. For the
Anglican has long since melted away into a ghost; I cannot find her. Do not
forget, as you kindly still interest yourself in my salvation, do not forget
to ask that question about the Soeurs Hospitalières which I took the liberty
of begging you to do.

[at bottom of last available page, upside down and crossed out] This horrible
system dooms some minds to incurable infancy, others to incurable misery.

Initialed letter, pen, Pitts Theological Library, Emory University Manning
Collection 13/16 Letter 8, 9095/10 part of draft/copy in Wellcome 8993/134

Lea Hurst
Matlock- 15 July
You are very kind to wish
to take so much trouble
about me-
If you will tell me
(some time) the peculiarities
which you think stand
between me & the light,
you will find a grateful
listener.
Will you not tell me too
the condition which I leave
unfulfilled?
You suspect me of Eclecticism.
I do not know- I will think
about it- The whole age
is invaded by it- & by its
offspring, Indifferentism.
I thought I had as great
a horror of it as you have.

But one is always wrong about
oneself- And therefore I
think it most probable you
have found me out-

I know what you would
say. Do not spare me-
But do not say that I do
not love our Heavenly Father,
nor open my heart to Him-
say anything but that. For
He has been very good to me.

The question which you were
kind enough to say you would
ask for me is- whether
they would take me in at
the Hospital of St. Stephen’s
in the Green in Dublin, (which
is served by the Sisters of
Mercy) for three months-
as I am- I could not go
for more at present-
& therefore it would not do

for me to go into the Novice-
ship- Novices are seldom
& postulants never, I believe,
employed in the Hospital- I
want to be employed there
at once- For it is not for
purposes of retreat that I
go, which I could do else-
where, with less anxiety to
my people- but to learn
their trade-

I have a particular reason
for wishing to be under
S. Vincent. I have obligations
to him-

I do not wish to trouble
you for information, which I
could get for myself- But I
do not think they would take
me, on these terms, without
a recommendation, which
you alone could do for me-

I should not wish the Patients
to know I was not a Catholic-

nor any one but the Revd
Mother & the priest-

I will tell you all the truth-
which perhaps will alter
your opinion about doing it-
I have not my people’s
consent for this- & I do not think I should go without it. I was in disgrace with them for a twelvemonth for going to Kaiserswerth- My sister has never spoken the word to me since- & I really believe that it would give my dear people less pain for me to become a Roman Catholic & marry, than for me to become a Sister of Charity- I think the persecution of the Emperor Domitian must be easy to bear- but there is a persecution from those we love, as I dare say you know, which grinds one’s very heart out- especially if one is not quite sure one is right- I wonder at myself for telling these things- I have never done so before- It is a great deal to ask. I scarcely dare hope that you will have time for me to venture to accept your offer, about the Science of Theology, I mean- But if you should, you would find a ready heart.

You say you will tell me all about the Synod- But when shall we meet again?

F.N.

Lea Hurst [3:254-55]
Matlock – July 22.
I have thought over what you have said & whether it is true- & strangely enough, I cannot tell you- You will know some day (next year perhaps) & so shall I.
But, if it is true, why cannot I join the Catholic Church at once?—as the best form of truth I have known—& as cutting the Gordian knot I cannot untie—So many of the verts, who have gone from among us (especially the female verts) have done this—at least I should have company—& I appeal to your impression of Newman, whether his was not the most sceptical mind you ever knew—so like his brother—The eclectic has been at least as strong an element as any other in filling the stream towards Catholicism—Why cannot I join it? The Catholic Church has remedied this tendency in Newman’s & in many other minds—but it was that, or weariness of it, which brought them there—You will not perhaps believe it— but the search after Truth has been to me a martyrdom—tearing up everything I love—forcing me upon conclusions I recoil from—shutting the door upon what looks to me Paradise—This looks, I must say, as if you were right— for if I loved Truth above all other things, why should it be so? I cannot thank you for all your kindness— It will do quite well when you go to Dublin— I could not leave home at present. I am watching what may be the deathbed of the one I shall miss most on earth, tho’ it seems a curious thing
to say. I am all her world & I shall be glad when she is where I can give her no pain-

The same morning I received your letter I had one from an old friend, quite unexpectedly

asking me to go to Ireland on the 20th of Augt= with them= This would so facilitate it in the eyes of my people that I cannot but look upon it as a special hint- Would you therefore kindly fulfil your promise when you go to Dublin? Or if you think it best to write beforehand & would take that trouble? But I do not think it necessary-

You accuse me, though mildly, of intellectual dishonesty- & in these times, how few men can say they are honest- I am sure I cannot- I wish it had pleased God to let me be born a century later- I often tell Him that these times are too difficult for me, & say to Him, with shame & sorrow that I am not up to them & find my task too hard for me-

F.N.

Letter, Pitts Theological Library, Emory University Manning Collection 13/16
Letter 10, pen, copy in Wellcome 9095/11

Tapton [3:255-57]
Sheffield Aug 18
I really don’t know what I am going to do. But, if I do not see you again, St Vincent’s Hospital, St Stephen’s Green is the place & the revd mother’s name is (or was) McCarthy. Eight years ago I tried to do this and failed- If you think it right to tell
your Archbp, do; I had rather not. They make such an enormous fuss with their poor little verts—they have the exact (or inexact) cypher of their fortunes in that work of immense impertinence, the Catholic Register, & when that nice little boy, Lord Feilding, verted, I thought the kingdom of France would have clapped her hands—

If I come to Dublin, it will probably be on Saturday or Monday. But, under this uncertainty, you will only ask the question of the revd mother. Do not make any difficulties with her about the "diva pecunia, Papa Satàn," as your ultramontane country people call it.

Is Miss Lockhart gone to Greenwich?

I have found out where that poor child is whom you were so kind to at Kensington. There is no doubt what kind of a house it is which she is in. It is again at Kingston, where I found her before—& her family is all gone to America & have left her there.

You once told me that you had some terrible evidence, collected when you preached that sermon for the Magdalen. You could not let me have, or any part of it, could you?

You say, I am as tiresome as Undine—Now I will be as plain as a, b, c.

a. I am very glad to know how you came into the Catholic Church. I should never have ventured to ask the question.
I have observed that classical & Oxford men, generally take the historical course of examining into the claims of the Church - whether they can believe in her, mathematical & Cambridge men the critical course, of examining into each individual doctrine, whether they can believe in it.

b. I have not despaired of attaining thro’ the latter course. I once heard a nun, who I believe was a Saint, use the very same words as to prayer as what I believe, which I am sure is unorthodox. And I have thought that I could believe the same things as to Creation as St Thomas Aquinas.

c. Do I acknowledge it reasonable to receive truths of which I do not see the evidence? Certainly I do. I cannot calculate the path of the moon, nor remember the formula when it is done. Yet I take it at the hands of Arago- Give me an adequate authority, & I will accept his truth. He is my evidence. But then I must know that he has authority. I like your "Jesu, dulcis memoria." With us, God is dead. He has been dead nearly 2000 years. He wrote the Bible about 1800 years ago - & since then He has not been heard of.

You had better come to Sheffield- There are five Redemptorist Fathers here now preaching a Mission. But there is not a nun, nort a convent of any sort here,
with an immense population
utterly neglected-
   And you may go into the
great Cutlery places & find
not one Anglican among
all the men-
   I do not know yet where
we shall be in Dublin, as
I depend upon other people.
I am ashamed to fash you
with me, when I am obliged
to be so uncertain. If you
will kindly write to me
before Saturday, direct to
Mrs Shore’s
   Tapton
   Sheffield
my grandmother’s, that is-

God bless you & thank
you - & bless too.
   your weary Penitent
   F.N.
Tapton
Sheffield- Aug 19

If you have forgotten—may I remind you to ask the Mother to admit me into the Hospital at once, which is not customary? I am afraid lest, in the multiplicity of things you must have to do, you should forget me.

I shall follow as soon as I can—
I do not think that the historical claim will do, in these days, in England.

In Europe, in the 18th century, when Physical Science— & particularly Astronomy— reached its highest point when Bailly, Laplace, d’Alembert, Diderot & Lavoisier led the world, men’s minds were versed in the laws of nature & yet not deeply enough to see that the laws of Nature were only the mechanical equivalents for God’s thoughts, not forces in themselves— And Atheism naturally followed—
In the first half of the 19th century, Physiology made a start—& the science of life was substituted for physical science— the organic for the inorganic system— a vital for a mechanical picture— And Pantheism followed, (at least in Germany) which considers the Universe as a living thing, a self-developing principle— In England, Sir Robert Peel, & your friend Sidney Herbert, are Pantheists—
Now, in the latter half of the 19th century— in England at least, where Mechanics are the ruling passion— Atheism is again, or will be, the ruling principle— if men’s spiritual feelings are not developed on a par with their intellects. Therefore I don’t think it will do for the Church to rest her claim upon the historic, but upon the scientific principle. The historic made Schlegel, as you say, a Catholic— But the English have never been historians, and he who presents religion to them must do it from the scientific point of view—

Instead of Saints, they have had great Civil Engineers— instead of Sisters of Charity, they have had Political Economists. They must have a scientific God to make way against the strides which Science is making— or Atheism will make these strides too— People will make their God till they can find Him—
The Ch. of England could not have stood
in any country but England because she is such a poor historian—

I have always thought that the great theological fight had yet to be fought out in England between Catholicism & Protestantism—In Germany it was fought out 300 years ago—They know why they are Protestants. I never knew an Englishman who did, & if he enquires, he becomes a Catholic. We took our Protestantism from a king & kept it afterwards, because it suited our ideas of political independence—& now we believe, (or don’t believe), by Act of Parliament. The Ch of England is but a “school,” as you said—

But I fear religion must be taught on very different grounds from what it ever has been yet, for people to believe.

FN.
5 Royal Terrace [3:258-59]
Belfast
Aug 30

Would you kindly ask
Mr Lockhart for a letter
of introduction (which he
was so good as to promise
me at Belfast & which
I think he has probably
forgotten)- if he is still
within your reach?
I would have asked
Miss Lockhart without
troubling you- but I believe
she is gone-

"Of all places that the
eye of" me would not have
visited, I think Belfast
is the one- Imagine a

new, commercial, Orange,
Presbyterian town- a
cross between Geneva &
Manchester- inhabited
by that anomalous animal,
an Irish Protestant- with
Infirmaries, Poor-houses,
&c all on the model of
London-

I have had moments of
intense discouragement in
my life- but never any
thing like this-
I went last night to
the Annual Meeting & Sermon
of St. Vincent of Paul- but
even that was a muddled
& lengthened edition of an English prayer meeting at Exeter Hall- with Bible & muffins in sandwich- The people were scrambling & slopping themselves with holy water- but I could see none of the real Catholic Irish piety. We stay here till the 8th then, I suppose, back to Dublin- & home- F Nightingale

signed letter, pen, Pitts Theological Library, Emory University Manning Collection 13/16 Letter 13, copy, Wellcome 9095/6

Belfast [3:259-60]
Sept 7 I am leaving Ireland without having accomplished one object for which I came- I shall try once more at Dublin whether it is possible to do anything there- We shall be there tomorrow till Saturday & then I suppose we shall return to England- I have seen everything in this place & Lisburn & the towns about- And never did I see nursing, education & all the works of love practised as a trade to such an extent before- London is comparatively a little child- To see the craft carried to its perfection
you must come here—
I must thank you very much for your introduction to Mrs. Watson. She is a sweet woman & has been very kind to me—And I like her queer husband—
Though I am sorry for my wasted time & disappointed hopes, I agree with you that Dublin is not the place for me, tho’
I don’t know why you say so—Shall I confess that I was disappointed in St. Vincent’s Hospital? There are three things which, from experience, I am sure can never do—The sisters do not sit up at night—They do not attend the operations—& they are only in the wards from 8 to 8—& that, with an hour’s recreation between— I believe it to be impossible to leave these duties to the ward maids, as is done there— or to any hired persons—When I was superior of one department of the Hospital at Kaiserswerth, I found it quite necessary that we should be in the wards from 5 A.M. to 10 P.M., sit up ourselves at night, & be always present at the operations. In fact, we had no ward maids.
This rather consoles me for not remaining here— I will with great pleasure do what you ask with regard to the Operatives in England— tho’ you must remember two things, if you please— first, that it is only for yourself. You must not make any use of it— which you will see the reason of— 2ndly that it is only the experience of one person—

If you are so kind as to write to me & have any hints to give to me before I leave Ireland, will you write to Bilton’s Hotel, Sackville St. Dublin—

My best gratitude is yours.

I heard from Mary Stanley at Norwich.

F Nightingale

Birk Hall
Aberdeenshire
Sept 28

I must write one word of gratitude for your great kindness, that you may not think it quite wasted— It was quite all that I expected— the restrictions which M. des Genettes mentions being those which hold everywhere— When I have more time, I should like to tell you the comparative work (& no=work) of the religious Sisterhoods at Paris—

I was summoned from Ireland (the day after I
wrote to you) to nurse my
sister in Aberdeenshire-
& came down here, by
express, to find her
delirious, though knowing
me- Sir James Clark,
who has been to me like
a father, fears derange-
ment or imbecility as
the ultimate consequence-
To me it is no shock but
a relief, as what I have
been expecting for years
is now shared & my
responsibility divided with
a medical man whom
I can trust-
 I know that all that
I say to you is sub sigillo

but this especially, as I
have not yet told my
father & mother, who are
still in Derbyshire.
 Oh if mothers saw what
I have seen, had watched
as I have the downward
course of the finest intellect
& the sweetest temper
thro’ irritability, nervousness
& weakness- to final
derangement - & all brought
on by the conventional life
of the present phase of
civilization, which fritters
away all that is spiritual
in women- they would
curse conventional excite-
ments, as I do now, instead
of rejoicing over what leads
to their daughters’ destruction.
   I could not write to thank you as I should wish for your persevering kindness & to say that, as soon as I can, I shall take advantage of it. For I have had for a fortnight the sole control of this poor irritated brain, night & day. When that time will come, God only knows—
   I am now bringing my poor sister slowly home, day by day— the excessive excitability & shattered nerves not bearing more—
   Pray for us—
   F N.

I will keep M des Genettes’ letter, if you will allow me, as an introduction when I go to Paris, for which I thank you much— And that of Suprê Génle, if I am not asking too much, as an introduction to her—
   The medical men are doing the work of des=truction in Paris just as they have done in London— They have ousted the religious orders from the Hôtel Dieu, the Pitié. For I don’t call the dames de S. Antoine nor de S Louis, who have those hospitals now, a
religious order - The daughters of S. Vincent & the Soeurs Hospitalières de S. Thomas de Villeneuve are I believe the only ones who deserve that name now -

Do you know M. Etienne, the Superior of the Lazzarists, Rue de Sèvres?

unsigned letter, pen, Pitts Theological Library, Emory University Manning Collection 13/16 Letter 6, copy, Wellcome 9095/1

30 Old Burlington St. [3:250-51]

July 7
I am sorry I cannot send you Brodie’s letter, which is really a psychological curiosity - I enclose Locock, which I am still sorrier to do, (when you have so much to do), only because I promised it - It is however a fair type of what the good medical man, (which he is), thinks enough & of how incorrect his information can be about his own trade - but probably he does not consider the Hospital his
trade, only the medical part of it.

With regard to principles, Brodie takes the lack of the danger of the scheme, Locock of its impracticability - most (of the Protestant letters I have received) of its being an "invention of the Devil" - while you, I know, will take yet a fourth -

In answer to Locock, I can only say that it has been done & well done - as I can testify, in a Hospital, which I served in, for 3 months - in my ward we had a very heavy ward all the time I was there - & an unusually full number of Operations - which are cases never left for one minute - as you probably know - yet we always found time to do what Locock pronounces impossible - & to spare one another besides for the "Instruction" -

There were great wants, which I was so kind as to tell you, I believe - but not of the sort Locock
supposes—

Fliedner was one of the "overworked chaplains," if ever there was one—yet he never found his daily Instruction, any more than a Catholic priest does his daily Mass, too much—& I can truly say, though, among us Sisters, many souls went to the bottom under the severity of his "Seelsorge," that those who did swim, had all self-love so well rooted out of them by him, that they had great cause to thank him—as a Director—

With regard to money, which Locock appeals to, the whole of Kaiserswerth was supported on less than £3000 a year—Now St Bartholomew’s has an income of ten times that sum, & so far from being in debt it, last year, was building a new & elegant front, because it did not know what to do with its money, while the Nurses were sleeping in a place where it was impossible for any woman but the Mère Angélique to keep her character—

It is quite true that St
George’s Hospital is the best managed in London—but the "visits of the Chaplain," although incomparable in their way, are as if I were to eat once a week, or a baby were to receive a "visit" from its nurse "more than once every day."

In answer to one of Locock’s remarks,—at Kaiserswerth there were as many Catholics as Protestants, at least.

In answer to another, nobody supposes that the qualifications we speak of in the Nurses are to be substituted for their others.

I hardly know why I trouble you with these vituperatory remarks, unless it is that you were kind enough to wish to see Locock’s letter, & I do not like to let it go without them—But I could have written all the medical men’s letters for them beforehand, & I believe I could write yours.

I am so used to hearing about "inventions of the Devil," whether these be good nurses, —all the inventions of all the Papists,—Gladstone, whose name makes 666,—the Archbp of Canterbury,
or the Archbp of Westminster
or both - that I shall not
be at all affronted if you
call this one, tho’ that is
not what I prophesy you
to say-

I enclose "my plan," meaning
Sir E. Parry’s. Had I been
going to stay in London, I
should have asked you to
go & see my friends at
Dalston, who are from
Kaiserswerth- I think you
would have liked the Matron
& Sister Margaretha-

Please return me these
two things - if you have
time to read them- which
I hardly expect you will.

Will you allow me to
thank you VERY sincerely
for the two volumes I have
received? & for all your
great kindness-

When we are in Derbyshire,
which is till October, our
address is
Lea Hurst
Matlock
& when we are in Hampshire,
which is after October
Embley Park
Romsey
& I must trouble you to
direct to me as Florence
Nightingale-

Excuse me for writing
at such length- it is

not a trick of mine-

tho’ I am afraid you will think
it is-

F N
30 Old Burlington St. [3:265-67]

Wednesday [1852]

You were kind enough to wish to hear the result of our sad and degrading history—After the fullest examination & consultation, the opinion given is that "imbecility or permanent aberration is the inevitable consequence, unless my sister is removed from home and placed under a firm and wise hand." My poor mother can be brought neither to see nor understand. They go on ordering their winter clothes & arranging their autumn parties as if this horrible fate were not hanging over them—They are like children playing on the shore of the eighteenth
century. Ah! don’t laugh. For it is like seeing people jesting among the mangled bodies of their kin. So we play through life among the mangled souls of those we love.

   My father cannot even be persuaded to come up to town to see Sir James Clark. I have had to walk by stealth alone at night to get the medical men to come to us. It is well for me that the Sisters of Charity have taught me the way to do odd things.

   Under these circumstances, I have but one course to pursue. No one will act
but me. My people return on Thursday to their own home in Hampshire, meaning to take me with them to undertake the care of my sister at home— The medical men are decidedly of opinion that my presence at home aggravates the disease. I have therefore said that Sir James Clark having given this awful warning, I cannot think it right to take a part in a way of going on which he has said will have such consequences. If my dear parents cannot think it right to make the change he prescribes, I hope that they will not blame me for withdrawing from taking part in a way of life in which I must either yield to my sister to her destruction (Sir James Clark having expressly stated that the brain is actually in a state of disease and that yielding to her must increase this state of the brain) or by opposition to her wishes & ideas I must be perpetually increasing her nervous excitement and fostering the monomania about me. I have, at the same time, offered to take the whole charge of her, without a nurse (which the education I have received at different places has made me competent to do) away from home, at any place the medical men may name— I said that, at any time, wherever
I am, they may recall me
to do this and I shall consider
myself bound to come-

The question remains
what am I to do with a
stranded ship which
appears to be useless now
to everybody? If I were
to go to Paris immediately
I am told that I should
hasten the catastrophe by
the fits of tears and hysterics
I should produce, & which
I am well accustomed to,
(in re Kaiserswerth). You
asked me whether I had
anticipated this--Oh! for such
long, long weary years have
I been expecting it that
it is almost a relief it
has come at last-
I believe I shall go for
the present to the duty
nearest at hand, to nurse

a sick aunt & wait to see
what I can find out to be
God’s work for me-
I am blamed by everybody,
most of all by themselves-
"for seeking duty away from t
he sphere in which it has
pleased God to place me."
Hardly anybody has any
idea of the true state of the
case, excepting the medical
men, for with the cunning
of monomania, every thing
is smooth outside- It is
only known that my sister
has bad health & what
I can be doing away
from home "nobody can
understand" under such circumstances.
I know you will pray for
us, for the poor shattered
brain- & for the worn &
weary spirit, which would
so gladly have given its life’s blood to her.

Forgive me this long story. I think you can hardly complain of my "reserve" now. I hope that I have told the history of my woes, not for the pleasure of talking of myself, but because, in your direction of young ladies, it may really be of some use to know what certain modes of life will lead to—

I have not even the comfort of thinking that the organization was defective & that, therefore, it has come more directly from the hand of God. For I am told that there is nothing here which might not have been prevented, which might not be prevented now. Any story which I tell must
sound like a long complaint, which I most earnestly desire to avoid, for God is very good—

You accuse me of reserve. But if you knew how earnestly I have desired a friend and prayed for a counsellor—

I wished to say one thing more about myself— which is that, if you are kind enough to see the Abbé des Genettes or the Superioress on my account, I should be glad that neither the patients nor the Sisters should know that I was not a Catholic—

I do not ask you to write, for I know well how much you have to do. But if at any time you should kindly have any communication to make [breaks off abruptly]

signed letter, Pitts Theological Library, Emory University Manning Collection 13/16 Letter 16, copy, Wellcome 9095/9 black-edged paper, pen

1 Upper Harley St. [3:268]
Aug 21

You must have thought me very ungrateful not to answer your kind note sooner. But I am now in service, & the labour of furnishing & settling this immense place, & doing it alone, has been not a little—

My "story" is this. After you left England, I remained with my dear Aunt— She died on Xmas Day— As soon after as I could, I went to Paris— There I fell ill— as soon as I recovered, & the very day I had presented myself
to M. des Genettes & the Soeurs, I was summoned back to England to nurse my Grandmother. She died on Good Friday. These were the only two homes I have ever known.

But, during my absence in Paris, my friends, Mrs. Herbert, Lady Canning & Mrs. Bracebridge had organized this present plan (for me) & when I came back to England, I found the engagement with the Committee actually made. During my long & severe attendance upon my dear Grandmother’s death=bed, the most painful one I have ever known- (for seven days & nights during which I sat up with her, she never ceased to shriek), all the preliminaries of this arrangement were settled for me. I then returned to Paris, & went in to the Soeurs, where I found all I expected- I had however another illness there, which prevented my doing all I hoped-

And here I am- that is all; I returned most unwillingly to fulfil my engagement-

During these ten months, I have three times been home, & each time have found matters worse than before- the monomania about me gradually increasing- so that everything which happens is now imputed to me- Sir James Clark told me in the
spring, (when this matter
was settled), that I could
not do otherwise than I
have done- Yet the indig=
nation at my leaving home
is undiminished-
  And here I am. I have
begun this work without a
single creature to help me-
Others have priests & Sisters
& Superiors- I have no one.
I am wholly unfit to be a
Superior myself- There is
no attraction in it that
I should desire it- I can
only therefore say to the
rest of your note
   Et tu Brute.
   F Nightingale
M. des Genettes’ & the Soeurs’ kind=
ness to me at Paris was beyond
all gratitude, thanks to your introduction
& kindness-
signed letter, Pitts Theological Library, Emory University Manning Collection
13/16 Letter 15, black-edged paper, pen

1 Upper Harley St.    [3:267]
    July 8 1854
Thank you for
remembering me-
You perhaps do not
know that I have
been for the last
twelvemonth the
Matron of a small
Hospital- My home
matters continue
just the same-
Should you ever
have a spare five
minutes, in passing
my door, I need not
say how glad I
should be to see you
(Monday & Friday
afternoons alone
excepted) —
F Nightingale

signed letter, Pitts Theological Library, Emory University Manning Collection
13/16 Letter 17, copy, Wellcome 9084/7
30 Old Burlington St., [3:269]
W.
June 7/58
PRIVATE
It is a long while
since we have met.
And now I am come
to ask you a favor.
Mrs Shaw Stewart
(who was with me in
the Crimea) has been,
at my request, serving
& learning at the
principal Hospitals
of Vienna, Berlin & is n
ow to do the same
at Paris.
I have solicited &
obtained the permission
(or am about to
obtain it) for her
from the Government
at Paris, to whom I
was able to render
some service in the
Crimean War as to
their Hospitals, and
from the Mère Générale
of the Soeurs de S Vincent,
who knows me in
the same way.
  
  Without the Supe-
riore of the Sisters

who serve in these
Hospitals, little good
can be obtained of
real practical learning.
And they do not
obey the Government,
altho', being Government
Hospitals, its permission
is necessary.
  
  But the nuns who
serve in the "Hôtel
Dieu" are Augustinians,
And I have no means
of approaching these.
If you could, as you
once most kindly did
for myself, which
I have not forgotten
(with regard to a
Miséricorde of the
Soeurs de S Vincent)
obtain for me an
introduction to the
Superioress of the
Hôtel Dieu Sisters,
"to incline her to be
"propitious to a lady,
"(Mrs Jane Shaw Stewart)
"about to serve there
"immediately for 3 months,
you would be doing an
immense service to yours
sincerely Florence Nightingale

[written vertically up the side]
Please to consider this quite private.

Signed letter, Pitts Theological Library, Emory University Manning Collection 13/16/18

30 Old Burlington St, [3:269-70]
W.
June 9/58
Thank you very much
for what you have
done for me.
The Augustinians at
the Hôtel Dieu could
not have been reached
by me in any manner
so efficient.
Thank you very
much too for your
kind questions.
I am not likely,
I believe, to leave
London except for
a very far-off place.
Nor, I am told, is
that journey likely
to be delayed for more
than two or three
months, unless I
will give up what
I cannot give up.
I should like very
much to see you, if
you are kind enough
to make time to come.
But, unfortunately,
my work keeps me
till 8 P.M.. And I
fear that would be
impossible to you.
And, even then I
should be obliged
to ask you to write
me a line to say
what day.
If I went any
where, it would be
to see what you so
kindly offer to shew
me. But it is fully
10 months since I
have been anywhere,
not even to see
my Revd Mother when
she was said to be
dying & sent for me.
I know what you
have been doing.
If you could mention
any hour when you
were least busy, I
would try to make
a day to see you, if
you are kind enough
still to wish it.
F. Nightingale
My sister is going to be married to Sir Harry Verney in a fortnight. For many reasons, it is important to me not to let the state of my health be known. I will ask you to be quite silent upon it.

F.N.

Note regarding a mass for Nightingale, Pitts Theological Library, Emory University Manning Collection 13/16

18 November 1859

Rev Sir

Be pleased to offer the holy sacrifice of mass on Monday 21st instant at 8 o’clock for the restoration of the health and the salvation of the soul of Florence Nightingale, who is grievously sick, and recommend same to the congregation.

5d stamps enclosed by an old soldier.

Rev Canon Oakeley
London June 1870

Sir

I am indeed indebted to you for having thought of me in your kind letter of Sept 8 1868, & in sending me your interesting "Hospital Life" with the photograph of Miss Helen Gilson. I think I never saw any face so lovely- It is the face of an angel, as we suppose those to be who see the face of our Father in heaven -

Thank you again for having thought of me in connection with her. I bless God who sends His angels upon earth for a brief space - & beseech Him that He will send more such, for indeed they are sadly wanted here.

Your kind present, tho dated nearly 2 years back did not reach me till the other day. That I did not acknowledge it at once is not from want of will but from want of strength. Think of me as a poor woman so overwhelmed with business & incurable illness as to be obliged to give up all pleasure, of friendship, of mental amusement, almost of sympathy - & therefore as grateful all the more for the kind remembrance of one a stranger & yet near, which best conveys
Duke University

to us an earnest of the
Duke University

love of God & the
"Communion of Saints."

Florence Nightingale
William Howell Reed Esq

{envelope}
United States
{postmarked:} LONDON W 4 JL 13 70
Wm Howell Reed Esq
Roxbury
Massachusetts
United States of America

Duke signed letter, 1f, pen {black-edged paper} copy FN Museum

35 South St. March 25/73
Park Lane
London W.

Dear Miss Lemon

I trust that you will not pass thro' London without giving me the pleasure of making your acquaintance- tho' I am but such a poor creature & scarcely able for more than an hour's conversation at a time- so I hope that you will give me two-

If you could do me the favour of taking a bed at this house, either on the day of your arrival or any other day more convenient to you - would you kindly let me know a day or two beforehand, as I may be called away to my mother any day -

May God bless you for the timely & efficient help which you have given to Miss Barclay's work -

& pray believe me ever yours

Florence Nightingale
Duke signed letter, 1f, pencil, copy FN Museum

35 South St  April 11/73
    Park Lane W  Good Friday
My dear little joy
    I omitted to ask your
address at Liverpool- so
have no means of forwarding
these but to your own home-
    I opened one of them
by mistake- not seeing
your name at the bottom -
    I have had another
letter from our incorrigible
friend at Edinburgh- We
are all to be "whipped" together.
But I am not at all daunted
& don't at all give in -
    yours ever (if you will allow me to
    F. Nightingale       be so)

Duke signed letter & envelope, 3ff, pencil {black-edged paper & envelope},
copy FN Museum

35 South St.
    Park Lane W.
    March 28/74
Dearest 'Sister Victoria'
    I have only just received
your letter- For I am
not really here- I'm there -
    I mean that I am with my
poor mother at Embley- [We
have to remove her from
her home of 56 years]
    I deeply & heartily rejoice
that you are on your way
to recovery- [I had felt
very anxious about you for
many months]- in this life,
with a dear little daughter
   under your charge to
   bring up for this life &
   another— whose little
   soft arms will soon
   be round your neck,
   comforting you for all
   cares.
If as a farther tie to you
   & as token of my deepest
   interest in the dear little
   creature of your bosom,
   you like to call her after
   me, it will be the dearest
   present you can make me.
   [I have always declined
   being a god-mother according
   to the Church of England,
   even among my closest
   friends: because it is
   undertaking in words a
   charge which neither law
   nor custom enables you
   to fulfil. But you do not
   wish me to be God mother:
   in that sense]

I have so often felt a
   regretful surprise at being

called by God to continue
   my path on earth when
   humanly it appeared
   finished that I know
   what it is— But, let
   us be sure that He has
   a real purpose for us,—
   I mean for Himself,—
   something for us to do for
   Him,— when He keeps us
   here—
And does not the little baby’s
   sleepy eyes whisper this
   to you, dear Mother ‘Victoria’?
I want to talk to you about Miss Bourne’s future: but I will not do so in this letter: but {do so is overtrop illeg}
before she goes to Ireland: if she does go- I must-
    God bless you & her & baby:
in great press of business & illness
    yours {signature cut out}

Mrs. L. Roscorla
79 Chesnut Grove
Marsh Lane
Bootle
29/3/74 nr Liverpool

Duke signed letter, 1f, pen, copy FN Museum

Lea Hurst
Cromford
Derby
Aug 9/76
My dear “Sister Victoria”
    (as I like to call you still)
I have had to come down here in charge of my poor widowed mother.
I am overwhelmed with work: this Servi{an} {text goes off page}
    War, how dreadful it is!
Will you not come here & see me on your way back to Liverpool?
or come from Liverpool? It is so short
a journey from Liverpool.
And we would fetch you from
Cromford Station.
Do: but let me know some days
beforehand: for the house is
small: & when my Mother’s
nephew & his children are here
it is cram-full:
I have lately seen an old friend
of yours: our Nurse Cross: gone out
to our new Staff at Montreal
in Canada: a fortnight ago:
full of old affection for you:
she is a valuable woman:
she wished to see you at Liverpool:
did she compass it?
under severe pressure of all kinds
yours ever
F. Nightingale

Duke incomplete letter, 1f, pen {letter has been cut, missing address and signature} copy FN Museum

My dear “Sister
It is impossible - I can use no stronger, no
sadder word- for me to see you.
I can scarcely write one unnecessary line:
I see one of our Matrons or Nurses every day
that it is possible. I have to see besides
India Office officials on business: & to write
many hours a day, beginning in early morning
This week I am told that I must take
charge of my dear Mother, who is infirm and
of great age, and a widow.
My Doctor tells me that I ought not
to talk more than half an hour every other day
I decuple that every day of my life.
As to the subject on which you write, no “mediation” is required: for there has been no “estrangement” on my part.
I hope that the day may come when I shall be able to see you & oh how I wish that you were “Sister Victoria” still!

Duke signed letter, 1f, pencil

10 South St
Park Lane W
Messrs. Graves 10/1/79

Gentlemen

I am extremely obliged to you for your great kindness in sending me these 3 beautiful Engravings of Rosa Bonheur's to look at.
And I choose, if you please, the "Horse Fair," frame {word ending off page}
It is for the space over a chimney-piece of a Working Men's Reading Room in Derbyshire.
And my delay is owing to the having had to write to them to know what size their space will adm {word ending off page}
I leave the kind of frame to your excellent taste

Could it the engraving be, when framed, not much large(r) than the mount is at present?
When ready, I will request you to pack & forward it (safely): & I will sent you the address
I see the price of it (framed) will be £8.
With my renewed thanks
I beg to remain Gentlemen
your grateful servt-
Florence Nightingale
London August 5 1881

Madam,

Your request for my poor name to be on the General Committee of the Lord Stratford de Redcliffe "Memorial Fund" puts me in a great difficulty. I have always to decline giving my name, because to give it without my work is something like a sham. And for me, always under the severe pressure of business & illness, to write one unnecessary line, is impossible.

But if you think I ought to be on this General Committee in memory of such a name, I ought not to refuse. Do with me as you will.

Pray forgive me for enclosing my (too small) contribution to you, £1.1

I sincerely regret that I cannot give more -

May I trust that you are yourself quite recovered from your last year's illness - & may I beg you to believe me ever your faithful serv{t}

Florence Nightingale

To (piece of paper overtop To)

Lady Marian Alford
June 29/95

10, SOUTH STREET, [printed address]  
PARK LANE. W.

My dear Mrs. Roscorla

How good of you to write to me—Thank you a thousand times for your most kind & precious letter about our dear old friend Miss Barclay. Such a comforting letter. I had not heard of her death—And now it is all comfort— I wrote it to Miss Pringle—And she sent me a loving message for you

July 15/95

Our dear Miss Barclay—we can only say that again & again.

Yes; now we can feel, so pathetically yet so joyfully: her clouded life which was death is over—life has begun for her—

It is joyful to think that she is missed by her poor neighbours—& sweet that she was so tenderly cherished & in {overtop are} peace at the end—
2. I like to hear of your children—And though one would not have chosen it for your daughter, yet the Salvation & Church Armies both have much fervour & do a great deal of good, & also want good doing to them—There is often mischief going on in their Shelters—sometimes the Officers do not seem to know how to introduce discipline.

This is not a thing which comes by fervour—one must study it as any thing else—must one not? One can never do without a knowledge of detail.

The people, to whom these poor souls go afterwards, complain that sometimes they are so troublesome from not having been under real discipline—Now I think of your daughter as inheriting
from you the
{printed address:} 10, SOUTH STREET, PARK LANE. W.
genius of acquiring
detail, & the still greater
genius of knowing how
to apply detail- Let her {detail overtop illeg}
help in the Army!
We have had no one like
--- you in Victoria, dear
--- friend, since you left us
--- you who if you did
--- but lift up a finger,
--- the poor little crying
--- babies were quiet: not out
of fear but out of love.
--- But I think the Sister,
--- who is there now, tho’
young & inexperienced,
--- will, if she perseveres,

be like you. She knows
the cry & the character
of each baby- & is
anxious for them not
only in the Ward but
after they have gone out.
--- It is stupendous the
ignorance of mothers
about dieting their infants
‘They have what we have
‘ourselves, Miss’- i.e.
bacon, potatoes, steak,
tea without milk,
sometimes beer or whiskey.
Do mothers do that in
Ireland? They call milk
‘Starvation diet’.
3. We have select Probationers instead of Nursemaids now in Victoria - 4 by day 1 by night
   Now pray, will not you? for this young Sister, that she may be a true mother
   in Israel, (i.e. in Victoria)
   Excuse pencil - If I do not let this go, I shall never write at all to tell you how much
   I valued your dear & precious letter ever in love tho’ in haste
   yours
   F. Nightingale [end 12:510]

March 31/97
   10, SOUTH STREET, [printed address]
   PARK LANE. W.
Dearest Sister Victoria
   I always think of you still as “Sister Victoria”-
   There is your Ward, and it is your Ward still-
   I am afraid you are very ill & very suffering.
   Sometimes I tell a Probationer: “We had a Sister who if she did but lift up her finger all the crying babies were quiet.”
   We have had no such
Sister since, but we
    have great happiness
    in the children often-
A little boy was heard
to tell the children near
him: “Bobby is dead:
    “Sister carried him
    “into the Corridor- And
    “do you know God was
    “waiting in the Corridor
    “to carry him to heaven.”
A little boy of 3 years
was crying for pain: but
he stopped himself & said
“God has pain; but God
“does not cry”-

    And then he said, “I should
like to go & spend my
birth- day in heaven, with
my little brother” (who
died [w] before he was born)
And he did go.
    Now I must not tire
you-
      God bless you- And
He will bless you, &
bless your daughters
ever your loving
      F. Nightingale

Duke (postmarked envelope:) LONDON SW 630 PM MR 31 copy FN Museum
Mrs. Roscorla
3 Woodfield Road
Redland
31/3/97 Bristol
Private
My dear Sir,

In reply to your very kind letter of Dec 10/55, I have delayed writing, till I could send you the enclosed which, (mass of Manuscript tho’ it be), I must request that you take the trouble of reading, because it is necessary for the information of the War Office & as the ground of the complaint which I am about to make.

I will presently write this & beg to remain, dear Sir,
yours very truly & gratefully

Florence Nightingale

B. Hawes Esq

Dep Secretary at War
30 Old Burlington St.

June 28

I thank you very much for all your kindness.

The poor child is at this moment at Richmond, but where we do not know.

I went into the country yesterday afternoon to organize something for Mrs. Chisholm, & found the mother of the girl (an Irish widow living in a shed by the roadside) in great distress about this child, who had run away. I had known her before.

She thought that she could catch her again if a place could be found which would receive her when taken. She has been about a month in this life.

I am sorry that you should have the trouble of going to the Good Shepherd on purpose for this.

If you were to write? I am to see a person at 12 o’clock about this poor child - but, as I shall have nothing then definite to tell her, it will not be of much consequence if the answer
is put off till tomorrow.
   I shall be truly glad
to see Miss Lockhart, if
we are still in London
on Friday.
   Florence Nightingale
Since I wrote this I have
learnt that a girl can
be received at the Good
Shepherd upon the
payment of £2,2, if
they have room. I think
therefore it would be
wrong in me to trouble
you to go.
   very gratefully yours
   F.N.

Editor: Erb paper notes a lost letter, also of June 28 1852, quoted in Shane
Leslie (180), states, "There is no time to be lost. It is a miserable child
of fourteen." This is in the Columbia University collection.

Emory signed letter, pen 13/16 Letter 2 [3:246-47]

   30 Old Burlington St.
   June 29
Mrs Chisholm lives at
   No 3, Charlton Crescent,
   Islington
I fear she is not to be
seen anywhere else, as her
time is occupied in these
days, every hour, nor there
till after Friday, as till
Friday she will be at
the Docks with her ships.
On Wednesday & Thursday
evenings she has Group
Meetings at 8 o’clock p.m.,
   National Mission Hall,
   Cripplegate.
But the evening at her
home after Friday is the best time to see her.

Your name will, of course, be known to her, but if you wish to be introduced, I enclose a note, if you will not think it impertinent of me to offer an introduction to you-

As soon as I have seen Lady Lothian, which I shall do, by your kind permission, if she gives me hopes of a vacancy, I shall go down to Richmond & with the assistance of the police, track & try to persuade this poor thing to go with me at once to Kensington, as the mother, who is a poor feckless thing, could not keep her at home even for a night.

If I fail, do you think you could, do you think you would undertake it yourself? It seems a great deal to ask, but she would not resist you. God bless you for your tender mercy to this poor child.

Florence Nightingale
30 Old Burlington St.
June 30
The child is safe- Thank God- If, when you go to Kensington, you would ask for Margaret Daly & speak to her as you know how to speak, you would be doing a true kindness. You will find her absolutely ignorant but, though she has led the worst kind of life, I do not believe hopelessly hardened. But I never knew a case of that kind permanently regenerated-

I should have preferred placing her under regular Sisters, with whom I believe the blessing of God more particularly rests - But the kindness with which she has been received at Kensington is beyond all gratitude. If, however, you should have such a chance come in your way, perhaps you will remember this poor child. And I should look to Emigration as her ultimate best chance. But they will kindly refer to me when means are wanted. And I must thank you once more in her name for all your kindness- Without you, she would never have been rescued.
I will answer what you have written because I know it was written in the spirit of the purest kindness, & of love to Him, whom we both serve, & not in the spirit of proselytism.

But I think you mistake my state of feeling. You think the defect is in the will. All Catholics do. You think it would be a sacrifice to me to join the Catholic Church- a temptation to remain where I am-

If you knew what a home the Catholic Church would be to me--all that I want I should find in her- all my difficulties would be removed. I have laboriously to pick up here & there crumbs by which to live- she would give me "daily bread" - the "daughters of St Vincent would open their arms to me- they already have done so. & what should I find there? My work, already laid out for me, instead of seeking it to & fro & finding none- my home- sympathy, human & divine. No one asked last night, Is it well with the child? I dislike & I despise the Church of England. She received me into her bosom, but what has she ever done for me? She never gave me work to do for her nor training to do it, if I
2
found it for myself-
   I say, If you knew- But
you do know now, with all
its faults, what a home the
Catholic Church is- And yet
what is she to you compared
with what she would be to
me? No one can tell, no
man can tell what she is
to women- their training,
their discipline, their hope,
their home- to women,
because they are left
wholly uneducated by the
Church of England, almost
wholly uncared for, while
men are not.
   For what training is
there compared to that of
the Catholic nun? I could
see that yesterday at the
House of St Joseph at
Kensington. Those ladies,
who are not Sisters, have
not the chastened temper,
the Christian grace, the
accomplished loveliness &
energy of the regular nun?
   I have seen something
of different kinds of men,
am no longer young & do
not speak from enthusiasm
but from experience- There
is nothing like the training
(in these days) which the
Sacred Heart or the order
of St Vincent gives to women.
And do you think I do not
love her, my mother, tho’
she will not acknowledge
me as her child? I have
never had any other love.
"O Lord, my heart is not ready," it longs to find its home. All "will" for me is on the other side from what you think—Conviction alone hangs back—

The wound is too deep for the Ch. of England to heal. I belong as little to the Ch. of England as to that of Rome—or rather my heart belongs as much to the Catholic Ch. as to that of England—oh how much more—The only difference is that the former insists peremptorily upon my believing what I cannot believe, while the latter is too careless & indifferent to know whether
I believe it or not- She proclaims out of the Prayer book what we are to believe, but she does not care whether we do (and we don’t), while the Catholic Church examines into the fact. If it were not for that, I might have a home where now I have none-

What I have said now I have never said to human being- & to you I say it as to a Catholic priest. You say well, Controversy is no use for me. The reason why every body agrees about Euclid is that we all go out from the same premises. We all agree upon the twelve axioms, the 3 Postulates, the definitions &c- But in this case we do not agree upon the premises- & therefore it is of no avail going on to conclusions.

Forgive me for writing my private feelings to an almost stranger- but I answer the letter which you have had the kindness to write to me- & I know Catholics too well to suppose that anything that is human is strange to them- You will probably have nothing more to do with me now- but I thank you all the same-

What I have suffered
let God only know—But
my whole soul is His—&
provided He makes known
His name to the world, I
do not care what He does
with me— to the world,
which, at least in England,
so I believe, is very near
losing His name— It seems
very strange that, when
such men as S. Ignatius
of Loyola, S. Bernard &
Wesley could find no rest
without finding God, &
travelled up & down the
earth to look for Him,
all the most moral & most
intellectual of the artisan
world in England are now
learning to live very
well without Him, &
even to think it does not
signify His not being there.
They say, I don’t know
whether there is a God or
not— but if there is we
cannot understand Him &
shall not therefore look
for Him.
  If your Church will
send a Mission to the
heathen, let her send one
here— to Manchester, to
Huddersfield, to Leeds,
Halifax & Bradford— for
spirituality is dying out
of these places—
  I hope you will not
think me impertinent,
but believe me, sincerely
grateful for all your
kindness—
   Florence Nightingale
30 Old Burlington St. [3:249-50]

Saturday
I found the poor child
at Kensington bent upon
going- I staid till
half past six, hoping that
there might be a change
& that you might come-
But, unless you were
more successful than I
was, after I went, the
poor thing is lost- I have
seen legs cut off, & horrible
operations- but that was
nothing to this-
Will you forgive me
for troubling you to go, if
it were in vain, & tell
me what the result
was?

Let me thank you
again for all your
kindness-
F.N.

Lea Hurst
Matlock- July 13
Yes, it was very nearly
what I expected- nearly,
but not quite-

I acknowledge the truth
of every word you have
said- It is a matter of
fact that the Catholic
Church has done all the
things you say & that no
other church has done so.
These are facts of history.
Would I could believe
in more. Empirically, but
not scientifically, I believe
in her- she has no more
fervent disciple than I.
I believe in her with all
the power of my eyes, as
the early Chaldeans believed in the return of eclipses which they could ascertain by observation, but could not account for—

You will say, as my dear Madre at the Trinità used always to do, And is not that enough? What would you have more? She is too beautiful not to be true— Ye shall know a tree by its fruits—

But there is a difference between conjecturing empirically & knowing certainly—

My observation shews me the uniformities which exist in the Catholic Church of faith, of simplicity of aim, of love & self-sacrifice— as the observation of the Chaldeans shewed them the uniformities of the celestial motions— But I hesitate to rely, for want of being able to believe their theories, as we waited till Kepler told us the law, which the Easterns had only mistaken—

You would have me snatch at the blessings the Catholic Church has to give, without having given her my unconditional allegiance & make my own conditions (tacitly) instead of receiving hers. So have I done all my life with the Anglican Church— I have snatched her Sacraments (a faithless child— but she never asked me why) tacitly making my own conditions to myself—

I stand now trembling where I stood firm before.
Those I have known left the arms of one Church but to go to those of another - a more faithful mother - I have a precipice behind me. If I do not reach the Church [breaks off] [contd upside down and crossed out] This horrible system dooms some minds to incurable infamy, others to incurable misery.

[contd in Leslie article 183] of the Catholics, I have no church. For the Anglican has long since melted away into a ghost; I cannot find her. Do not forget, as you kindly still interest yourself in my salvation, do not forget to ask that question about the Soeurs Hospitalières which I took the liberty of begging you to do.

[at bottom of last available page, upside down and crossed out] This horrible system dooms some minds to incurable infancy, others to incurable misery.

Emory initialed letter, pen 13/16 Letter 8, 9095/10 [3:253-54]

Lea Hurst
Matlock - 15 July
You are very kind to wish to take so much trouble about me-
If you will tell me (some time) the peculiarities which you think stand between me & the light, you will find a grateful listener.
Will you not tell me too the condition which I leave unfulfilled?
You suspect me of Eclecticism. I do not know - I will think about it - The whole age is invaded by it - & by its offspring, Indifferentism. I thought I had as great a horror of it as you have.

But one is always wrong about oneself - And therefore I think it most probable you have found me out-
I know what you would say. Do not spare me-
But do not say that I do not love our Heavenly Father, nor open my heart to Him—say anything but that. For He has been very good to me.

The question which you were kind enough to say you would ask for me is—whether they would take me in at the Hospital of St. Stephen’s in the Green in Dublin, (which is served by the Sisters of Mercy) for three months—as I am— I could not go for more at present—& therefore it would not do for me to go into the Noviciate—Novices are seldom & postulants never, I believe, employed in the Hospital— I want to be employed there at once—For it is not for purposes of retreat that I go, which I could do elsewhere, with less anxiety to my people— but to learn their trade—

I have a particular reason for wishing to be under S. Vincent. I have obligations to him—

I do not wish to trouble you for information, which I could get for myself—But I do not think they would take me, on these terms, without a recommendation, which you alone could do for me—

I should not wish the Patients to know I was not a Catholic—

nor any one but the Revd Mother & the priest—

I will tell you all the truth—which perhaps will alter your opinion about doing it—I have not my people’s consent for this— & I do not think I should go without it. I was in disgrace with
them for a twelvemonth for
going to Kaiserswerth- My
sister has never spoken the
word to me since- & I really
believe that it would give
my dear people less pain
for me to become a Roman
Catholic & marry, than for me
to become a Sister of Charity-
I think the persecution of the
Emperor Domitian must be
easy to bear- but there is
a persecution from those we
love, as I dare say you
know, which grinds one’s
very heart out- especially

if one is not quite sure one
is right-
I wonder at myself for
telling these things- I have
never done so before-
It is a great deal to ask.
I scarcely dare hope that you
will have time for me to
venture to accept your offer,
about the Science of Theology,
I mean- But if you should,
you would find a ready
heart.
You say you will tell me
all about the Synod- But
when shall we meet
again?
F.N.

Lea Hurst
Matlock - July 22.
I have thought over what you
have said & whether it is
true- & strangely enough,
I cannot tell you-
You will know some day
(next year perhaps) & so
shall I.
But, if it is true, why
cannot I join the Catholic
Church at once?- as the
best form of truth I have
known- & as cutting the
Gordian knot I cannot
untie- So many of the
verts, who have gone
from among us (especially
the female verts) have
done this- at least I should
have company- & I appeal
to your impression of Newman,

whether his was not the
most sceptical mind you
ever knew- so like his
brother- The eclectic has
been at least as strong
an element as any other
in filling the stream towards
Catholicism- Why cannot
I join it? The Catholic
Church has remedied this
tendency in Newman’s &
in many other minds- but
it was that, or weariness
of it, which brought them
there-
You will not perhaps believe
it- but the search after
Truth has been to me a
martyrdom- tearing up
everything I love- forcing
me upon conclusions I recoil

from- shutting the door
upon what looks to me Paradise-
This looks, I must say, as
if you were right- for if I
loved Truth above all other
things, why should it be so?
I cannot thank you for
all your kindness- It will
do quite well when you go
to Dublin- I could not
leave home at present. I
am watching what may be
the deathbed of the one I
shall miss most on earth,
tho’ it seems a curious thing
to say. I am all her world
& I shall be glad when she
is where I can give her no
pain-
The same morning I received your letter I had one from an old friend, quite unexpectedly asking me to go to Ireland on the 20th of Augt= with them= This would so facilitate it in the eyes of my people that I cannot but look upon it as a special hint= Would you therefore kindly fulfil your promise when you go to Dublin? Or if you think it best to write beforehand & would take that trouble? But I do not think it necessary=

You accuse me, though mildly, of intellectual dishonesty & in these times, how few men can say they are honest= I am sure I cannot= I wish it had pleased God to let me be born a century later= I often tell Him that these times are too difficult for me, & say to Him, with shame & sorrow that I am not up to them & find my task too hard for me=

F.N.

Tapton Sheffield Aug 18
I really don’t know what I am going to do. But, if I do not see you again, St Vincent’s Hospital, St Stephen’s Green is the place & the revd mother’s name is (or was) McCarthy. Eight years ago I tried to do this and failed= If you think it right to tell your Archbp, do; I had rather not. They make such an enormous fuss with their poor little verts= they have the exact (or inex-
act) cypher of their fortunes
in that work of immense
impertinence, the Catholic
Register, & when that nice
little boy, Lord Feilding,
verted, I thought the king=
dom of France would have
clapped her hands—
If I come to Dublin, it
will probably be on Saturday
or Monday. But, under this
uncertainty, you will only ask
the question of the revd mother.
Do not make any difficulties
with her about the "diva
pecunia, Papa Satàn," as
your ultramontane country=
people call it.
Is Miss Lockhart gone
to Greenwich?
I have found out where
that poor child is whom you
were so kind to at Kensington.
There is no doubt what kind
of a house it is which she is
in. It is again at Kingston,
where I found her before—
& her family is all gone to
America & have left her
there.
You once told me that you
had some terrible evidence,
collected when you preached
that sermon for the Magdalen.
You could not let me have,
or any part of it, could you?
You say, I am as tiresome
as Undine— Now I will be
as plain as a, b, c.

a. I am very glad to know
how you came into the Catholic
Church. I should never have
ventured to ask the question.
I have observed that
classical & Oxford men
generally take the historical
course of examining into the
claims of the Church — whether they can believe in her, mathematical & Cambridge men the critical course, of examining into each individual doctrine, whether they can believe in it.

b. I have not despaired of attaining thro’ the latter course. I once heard a nun, who I believe was a Saint, use the very same words as to prayer as what I believe, which I am sure is unorthodox. And I have thought that I could believe the same things as to Creation as St Thomas Aquinas.

c. Do I acknowledge it reasonable to receive truths of which I do not see the evidence? Certainly I do. I cannot calculate the path of the moon, nor remember the formula when it is done. Yet I take it at the hands of Arago—Give me an adequate authority, & I will accept his truth. He is my evidence. But then I must know that he has authority.

I like your "Jesu, dulcis memoria." With us, God is dead. He has been dead nearly 2000 years. He wrote the Bible about 1800 years ago — & since then He has not been heard of.

You had better come to Sheffield—There are five Redemptorist Fathers here now preaching a Mission. But there is not a nun, nort a convent of any sort here, with an immense population utterly neglected— And you may go into the great Cutlery places & find not one Anglican among
all the men-
  I do not know yet where we shall be in Dublin, as I depend upon other people. I am ashamed to fash you with me, when I am obliged to be so uncertain. If you will kindly write to me before Saturday, direct to Mrs Shore’s Tapton Sheffield my grandmother’s, that is-

God bless you & thank you - & bless too.
  your weary Penitent
  F.N.
Tapton
Sheffield- Aug 19
If you have forgotten—may I remind you to
ask the Mother to admit me into the
Hospital at once, which is not customary?
I am afraid lest, in the multiplicity of
things you must have to do, you should forget me.
I shall follow as soon as I can—
I do not think that the historical claim
will do, in these days, in England.

In Europe, in the 18th century, when Physical
Science— & particularly Astronomy— reached
its highest point when Bailly, Laplace,
d’Alembert, Diderot & Lavoisier led the world,
men’s minds were versed in the laws of
nature & yet not deeply enough to see that the
laws of Nature were only the mechanical
equivalents for God’s thoughts, not forces in
themselves— And Atheism naturally followed—
In the first half of the 19th century, Physiology made a start, and the science of life was substituted for physical science—the organic for the inorganic system—a vital for a mechanical picture.

And Pantheism followed, (at least in Germany) which considers the Universe as a living thing, a self-developing principle—In England, Sir Robert Peel, & your friend Sidney Herbert, are Pantheists—
Now, in the latter half of the 19th century— in England at least, where Mechanics are the ruling passion— Atheism is again, or will be, the ruling principle— if men’s spiritual feelings are not developed on a par with their intellects. Therefore I don’t think it will do for the Church to rest her claim upon the historic, but upon the scientific principle. The historic made Schlegel, as you say, a Catholic— But the English have never been historians, and he who presents religion to them must do it from the scientific point of view—

Instead of Saints, they have had great Civil Engineers— instead of Sisters of Charity, they have had Political Economists. They must have a scientific God to make way against the strides which Science is making— or Atheism will make these strides too— People will make their God till they can find Him—

The Ch. of England could not have stood
in any country but England because she is such a poor historian—

I have always thought that the great theological fight had yet to be fought out in England between Catholicism & Protestantism— In Germany it was fought out 300 years ago— They know why they are Protestants. I never knew an Englishman who did, & if he enquires, he becomes a Catholic. We took our Protestantism from a king & kept it afterwards, because it suited our ideas of political independence— & now we believe, (or don’t believe), by Act of Parliament. The Ch of England is but a "school," as you said—

But I fear religion must be taught on very different grounds from what it ever has been yet, for people to believe.

FN.
5 Royal Terrace
Belfast
Aug 30
Would you kindly ask
Mr Lockhart for a letter
of introduction (which he
was so good as to promise
me at Belfast & which
I think he has probably
forgotten)- if he is still
within your reach?
I would have asked
Miss Lockhart without
troubling you- but I believe
she is gone-
"Of all places that the
eye of” me would not have
visited, I think Belfast
is the one- Imagine a
new, commercial, Orange,
Presbyterian town- a
cross between Geneva &
Manchester- inhabited
by that anomalous animal,
an Irish Protestant- with
Infirmaries, Poor=houses,
&c all on the model of
London-
I have had moments of
intense discouragement in
my life- but never any
thing like this-
I went last night to
the Annual Meeting & Sermon
of St. Vincent of Paul- but
even that was a muddled
& lengthened edition of an
English prayer meeting at
Exeter Hall- with Bible
& muffins in sandwich-
The people were scrambling
& slopping themselves with
holy water- but I could
see none of the real
Catholic Irish piety.

We stay here till the
8th then, I suppose, back
to Dublin- & home-

F Nightingale

Emory signed letter, pen, 13/16 Letter 13, 9095/6 [3:259-60]

Belfast
Sept 7
I am leaving Ireland without
having accomplished one
object for which I came-
I shall try once more at
Dublin whether it is
possible to do anything
there- We shall be there
tomorrow till Saturday &
then I suppose we shall
return to England-

I have seen everything
in this place & Lisburn
& the towns about- And
never did I see nursing,
education & all the works
of love practised as a trade
to such an extent before-
London is comparatively a
little child- To see the
craft carried to its perfection
you must come here—

I must thank you very much for your introduction to Mrs. Watson. She is a sweet woman & has been very kind to me—And I like her queer husband—

Though I am sorry for my wasted time & disap- pointed hopes, I agree with you that Dublin is not the place for me, tho’ I don’t know why you say so—Shall I confess that I was disappointed in St. Vincent’s Hospital? There are three things which, from experience, I am sure can never do—The sisters do not sit up at night—They do not attend the operations—& they are only in the wards from 8 to 8—& that, with an hour’s recreation between—I believe it to be impossible to leave these duties to the ward maids, as is done there—or to any hired persons—When I was superior of one department of the Hospital at Kaisers- werth, I found it quite necessary that we should be in the wards from 5 A.M. to 10 P.M., sit up ourselves at night, & be always present at the operations. In fact, we had no ward maids.
This rather consoles me for not remaining here—
I will with great pleasure do what you ask with regard to the Operatives in England—tho’ you must remember two things, if you please—first, that it is only for yourself. You must not make any use of it— which you will see the reason of— 2ndly that it is only the experience of one person—
If you are so kind as to write to me & have any hints to give to me before I leave Ireland, will you write to Bilton’s Hotel, Sackville St. Dublin—
My best gratitude is yours.
I heard from Mary Stanley at Norwich.
F Nightingale

Birk Hall
Aberdeenshire
Sept 28
I must write one word of gratitude for your great kindness, that you may not think it quite wasted— It was quite all that I expected— the restrictions which M. des Genettes mentions being those which hold everywhere— When I have more time, I should like to tell you the comparative work (& no=work) of the religious Sisterhoods at Paris—
I was summoned from Ireland (the day after I
wrote to you) to nurse my sister in Aberdeenshire—& came down here, by express, to find her delirious, though knowing me—Sir James Clark, who has been to me like a father, fears derangement or imbecility as the ultimate consequence—To me it is no shock but a relief, as what I have been expecting for years is now shared & my responsibility divided with a medical man whom I can trust—

I know that all that I say to you is sub sigillo but this especially, as I have not yet told my father & mother, who are still in Derbyshire.

Oh if mothers saw what I have seen, had watched as I have the downward course of the finest intellect & the sweetest temper thro’ irritability, nervousness & weakness— to final derangement— & all brought on by the conventional life of the present phase of civilization, which fritters away all that is spiritual in women— they would curse conventional excitements, as I do now, instead of rejoicing over what leads
to their daughters’ destruction.
   I could not write to thank you as I should wish for your persevering kindness 
& to say that, as soon as I can, I shall take advantage of it. For I have had for a fortnight the sole control of this poor irritated brain, night & day.
   When that time will come, God only knows-
   I am now bringing my poor sister slowly home, day by day- the excessive excitability & shattered nerves not bearing more-
   Pray for us-
   F N.

I will keep M des Genettes’ letter, if you will allow me, as an introduction when I go to Paris, for which I thank you much- And that of Supre Géné, if I am not asking too much, as an introduction to her-
   The medical men are doing the work of des=truction in Paris just as they have done in London- They have ousted the religious orders from the Hôtel Dieu, the Pitié. For I don’t call the dames de S. Antoine nor de S Louis, who have those hospitals now, a
religious order- The
daughters of S. Vincent &
the Soeurs Hospitalières
de S. Thomas de Villeneuve
are I believe the only
ones who deserve that
name now-
Do you know M.
Etienne, the Superior of
the Lazzarists, Rue de
Sèvres?

30 Old Burlington St.
July 7
I am sorry I cannot
send you Brodie’s letter,
which is really a
psychological curiosity –
I enclose Locock, which
I am still sorrier to do,
(when you have so much
to do), only because I
promised it – It is however
a fair type of what the
good medical man, (which
he is), thinks enough – &
of how incorrect his
information can be
about his own trade – but
probably he does not
consider the Hospital his
trade, only the medical part of it.

With regard to principles, Brodie takes the lack of the danger of the scheme, Locock of its impracticability - most (of the Protestant letters I have received) of its being an "invention of the Devil" - while you, I know, will take yet a fourth -

In answer to Locock, I can only say that it has been done & well done - as I can testify, in a Hospital, which I served in, for 3 months - in my ward we had a very heavy ward all the time I was there - & an unusually full number of Operations - which are cases never left for one minute - as you probably know - yet we always found time to do what Locock pronounces impossible - & to spare one another besides for the "Instruction" -

There were great wants, which I was so kind as to tell you, I believe - but not of the sort Locock
supposes—
Fliedner was one of the "overworked chaplains," if ever there was one—yet he never found his daily Instruction, any more than a Catholic priest does his daily Mass, too much—& I can truly say, though, among us Sisters, many souls went to the bottom under the severity of his "Seelsorge," that those who did swim, had all self-love so well rooted out of them by him, that they had great cause to thank him—as a Director—

With regard to money, which Locock appeals to, the whole of Kaiserswerth was supported on less than £3000 a year—Now St Bartholomew’s has an income of ten times that sum, & so far from being in debt it, last year, was building a new & elegant front, because it did not know what to do with its money, while the Nurses were sleeping in a place where it was impossible for any woman but the Mère Angélique to keep her character—
It is quite true that St
George’s Hospital is the best managed in London—but the “visits of the Chaplain,” although incomparable in their way, are as if I were to eat once a week, or a baby were to receive a “visit” from its nurse “more than once every day.”

In answer to one of Locock’s remarks,—at Kaiserswerth there were as many Catholics as Protestants, at least.

In answer to another, nobody supposes that the qualifications we speak of in the Nurses are to be substituted for their others.

I hardly know why I trouble you with these vituperatory remarks, unless it is that you were kind enough to wish to see Locock’s letter, & I do not like to let it go without them—But I could have written all the medical men’s letters for them beforehand, & I believe I could write yours.

I am so used to hearing about “inventions of the Devil,” whether these be good nurses, —all the inventions of all the Papists,—Gladstone, whose name makes 666,—the Archbp of Canterbury,
or the Archbp of Westminster
or both - that I shall not
be at all affronted if you
call this one, tho’ that is
not what I prophesy you
to say-
    I enclose "my plan," meaning
Sir E. Parry’s. Had I been
going to stay in London, I
should have asked you to
go & see my friends at
Dalston, who are from
Kaiserswerth- I think you
would have liked the Matron
& Sister Margaretha-
    Please return me these
two things - if you have
time to read them- which
I hardly expect you will.

Will you allow me to
thank you VERY sincerely
for the two volumes I have
received? & for all your
great kindness-
    When we are in Derbyshire,
which is till October, our
address is
    Lea Hurst
    Matlock
& when we are in Hampshire,
which is after October
    Embley Park
    Romsey
& I must trouble you to
direct to me as Florence
Nightingale-
    Excuse me for writing
at such length- it is

not a trick of mine-
tho’ I am afraid you will think
it is-
    F N
30 Old Burlington St.
Wednesday [1852]
You were kind enough to wish to hear the result of our sad and degrading history-
After the fullest examination & consultation, the opinion given is that "imbecility or permanent aberration is the inevitable consequence, unless my sister is removed from home and placed under a firm and wise hand." My poor mother can be brought neither to see nor understand. They go on ordering their winter clothes & arranging their autumn parties as if this horrible fate were not hanging over them- They are like children playing on the shore of the eighteenth
century. Ah! don’t laugh. For it is like seeing people jesting among the mangled bodies of their kin. So we play through life among the mangled souls of those we love.

My father cannot even be persuaded to come up to town to see Sir James Clark. I have had to walk by stealth alone at night to get the medical men to come to us. It is well for me that the Sisters of Charity have taught me the way to do odd things.

Under these circumstances, I have but one course to pursue. No one will act
but me. My people return
on Thursday to their own
home in Hampshire, meaning
to take me with them to
undertake the care of my
sister at home- The medical
men are decidedly of opinion
that my presence at home aggravates
the disease. I have therefore
said that Sir James Clark
having given this awful
warning, I cannot think
it right to take a part in
a way of going on which
he has said will have
such consequences. If my
dear parents cannot think
it right to make the
change he prescribes, I hope
that they will not blame me
for withdrawing from taking

part in a way of life in
which I must either yield
to my sister to her destruction
(Sir James Clark having
expressly stated that the
brain is actually in a state
of disease and that yielding
to her must increase this
state of the brain) or by
opposition to her wishes &
ideas I must be perpetually
increasing her nervous
excitement and fostering the
monomania about me. I
have, at the same time,
offered to take the whole
charge of her, without a
nurse (which the education
I have received at different
places has made me
competent to do) away from
home, at any place the
medical men may name-
I said that, at any time, wherever
I am, they may recall me
to do this and I shall consider
myself bound to come-

The question remains
what am I to do with a
stranded ship which
appears to be useless now
to everybody? If I were
to go to Paris immediately
I am told that I should
hasten the catastrophe by
the fits of tears and hysterics
I should produce, & which
I am well accustomed to,
(in re Kaiserswerth). You
asked me whether I had
anticipated this--Oh! for such
long, long weary years have
I been expecting it that
it is almost a relief it
has come at last-

I believe I shall go for
the present to the duty
nearest at hand, to nurse

a sick aunt & wait to see
what I can find out to be
God’s work for me-

I am blamed by everybody,
most of all by themselves-
"for seeking duty away from t
he sphere in which it has
pleased God to place me."
Hardly anybody has any
idea of the true state of the
case, excepting the medical
men, for with the cunning
of monomania, every thing
is smooth outside- It is
only known that my sister
has bad health & what
I can be doing away
from home "nobody can
understand" under such circumstances.

I know you will pray for
us, for the poor shattered
brain- & for the worn &
weary spirit, which would
so gladly have given its life’s blood to her.

Forgive me this long story. I think you can hardly complain of my “reserve” now. I hope that I have told the history of my woes, not for the pleasure of talking of myself, but because, in your direction of young ladies, it may really be of some use to know what certain modes of life will lead to—

I have not even the comfort of thinking that the organization was defective & that, therefore, it has come more directly from the hand of God. For I am told that there is nothing here which might not have been prevented, which might not be prevented now. Any story which I tell must
sound like a long complaint, which I most earnestly desire to avoid, for God is very good—

You accuse me of reserve. But if you knew how earnestly I have desired a friend and prayed for a counsellor—

I wished to say one thing more about myself—which is that, if you are kind enough to see the Abbé des Genettes or the Superioress on my account, I should be glad that neither the patients nor the Sisters should know that I was not a Catholic—

I do not ask you to write, for I know well how much you have to do. But if at any time you should kindly have any communication to make [breaks off abruptly]

Emory signed letter, 13/16 Letter 16, 9095/9 black-edged paper pen

1 Upper Harley St. [3:268]
Aug 21

You must have thought me very ungrateful not to answer your kind note sooner. But I am now in service, & the labour of furnishing & settling this immense place, & doing it alone, has been not a little—

My "story" is this. After you left England, I remained with my dear Aunt—She died on Xmas Day—As soon after as I could, I went to Paris—There I fell ill—as soon as I recovered, & the very day I had presented myself
to M. des Genettes & the Soeurs, I was summoned back to England to nurse my Grandmother. She died on Good Friday. These were the only two homes I have ever known.

But, during my absence in Paris, my friends, Mrs. Herbert, Lady Canning & Mrs. Bracebridge had organized this present plan (for me) & when I came back to England, I found the engagement with the Committee actually made.

During my long & severe attendance upon my dear Grandmother’s death-bed, the most painful one I have ever known- (for seven days & nights during which I sat up with her, she never ceased to shriek), all the preliminaries of this arrangement were settled for me. I then returned to Paris, & went in to the Soeurs, where I found all I expected- I had however another illness there, which prevented my doing all I hoped-

And here I am- that is all; I returned most unwillingly to fulfil my engagement-

During these ten months, I have three times been home, & each time have found matters worse than before-the monomania about me gradually increasing- so that everything which happens is now imputed to me- Sir James Clark told me in the
spring, (when this matter was settled), that I could not do otherwise than I have done- Yet the indigination at my leaving home is undiminished-

And here I am. I have begun this work without a single creature to help me- Others have priests & Sisters & Superiors- I have no one. I am wholly unfit to be a Superior myself- There is no attraction in it that I should desire it- I can only therefore say to the rest of your note

Et tu Brute.

F Nightingale

M. des Genettes’ & the Soeurs’ kindness to me at Paris was beyond all gratitude, thanks to your introduction & kindness-

Emory signed letter, 13/16 Letter 15, black-edged paper, pen

1 Upper Harley St. [3:267]

July 8 1854

Thank you for remembering me- You perhaps do not know that I have been for the last twelvemonth the Matron of a small Hospital- My home matters continue just the same- Should you ever have a spare five minutes, in passing
my door, I need not
say how glad I
should be to see you
(Monday & Friday
afternoons alone
excepted) -
F Nightingale

Emory signed letter, 13/16 Letter 17, copy 9084/7
30 Old Burlington St. [3:269]

W.
June 7/58
PRIVATE
It is a long while
since we have met.
And now I am come
to ask you a favor.
Mrs Shaw Stewart
(who was with me in
the Crimea) has been,
at my request, serving
& learning at the
principal Hospitals
of Vienna, Berlin & is n
ow to do the same
at Paris.
I have solicited &
obtained the permission
(or am about to
obtain it) for her
from the Government
at Paris, to whom I
was able to render
some service in the
Crimean War as to
their Hospitals, and
from the Mère Générale
of the Soeurs de S Vincent,
who knows me in
the same way.
    Without the Supe-
rioress of the Sisters

who serve in these
Hospitals, little good
can be obtained of
real practical learning.
And they do not
obey the Government,
altho’, being Government
Hospitals, its permission
is necessary.
    But the nuns who
serve in the "Hôtel
Dieu" are Augustinians,
And I have no means
of approaching these.
If you could, as you
once most kindly did
for myself, which
I have not forgotten
(with regard to a
Miséricorde of the
Soeurs de S Vincent)
obtain for me an
introduction to the
Superioress of the
Hôtel Dieu Sisters,
"to incline her to be
“propitious to a lady,
“(Mrs Jane Shaw Stewart)
"about to serve there
“immediately for 3 months,
you would be doing an
immense service to yours
sincerely Florence Nightingale

[written vertically up the side]
Please to consider this quite private.

Emory signed letter 13/16/18 [3:269-70]

30 Old Burlington St,
W.
June 9/58
Thank you very much
for what you have
done for me.
The Augustinians at
the Hôtel Dieu could
not have been reached
by me in any manner
so efficient.
Thank you very
much too for your
kind questions.
I am not likely,
I believe, to leave London except for a very far-off place. Nor, I am told, is that journey likely to be delayed for more than two or three months, unless I will give up what I cannot give up. I should like very much to see you, if you are kind enough to make time to come. But, unfortunately, my work keeps me till 8 P.M. And I fear that would be impossible to you. And, even then I should be obliged to ask you to write me a line to say what day. If I went anywhere, it would be to see what you so kindly offer to shew me. But it is fully 10 months since I have been anywhere, not even to see my Revd Mother when she was said to be dying & sent for me. I know what you have been doing. If you could mention any hour when you were least busy, I would try to make a day to see you, if you are kind enough still to wish it.

F. Nightingale
My sister is going
to be married to Sir
Harry Verney in a
fortnight.
   For many reasons, it
is important to me
not to let the state of
my health be known.
I will ask you to be
quite silent upon it.
   F.N.

Emory Note regarding a mass for Nightingale, Pitts Theological Library, Emory University Manning Collection 13/16

18 November 1859

Rev Sir
   Be pleased to offer the holy sacrifice of mass on Monday 21st instant at 8 o’clock for the restoration of the health and the salvation of the soul of Florence Nightingale, who is grievously sick, and recommend same to the congregation.
   5d stamps enclosed by an old soldier.
Rev Canon Oakeley
Scutari
Barrack Hospl
Jan 18/56

Madam

In reply to your letter of Jan 4, I am very happy to be able to inform you that William Edward Austen
2nd Dragn Gds
(Scotch Greys)
went home to England Dec 11/55. I therefore return to you his wife’s letter & trust that, ‘ere this, her heart is lightened of its troubles - I remain
your obedt servt
Florence Nightingale

General Hospital
Balaclava
April 25/56

My dear Miss Tibbett

In reply to yours of 19 April, as I am not in immediate want of Tainton & Wilsdon up here, I would undoubtedly think it better for you that you should wait till you hear whether Mr. & Mrs. Paget will come for you or not - as there is no good to be
gained by your coming
up here excepting
amusement (& very
little of that, without
Mr. & Mrs. Paget) and
you do not wish to go
home till you are no
farther needed for the
work - & as you feel
that you have never
taken such a journey
without some one to
take care of you -
I hope the singing
will fall through. But
I should be very sorry
to make any change
in your arrangements,
as it would excite
attention. I am very
glad you refused that
the Nurses should lead
the singing.
I have no more
faith in Howell than
I have in Dawson -
& should think it
hardly right to have
Cator up without a
positive necessity,
leaving Howell in her
place, especially without
yourself.
As we send down
3 ships full of sick
to Scutari next week,
so I hear from head-
quarters, I should be
afraid of dismantling
Scutari hastily -
Believe me
ever yours
F. Nightingale
General Hospital
Balaclava
April 26/56

Sir,

I have had an Orderly, Private Martin Grainger, No. 3245, Light Compy, 39th Regt, for the last twelvemonth, who has been of essential service to me in the Hospital work of two Crimean Hospitals from his sobriety, honesty & trustworthiness -

Having applied to Lt Col. Tinley, Commg 39th Regt, he encouraged me to make an application to Head Quarters that this Pte Grainger might be retained as Orderly, as long as Hospitals exist in the Crimea - or as long as his Regiment is not ordered to Canada or elsewhere - the man himself being willing

I should not otherwise have ventured to trouble the Commander of the Forces with such a request -

I have the honor to be
Sir
your obedt servt
Florence Nightingale

Sir Wm Codrington
&c &c &c
Commander of the Forces

1f, 27 April, to FN stating that the 39th Regiment is going to Canada and consequently her request is denied

1f, 21 June-3 July, 1856, from Baron Wrangel to Sir Wm Codrington, in French, conveying the Emperor’s thanks for gifts given to French soldiers by FN
My Lord

Tho’ overwhelmed with business & illness, I am compelled by the kindness you shew towards an old Nurse, Mrs. Montague, to answer your note in detail, & myself,

The income of the “Fund”, called by my name, is entirely absorbed in Training-Schools (at St. Thomas’ Hospital & King’s Coll: Hospl), the one for Nurses for Hospitals & Workhouses, the other for Midwifery Nurses for town & country poor.

No part of it can be alienated for providing for old Nurses -

Mrs. Montague did not, as she has stated to you, “obtain her experience under my own immediate direction.”

When a Hospital in the East, not under my direction, was broken up, I was requested, by the Government officials, to take as many of
the Nurses as I could  
(from a charitable motive)  
Of these, Mrs. Montague  
was one - She remained  
with me, to the best of  
my recollection, about  
8 months: She certainly  
did very well under  
me - And I gave her  
a certificate, now 8  
years ago, to that effect  
- against my usual  
practice, my experience  
having invariably  
found that, as in  
this case, such certificates  
are used for begging  
purposes -  

Since that time, I  

have repeatedly found  
situations for Mrs.  
Montague, both private  
& in Hospitals. She  
has never been able to  
keep one. In one, she  
was found guilty of a  
grave fault. But as it  
was condoned, I do not  
now wish it to be brought  
forward against her -  
And if I saw any means  
of helping her, this  
would not prevent me.  
I have also lent her  
money to set her up  
in business. And I  
have more than once
assisted her with small sums -

The wife of a Cabinet Minister, at my request, gave her the money & the recommendations to start her in another branch of Nursing -

All has failed.

If Mrs. Montague chooses to undergo the training, (& if she can be accepted) at either of the two training Schools called by my name, so far from situations being “wanted” by those so trained, we have never candidates enough to fill the situations offered. But Institutions, founded with public money for the purpose of training, can only help those who can help themselves.

Mrs. Montague was an elderly woman when she came to me, was not injured in health by any means when with me, & remained with me but 8 months -
I beg to repeat that I should not wish any part of this statement, thus confidentially made, to be made use of against Mrs. Montague - as also there is nothing against her which would prevent my helping her, if only she could be helped by "employment".

I beg to remain
Your Lordship’s faithful servt
Florence Nightingale

The Marquis Townshend

Yoxall Cottage Hosp.  
London  
April 4/72

Dear Madam
If it is decided to erect a Cottage Hospital at this place, these plans seem admirably suited for the purpose. Mr. Alex Graham is indeed an Architect for Hospitals in whose opinion every confidence may be safely placed.

1. The proposed change in the position of the slop sink should be adopted
2. As regards Earth Closets generally: wherever {addressee’s name obliterated}
there is water & a drainage outlet, there will necessarily be an outlet for the Bath Water; sink water, lavatory water & cooking water.

Now this should not be allowed to run into ditches - The best way to do with it is to run it over grass land and if this is done there might just as well be two W.C.s as two Earth Closets.

Earth closets require great & constant care which they seldom receive.

I cannot give an opinion as to their use unless there is no outlet for the House drainage & it has to be carted away. If so, then Earth Closets might be tried.

If there is an Outlet for Drainage, then use W.C.s

But an Earth Closet must be completely cut off from the building by a cross ventilated passage, thus

(diagram follows)

Not only must the earth be put in from the outside but the tank must be removeable from the outside.

3. If the closet for earth attached to the Wash-house is to be an Earth closet, it must be properly lighted & ventilated. Two Earth Closets are undoubtedly necessary
4. The cellars must not open into the building. They must be reached from outside -
5. Whether for so small a Hospital a porcelain fixed bath is needed? We could do very well with a moveable bath & a sink.
6. In so small a place, would hot & cold water laid on be necessary? The kitchen is close at hand - And one would say a big pan or jug would do every thing.
7. No indication is given as to sex of Patients. It is very much easier to separate properly 100 men from 100 women with their separate Pavilions, Ward appurtenances & Nurses. than it is to separate 2 from 2. (unless they be for quite young children.)
The objections are so very great to letting the two sexes use one W.C., one Bath &c - especially as where in this case the one sex would actually pass the other’s door on the way - that they have probably been considered -[ The objections are also great to one Nurse between 2 men & 2 women - And there seems no provision even for a maid=servant to sleep in the house - unless in the “Spare Ward”]
8. Will not the “Spare Ward” be rather hot in summer - next the Kitchen & with a ?Western exposure? for a bad case?
9. I could not undertake
to criticize an Estimate
as to expence - farther than
in the most general manner -
(as to leaving out expensive
ornamental style & the like)
- which in this case is not
needed.
Mr. Alex Graham is entirely
to be trusted - in all
these respects - of ability & honour.
10. I quite agree that the steps will
be “very inconvenient” -
Pray believe me
dear Madame
ever your faithful servt
Florence Nightingale

11. The Kitchen is so near
that the “range with oven”
for “Nurse’s room” might
possibly be omitted -
provided that in the
kitchen there were all
conveniences for Sick cookery
(included those facilities
for airing & warming linen,
for fomentations & the like)
F.N.

12. A Linen=Room ought to be so thoroughly
warm, airy, light
& dry that, if it
has not a fire-place of its own,
I should almost have wished
it had ben against the Kitchen fire-place -
The Kitchen fire is good for the Linen
& not for the Patient -
Also: the exposure is East - Want of
sun has a bad effect on Linen -
which should have either sun or fire -
or, better, both.
F.N.
Yoxall Cottage Hospital

This is a P.S.

12. Is it not necessary to have a small Surgery where the “Doctor” can sit down, where he can examine a Patient before admission or even afterwards & where the few necessary drugs can be kept?

It is most undesirable that the “Doctor” should have no place which he can use except the Nurse’s room -

A Linenry is not absolutely necessary for so small a number of beds. Indeed I have known a good Linen press - (not set into the wall) in a dry, light, airy, warm part of the Corridor - with a folding dresser made on hinges to stand out from the wall - & be let down when not in use - to fold the linen upon - answer much better than the dark closet usually assigned to the Linen in small English Hospls Linen is as jealous as a Patient of light & air for its good health.

[This criticism is not however meant for the Linenry in the Yoxall plan, which is much better than usually afforded] for a much larger Hospital.

If it were turned into the “Surgery”, it would require a fire-place -
How would it do to make it both Surgery & Linenry? -
It may here be noticed that for any kind of stores, to be kept, or any sort of Hospital work to be going on in the Nurse’s room is very undesirable -]
Also: that in planning a Cottage Hospl, where the Nurse’s room was between a Man’s & a Woman’s Ward, as in this case, a partition & door xx (kept locked) entirely cut off the men’s from the women’s ward/side - the Nurse’s room had two doors, one on either side the partition. And there was, of course, W.C., bath & sink provision for each side. 6/4/72

Dear Madam

This “codicil” occurred to me afterwards - after I had written to you on the 4th.

ever your faithful servt
Florence Nightingale

My dear Lady Tulloch

You cannot think the sort of thrill it gives me to see your hand writing once more: not that it is needed to revive those past days to me: for they are not past: the thread of life is still the same to me: tho’ nearly every one who strung pearls upon it is gone: my work is still the same, perhaps even more
pressing: tho’ it is transferred more to the India Office than the War Office: & a great deal of Nurse-training work is added to it: what people commonly call the ‘dead’ past is ever living to me: more living than ever. But what you say brings back the thought that almost all those with whom you & I worked: & with whom I may say I work still are gone before us: and I am the survivor of them all -

My dear old friend Sir Ranald Martin died last week: he is the last of our R. Commission, except Dr. Sutherland. A great many Indian friends have been raised up to me for my work: but still they are not like the old ones: are they?

I am still entirely a prisoner to my bed: except when I move from one house to another:

still make Blue Books my pillow, as you once said: perhaps more than ever.

You know perhaps that my Father died in January & within 3 weeks, Mrs. Bracebridge - I cannot wish them back, because I loved them - But my Father’s death has made my life infinitely more difficult - We have had to remove my poor Mother from her homes of 56 years: & either my Sister or I has been in charge of her all this year. She is now at Claydon with my Sister: but nothing can be like ‘home’ to my dear Mother.

For ‘auld lang syne’ I venture to send you a paper of mine on India: & I am preparing another. Also: a paper of mine on Nurse=training: if you could send us some nice, healthy, country young women as Nurse=Probationers, I know your selection would be good. From ‘ladies’ we have almost too many applications for
I never forget, dear Lady Tulloch, your hard loss & your hard work: your busy house when I knew it: busy in the highest sense & what the blank must have been afterwards: & am every sincerely yours

F. Nightingale

MS.CI-NI8 signed letter, 2ff, pen

35 South St.
Park Lane. W.

Feb 23/78

My dear Lady Tulloch: I give you joy: I give us both joy for this crowning recognition of one of the noblest labours ever done on earth. You yourself cannot cling to it more than I do: hardly so much in one sense, for I saw how Sir John McNeill’s & Sir A. Tulloch’s Report—ing was the salvation of the Army in the Crimea. Without them, everything that had happened would have been considered ‘all right.’

Mr. Martin’s ‘note’ is perfect: for it does not look like an after=thought, nor as if prompted by others: but as the flow of a generous & able man’s own reflection & careful search into authentic documents: & it also brings back the reader into the current of the subject, the Prince Consort, to show that he too recognised the ‘report’ & its truth & value.

Thank you again & again for sending it me: it is the greatest consolation I could have had: Will you remember me gratefully to Mr. Paget: & also to Dr. Balfour? I look back upon these 20 years as if they were yesterday, but also as if they were a thousand years. Success be with us & the noble dead: & it has been success — yours ever

Florence Nightingale

My dear Maria [Otter]

The prisoner at the bar was asked whether she had anything to say for herself, but she could only recommend herself to mercy. I completely acknowledge my sins, but I do not mean to reform just yet. Now, however, that conscience in my absence has taken up the pen, it occurs to her that she has nothing to say. The thought comes too late however. She never sees her faults till after she has made them, which is certainly the way to see them, but not
for your advantage nor for mine. You see I am writing sentiments on fancy
dress at home, but whether in the character of Ecclesiastes the Preacher, or
of my recollections as a chaperon, I am not quite clear. The reason of this
is that all my young people are at Waverley, bless their merry hearts! I have
been there this last month. I have had two fancy balls. I could not go. Well,
well. “The mind is its own gown, and fancy dress and, as Rosalind says, ’Tis
but one cast away and so death come death.¹ At all events, if Milton wrote
his Morning Hymn in Paradise by the light of long sixes [candles], I can as
well write an account of my lost garden of Eden (of Waverley, I mean) by the
side of my little black teapot on the hob.

Marianne as Mary Q. of Scots and Parthe as Lady Jane Grey, I hear, were
“quite the thing.” When I think upon my pink gown, there stirs even within my
old breast still the pride of life, which St John says he had, and of black
lace flounces which he doesn’t, but which he would have had, if he had mine,
but otherwise nobody ever will be so old as I am, don’t expect it, for you
will never will. And I shed a few tears on the fashion of this world which
passes away, as you will think on some sentiments not quite so well-defined,
of the fashion of fancy flounces which passes away as quickly. I expect my
young people back with Miss Johnson, whose reputation may perhaps have
reached your ears, as Guide and Counsel in Ordinary and Legal Adviser in
Education to our family to the tenth generation. I expect them back, with her
to keep them in order, some time in the course of the year. My youngest hope,
W.E. Nightingale, has returned to me, but leaves me tomorrow for Derbyshire.
The immediate cause however for my trembling hand’s again assuming the pen,
is to ask after Mrs Romilly, whose confinement I saw in the paper about forty
days after date, during which time I rejoice to think she has not been making
Lent in consequence of my not knowing of the event. And now, beloved, do I
speak to a lady of ton and fashion? immersed in new polkas and the Derby
dancing circles, or shall you and I sit down and we two will rail at our
mistress the world and all our misery? If you will, I will, but I know you
never rail, so no more will I, and instead of that, I will tell you about
your mistress the queen at Strathfieldsaye, which was a most entire failure.
The only people of her society asked were the Ashburtons, it was the most
unaccountable thing his not asking the Palmerstons, quite like a personal
offence, but they say the old duke cares now for nothing but flattery and
asks nobody but master of hounds. On this occasion the duchess was deadly,
regnova il terror, nella citta! Not a sound was heard, not a funeral note, as
the queen’s corse was carried in to dinner, and in the evening it was still
worse, everybody stood at ease about the drawing room, and demanded
themselves like soldiers on parade. The queen did her very best and died like
a hero, but she was overpowered by numbers, gagged and her hands tied. The
only amusement of the evening was seeing Albert taught to miss at billiards,
but not a man, who disturbed the silence deep of the grave where our queen we
were burying.

My dear, if I did know where this would find you, I would tell you some
very very curious and valuable state secrets about the discoveries of the
Opening-of-the-Letters, reaching back as far as Cardinal Wolsey, to me
communicated by one of the committee, but as it may find you in the house of

¹ Shakespeare, As You Like It, Act 4, scene 1.
Edward Strutt, Esq. MP I think it more prudent not. Helen Richardson, I am happy to inform you, was at the Waverley ball. An’ you love me, my friend, do tell me what are we to do on the Martineau faith, I have fought the case straight through upon Paley’s evidence, against all her enemies, but I have just had a communication which beats all faith. Oh Jane, Jane, would that thou wert at the ultimissima Thule. Perhaps, beloved, the magnanimity of your disposition, deriving strength from the circumstance, that my conduct toward you is what lambs could not forgive nor worms forget, now prompts you to enquire after my precious health. All extraordinary particulars, not furnished you by the public prints, about the last (not annus, but) mentis mirabilis of my life I am ready to give you, and are as follows: I have gone to bed early, and got up late, eaten my six meals a day regular (and reduced the amount of intellectual food supposed to be required by a reasonable creature to a magnitude, less than the least assignable quantity, that is, the quantity assigned by Solomon’s mother to a virtuous woman. Ah, mein kind, I wish it was, quo stupidor es melior I should be in a fair way then, but as it is, don’t you often feel as if you were in a dream. I am sure I did, the night of the Waverley ball. It was such a night, the night of the full moon. I have not seen such an one since the moonlight on the hills of Florence and the lighted town shone in its hushed brightness like a child asleep and there was no life stirring but I and three hares, who were running after one another all night, and at the same time, I could see myself in the dining room at Waverley, and was not quite sure, do you know, which was which. What is time and distance? It is so curious, what is the effect they have upon us, it is so difficult to find out, which is the real life and which the imaginary. Perhaps I really was not there, M dear, you will think I am Mrs Fleming, but I am still your industrious Flea. How much that old moon must have seen in her day and what a waste of opportunity it is for her not to publish her Recollections. Reminiscences of a Full Moon would write so well. But how tired she must be of all the confidences that have been made to her and how long she must think it since man has since lived and thought and felt, and always the old bores, the same things, in spite of all the different revolutions and religions and civilizations in the world. I never see a full moon without thinking what she looked down upon 1813 years ago, and all the sufferings and thoughts and feelings she has seen since, which no one else has seen.

How amazed she must be to see all the souls pouring out and theorizing up to her (and their bodies sitting somewhere quiet quietly) all meeting there together unconscious of one another’s presence, and a whole division of them telling her the same thing, unknowst to one another, each as if nobody had ever felt it before. I could not help laughing to think of the strange tale she must have to tell that single star that’s at her side. Well, my dear, don’t shoot me. I’m coming down. These reflections were suggested to me by the second question I have to ask you which is, We have a night cap of yours which I will either send you by the post, free of expense, or bring up to town with my own jewellery, when we come, which you please. Perhaps you are already in that dear native village of ours, gone to Parliament. If so, pray give my love to Mrs Strutt and all who may remember me, though that now belongs to the Geology of the Primary State. My internal structure is nearly defunct, and therefore my third question is can you send me any considerations on Lady Joceyln, envisagee sous le point de vue of Mental
Philosophy. I have lately had an opportunity of studying that phenomenon during a visit at Broadlands, and you and I must work out that question together. As she sat and worked and worked and worked, and did not speak, she always reminded me of a saint. She does not interest for anything that all the world is pursuing after and always seems enough for herself I could see a white lily in her hand and a St Bertha crown upon her passionless forehead. And yet U suppose no one ever lived 4 four and twenty years of such excitement--half the young peerage has proposed to her--and it is not that now she has other interests. She never spoke to Lord Palmerston, and though she is very fond of her baby, she told me herself she did not care to play with it--her manner is just the same to Lord Jocelyn and to the shoemaker. What is the secret of this woman’s content? She is so unlike this restless and uneasy generation. She is more like the idyllic ladies, or like Helena Walling in the contemplation of her own beauty. What a lovely creature she is, or (my dear, forgive me the profanity, but sometimes I fancied she was thinking of her confinement, which she is within a few days of), like the Behold! The handmaid of the Lord. One could almost call it great, this sublime placidity if hers, if greatness is, to be one with one’s self, without change, without restlessness, after the life she has had. Monotonous as she is, I never saw any one who more excited my curiosity to know her secret. Perhaps you will say it is want of earnestness, but bless my heart! If earnestness breaks one’s heart, who is fulfilling best the Creation’s end, one who is breaking her heart or this woman “of herself is King,” who has kept her serenity in the midst of excitement and her simplicity in the midst of her admiration? The signoria di me is such a blessing. It might have been one of the Beatitudes, Blessed is the man, who is a king complete within himself and he need have added no other blessing. On second thoughts however, my dear, I incline to think that our Saviour probably knew best and I was right after all in not substituting strong greater interest about the events which are to occupy one’s dear life. Are you asleep my love or in the mesmeric state (according to H.M.), the most intelligent of all states, in which I ask, are you asleep? You can answer in capital letters Y.E.S. Horror seizes me at what I gave done, but conscience when it takes up the open, is always prosy, you know, and I hereby faithfully promise never again to write more than three lines, and I will take care to count them. Do you know Lady Ashburton? She is at this moment the lady of my affections. I allow the diamond raspberry tart on her forehead is not inviting but I have a weakness for Americans and I had so much curious information to give her upon that country and its inhabitants! When we come upon Mesmerism and from Mesmerism to Vestige and we had just got up so high into the “law of Development in Organic Nature” that I could not get down again to say good night, but was obliged to go off as an angel. Oh do not put me down as one of the contrary species. A Dieu, my beloved, I hope you will not say Au Diable, if you do deserve it, but am still,
your contrite, affectionate, repentant
more now for having written than for not
overflowing
F.N.

letter to unnamed, National Library of Medicine, MS.CI-NI 2 ff, pen, not FN hand
I have just seen Sir John McNeill’s & Colonel Tulloch’s correct, cool, dispassionate report.

England has never realised the six thousand graves at Scutari, the many many more in the Crimea. but I have seen the men come down through that long long dreadful winter (we received four thousand in seventeen days between Dec 17/54 & Jan 3/55) without other covering than a dirty blanket & a pair of old Regimental trowsers

when the stores were teeming with every kind of warm clothing, living skeletons devoured with vermin, ulcerated, hopeless & helpless & die without ever lifting up their heads 70-80 per diem on the Bosphorus alone up to the 13th Feby when we reached our maximum of mortality

The report is a model of cool conscientious truth but Sir John McNeill & Colonel Tulloch did not see these things. I did, & nobody I believe who has not to this day realizes them.

{in another hand: Extract from a letter of Miss Nightingale}
My dear friend,

You ask me for my counsels; & in a matter of such importance, I could not hesitate to give it at once.

I would lay down two points as essential in establishing a Sanitary Professorship.
1. That it should be attached to an old established Hospital
2. That the Sanitary Professor should not be the Director of the Hospital

(but the Superintendent of the Nurses).

This is the result of my long experience - & a conclusion not lightly made.

That all Hospitals will ultimately be in the country I have emphatically said, both in & out of print. In this therefore I am not likely to differ from Madame de Noailles but I should say that the way to hinder, not to help
this desirable consummation would be to begin with a small pottering Women’s Hospital “on a farm in the country”.

Think what £5000 is! (about 150 £ per annum) for a Hospital!!

Mr. Atkinson Morley, my late landlord in Burlington Street, bequeathed last year, when he died, upwards of £100,000 to St. George’s to found a Convalescent Establishment in the country.

This is a step in the right direction, & I have no doubt that St. George’s will in time become transformed bodily, (not only its convalescents), to such an Institution.

Should I live, I have thought a Sanitary Professorship might be most advantageously attached there -: To answer your two questions however, as
you have put them, I think
Lord Brougham too old
for a Trustee. I think
either Lord Ashburton or
Lord Cranworth would do
very well for a Trustee.
very well for a Counsellor
The former is still in the East.
2. I could not act as one
of your advisors; because I
to the principle of the thing
proposed to you.
Were I in health, I
would give my best advice -;
even where I anticipated
possible failure, But what I
told you is perfectly true,
people bring me anxieties
for my sick holiday, any one
of which would overwhelm
a person in perfect health.
[in FN hand] In justice to the Army, to India,
therefore I can undertake nothing not
strictly my business.
[back to Hil BC’s hand]
If you wish to know
why I feel so certain of
failure, (for schemes, I. e.
which do not give that
element of stability,
to which a number of
jarring interests, paradoxical
as it may sound, contributes
more than anything), I will
refer you to the enclosed proof, altho’ it relates exclusively to Nurses. which [It is not for publication, & which I will ask you to return it to me.]

It is the result of much anxious consideration & burnt-in experience.

Nothing would ever induce me - to undertake anything where I could not have jealous & warring elements (& men too) to keep my staff up to their work.

At the same time take this only for what it is worth.

I trust very much to what people themselves feel they can do: that is, not what girls of sixteen, nor what elderly ladies of fortune & rank, who are just as inexperienced as girls of sixteen, feel can be done, but what people, like you & me, that is, middle-aged women who have struggled with every kind of opposition in the
world feel they themselves can do. This is a very good guide.

I should feel certain of failure in doing what you propose to do (supposing even that I had your physiological & medical knowledge) – while the opposition of the authorities {several lines are missing from the photocopy} so {illeg}, might make you feel certain of failure, therefore, I say: “take this only for what it is worth – “ [FN hand again]

each man (& woman) must measure his own calling. –

If you think that it would clear up anything to your mind to see me again, please come down here on Saturday - you shall be met at Worcester Station, if you will say yes. I feel so uncertain as to whether I shall be able to see you at all in London.

I remember my impression of your character - that you & I were on different roads, (altho’ to the same object.) you to educate a few highly cultivated ones - I to diffuse as much knowledge as possible
still I cannot help re-iterating my warning.  

Sir Jas. Clark does not return home for a week I have written to him.  

“The lady studying” at the Maternité is Mrs. Shaw Stewart, my best Nurse & Superintendent in the Crimea, & who has since been living 3 months in 4 London Hospitals each, ditto in Vienna, Berlin & Paris (for me) in order to educate herself to do the same in the Army Hospitals here under me as she did in the Crimea. She was 3 months at the {words blanked out} only 1, at {lines missing} 

our object. She is now at the Salpêtrière. The new Sage Femme en Chef at the Maternité would have been worth your knowing.  

Mme Allier  

Your informant was misinformed himself about the windows at the Lariboisière. At P.118 to P.120 of my little book “Subsidiary Notes” which you have, I have given personal experience of the ventilation – I am not surprised to hear what you say of it, when the windows were not opened.] Lines missing
30 Old Burlington St
W.
March 7/59
My dear friend
I do not want to prevent you from “making any use” of my “ideas” you please - After they have become yours, they are no longer any more you mine than yours: - There is no copyright in “ideas”.

But I think the course you propose in/to give/take (in your next Lecture) a very dangerous one for the (illeg) success of your own “ideas”. I mean i.e. that I think it may will quite prevent your carrying out your own plan.

1. & chiefly. It will set so set the Medical Staffs of the great Hospitals against you that it will may/quite prevent your carrying out that part of the plan.
which we will (for brevity) call mine -
Within any period that I can at all look forward to -
    With the N. Fund & the name of that “Fund” you might
    (this I have ascertained) enter a London Hospital now -
    under the terms I have laid down.
But, If you gave out your ulterior object, you could not -

    This is the chief & main objection - This is fact - My other four objections are only opinions
  2. You might get up an “enthusiasm” among the audience you have, (of which I have taken pains to ascertain the component parts) -
    You could not, I believe, get up “funds”. That is, you would in time & finally find yourself landed in debt.
3. You could not make out a case for establishing a special Hospital of the kind you mention, as against the great General Hospitals - The Patients themselves would prefer going to the latter - The tendency of this time is towards consolidation - in these things.

4. The idea you represent in America does not yet exist (to any great extent) in England - I mean, with regard to letting women enter the professions - I can better anticipate your making £2000 or £3000 a year as a female Locsch than your obtaining female students of the kind & number you wish - excepting thro’ having to deal (your ulterior purpose being unknown) with a large body of
working women, like
the Nursing Staff of
a great Hospital.

5. & much the
least important -

Have you read
Schedule A of the
new Medical Act?
It appears to most
Physicians conclusive
against your getting
yourself registered -
To me this seems
of very little
importance -
But I cannot think
[cut out] that within your life=

time, there will be
any “existing board” or
“board appointed by
Government” for the
graduation of women.

I do not think you
know how little your
audience represents
the public opinion of
England, or rather
that which moves the
public opinion of
England - I do not
draw discouragement
from this - But neither
should I draw encour-
gagement from them
as you do. [cut out]
P. S. I return your note, in order that you may look at Point 5 again. It is this which makes me so anxious about you. If you wed this indissolubly to the Nursing Scheme, you will find that it will close the doors of the great London Hospitals to you – that you will not be able to collect £40 000 or anything like it for your Nursing scheme – & that the results will be a kind of falling between two stools –

The only really important point of my note appears to me to be this – you run the risk of closing to yourself that very “big Hospital” (of which you so strongly see the necessity) by announcing prematurely the plan (No. 5) attached to the “little Hospital” – And it will strengthen the male feeling against your female M.D. ship.

F.N.
Private
London, Feb 1 1870
Dear Miss Blackwell

I have had to search up old documents
{[illeg]}as well if/as new in order to reply to your
question.

Will you accept this as an apology for
the delay of one so overwhelmed with
business as not to know 10 minutes’
leisure & with illness increasing every
year & making me a complete prisoner
to bed in answering an old friend?

Inspections of troops for Syphilis were
matter of regulation before our Royal
Commission, presided over by Sidney
Herbert, in 1857, & were carried on
throughout the service. Under this system
the following were the results:

Admissions for } 1857-8 1858 - 9
Venereal per } 441 463
1000 strength }
The practice was abolished by our new Medical Regulations issued by Sidney Herbert in October 1859 after he became Secretary of State for War.  
[N.B. Medical Officers objected to the practice as degrading & useless - They preferred trusting to voluntary application on the part of the men.] 

The following were the results of the new method:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Admissions per 1000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1863-4</td>
<td>307</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1864</td>
<td>291</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Foot Guards have their own usages and Inspections are carried out in two of the Regiments - not in the third - with the following results: -

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inspected Regiments</th>
<th>Secondary Syphilis</th>
<th>Primary Syphilis</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grenadier Guards</td>
<td>195.4</td>
<td>19.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coldstreams</td>
<td>159.2</td>
<td>33.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Non-inspected Regiment</th>
<th>Secondary Syphilis</th>
<th>Primary Syphilis</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scots Fusiliers</td>
<td>75.5</td>
<td>20.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This evidence, as you will see, strongly confirms the view held by nearly all who really understand the subject, that the “Inspections” were as utterly useless as they were degrading to the men & to the Officers - & that voluntary application & appeal to honour have greater success.

{cut out}  
{illeg illeg illeg} advocates should be in total ignorance of the very elements of their subject - & should publish as facts what the slightest acquaintance with Statistics would shew to be falsehoods. But I have neither time nor strength to enter into this. I wish I had! -

[In sending the above figures, I have left out the Aggregate Strengths, & extraneous matter which would only puzzle a person unacquainted with Army methods here.]
Dear Miss Blackwell,

In reply to yours: the difficulty is: that you have to study out the case: =
It never has been done -

Opinion has been substituted for investigation
And this on both sides

A very few, who have some knowledge of French & English Statistics, have steadily asked for facts. Let us have facts. Then & then only will you be in a position to legislate.

But, hitherto, their voice has been almost in vain. Some men, specially engaged in the matter, have said that, in their opinion, Legislation is necessary, & that in their opinion, legislation will do what is required. [This without facts = or even in spite of facts.]

There are men on the other side who deny
both conclusions altogether.

Who is to decide?
Clearly there must be enquiry - a real
investigation into facts - not a controversy
of opinions.

[Controversy, as Faraday said, never did
any good.]

In answer to your question, the only evidence
of any use is: -
the real Statistics of Paris Police Regulation
(which you probably have) -
and, in this country, what Dr. Balfour, of
the Army Medical Department, could give
you. Write to him & ask to see him.
T. Graham Balfour Esq M.D. D.I.G.
Army Medical Department
6 Whitehall Yard
S. W.

[Dr. Parkes, about whom you ask, goes, I believe,
the whole length with the advocates of
legislation.]

What is wanted is not the opinion of
physicians, however eminent.
It is not a professional or Medical
question at all
It is a question: -
1. of what is fact
2. of what is expedient & practicable.
What is wanted is a clear connected
Statistical detail showing
what is the amount of Syphilis among
a population ‘unprotected’ -
then, what is the amount under ‘protection’ -
& lastly what results when ‘protection’
is withdrawn.

[The reasons for giving up the inspections
of men are in Dep. Insp. Genl Dartnell’s
evidence Page 294 of the Report
of the Royal Commission on the
Sanitary State of the Army - 1857 -
published in 1858.]
Oct 13/70
7 a.m.

Dear Miss Blackwell

In reply to your note, (which excuse my urgent press of business for not having answered before.) Mr. Maclaren’s charge against the workers of the C.D. Acts is a far too serious matter, in my opinion, for individual or amateurs to deal with. It is a distinct charge against the Police & Admiralty - and as such can only be dealt with by the Royal Commission

Mr Maclaren should put it in evidence. And then they (the accused officials) must rebut it. Neither you nor I nor any private person not any doctrinaire can judge in any way between the parties. I have greatly deplored the doctrinaire, not to say amateur, mode of action of the Association, - not because I feel less but because I have a stronger
conviction than any of them against the C. D. Acts.

[When I compare the thorough action of the two Royal Commissions which I worked, - in which every fact or so called fact or Statistic was sifted to the backbone, in which no opinion of any kind, certainly not Medical opinion, was admitted as mere opinion, in matters which were not of facts]

I feel a sort of despair at the working of the Association, in which hardly any thing but opinion is invoked -

The other side is no better, which is a comfort. But it will be a mere battle of the Frogs & Mice - i.e. of mere talk & opinion.

Believe me, Mr. Maclaren’s evidence is too precious, if it can be sifted & found undeniable to be treated by amateurs in this way.

If the Association require professional assistance, they should refer the Police Report, with Mr. Maclaren’s statement, to some disinterested Statistical
authority, - Dr. Farr, for instance, & ask his opinion conclusions. I wish so well to every opponent of the C. D. Acts that I regret that they do not take it up (e.g. as I did Army Sanitary Reform - i.e.) not as subsidiary or magazine or newspaper work but as the most serious work of life to strain every nerve for, as a General does in a campaign with professional ability & devotion - without which they will do little good - And I regret that I am entirely unable, overdone as I am with business for this most urgent war & most dreadful crisis ever known in the history of civilized mankind - to put my experience in the only way it would be worth putting, at the disposal of the Association Pray believe me ever yours sincerely Florence Nightingale
Johns Hopkins University,

JH, signed letter and envelope, 3ff, pen {black-edged}

JH {envelope}

Private Immediate Wait & Confidential
F.J. Williams Esq
General Register Office
Somerset House

Florence Nightingale
18/3/80

Please forward this note to Mr. Williams immediately - but should he be out of London for any time please return it by Bearer
F.N.

JH letter

Private 10 South St. & Confidential Immediate Park Lane. W.

March 18/80

My dear Sir
I venture to ask you, as Dr. Farr’s friend & assistant, kindly & quietly to ascertain (a very private business which I by Command have undertaken) for me “what sort of distinction would please him best. “Would he like to be “knighted, or to have the “C.B.?” I am particularly directed “that this matter should

F.J. Williams Esq
“Not be talked about”. & it is especially desired to “ascertain what is likely to be agreeable without letting Dr. Farr himself know,” or any one else, that I have been writing to you, “as it would be more graceful that the honour should be spontaneously bestowed.” I felt sure that I might trouble you, & trust you implicitly, to keep this matter entirely confidential.

ṣṣ (you were so good as to write to me about Dr. Farr retiring on full pay.) The matter is “Immediate”, because – “the C.B. could be given at any time; “but if he preferred to be knighted it should be done by the Queen in person before Her Majesty goes abroad.” I honour myself by calling myself one of the most devoted of Dr. Farr’s friends for now half a life-time. His
like we shall never see again. He & Quetelet!
He will feel, I know, for me on the death of my dear Mother which has filled up the measure of the strain upon me & make me beg you to excuse this short note,
from dear Sir
your ever faithful servt
Florence Nightingale

signed letter, 5ff, pen, to James Cunningham

JH letter

Private Oct 9/84
{printed address:} 10, South Street, Park Lane. W.
My dear Sir
I have delayed thanking you for your kind letter of July 7 for much the same reason as yours for not answering mine of the previous July, which you will readily understand. One cannot but wish that Local Self Govt had been more pressed forward. It is not a question, is it? of whether Local Self Govt should be granted or not. As I heard an Anglo-Indian who had been high in office say; “If that will not do, nothing will do.”
We cannot continue governing India without it. And the only question is: how shall we direct it?
One trusts that Lord Dufferin will wisely continue what Lord Ripon has begun.
You appear to doubt that too much interference with popular habits may lead to mischief. Undoubtedly this is a ground for fear. But your remark appears chiefly to be directed against contagious practices which are in favour at present among men who have very little knowledge of Sanitary work.

You must govern India by means of the natives in local administration, whether you will or no. And the question is whether you will administer by the corrupt, underpaid, bribe-taking petty sub-officials or by the decent villagers - is it not?
As regards house-cleaning: has it not already been successfully carried out, e.g. at Ganjam in Madras, where local inspectors appointed by the Municipality see that the compounds are kept clean?

Besides, this is a duty of the old Village Officers & need only be revived.
No doubt this local Self-Government is an experiment;
but considerable care has been taken to fence it round with precautions. It is launched, & we wait with anxiety & eagerness for a year or two’s reports. [I could wish - but you will not thank me - that you had had the first few years’ supervision of it.]

There is not much fear about the towns, I/we suppose, because interest & a sense of convenience will help the cause.

The great problem, no doubt, lies in the village circles, & with the Municipal Councils for districts - There is provision for inspections - Again, we must wait & see, & with the greatest interest.

As regards works of drainage there will be at first, I/we suppose, be confined to large cities - And where the populations are small, may not much be done by simple inexpensive surface drainage? Besides, do we not still require more experience of house drainage in India? We must agree with all our mights with you as to the dangers arising from sanitary ignorance among M.D.s. This can scarcely be over rated. Would we could see a remedy in Netley! But ‘who shall guard the Guardians’ there? The chief enemies of Indian progress are disease=theorists. As the local
Councils gain practical knowledge, one hopes that they will disregard these disease-theorists. Dr. Koch will not do much mischief except thro’ such men. Was not his “discovery” made 30 years ago in London, & then estimated at nil? All that he has done has been to found a theory on it. What is the result of the work of the I.O.’s scientific Commission? And has Dr. Koch’s “discovery” gone the way of all such “discoveries”?

With the most intense interest we look forward to your promised “Introduction” to the twentieth, & alas! also the last of your Annual Reports. Give us the results of your sanitary work in India. We require such a summing up. Like Englishmen we grumble & grumble, & we do right to grumble. But we should also measure the immense ground traversed, besides the immense ground yet to be traversed – & gather up our experience.

Then we want to hear your views & experience on the larger questions – & as you say on what a Govt ought to do & what it ought not to do. And you will effectively deal with the whole opposition (& tear it to pieces) in your proposed Chapter.

If you have another opportunity to impress the house compound question, & the district subsoil
drainage question on the authorities, 
pray do so. These two are 
we suppose, the main sanitary 
work at present required for India 
Other work after. 
Most cordially do I wish you 
a happy meeting with Miss 
Cuningham - & a happy 
journey in Australia & New 
Zealand. Most regretfully 
do I think of your departure 
from the land where you 
have done such immeasurable 
good. 
P.S. What is wanted here is 
that a tight hand should be 
kept on all the Indian people 
doing Sanitary work. 
{printed address, upside down:} 
10, South Street, 
Park Lane. W. Dr. Sutherland warned 
Col. Yule some time ago that if 
Dr. Koch merely stated what 

-3- 
he had seen in the East there 
would be an outcry; & his 
return to Berlin was followed 
by a declaration of Virchow 
that the English Govt of 
India was a perpetual 
menace to the world. Is not 
this becoming more & more true, 
because men are now learning 
what we told them long ago 
that Cholera was not spread 
by contagion but by overflow 
from India? 
Once more, fare you very 
well - & give us a parting 
volley which shall 
strengthen the hands of the 
Reformers & disperse their 
enemies - 
ever your faithful servt 
Florence Nightingale 
Jas M Cuningham Esq MD
JH signed letter, 3ff, pen

Feb 13/85
10 South St.
Park Lane. W.
My dear Sir

Very many thanks for your kind note; & for the copy of your invaluable book on Cholera, & how it is to be prevented by the State.

Would that all our State authorities, all our Military & Medical authorities would lay it to heart & learn it not by heart but in practice!

The mania of tracing any disease not to some glaring obvious Sanitary defect, but to insects, bacteria, bacilli, protoplasms, - what can I call them? - is becoming an incurable lunacy - so much so that in an outbreak of diarrhoea, seizing 18 Nurses at once, - in an Institution that shall be nameless, - we were quite afraid would be considered due to some of these delusions, & not to sewer air from a waste pipe going direct into a
drain with a cistern supplying both W.C.s, sinks, & drinking water - and a choked up W.C.

I regret more than I can say that you are leaving India - you will not thank me for this regret. But you were/seemed the main bulwark against all this madness with the Govt of India.

Who will be your successor? And what will he do?

If you could tell me before you leave what are the prospects of the Local Self-Govt working with regard to Sanitary things, I should be deeply obliged. [You were so good as to write me a summary of the powers & Sanitary duties of a Local Self-Govt Act.]

Is the village Sanitary work likely to be done well by the new Boards, & likely to be well supervised by our officials, without, as you will say, needless worrying, & interfering with the people’s domestic happiness by forcible removal of sick & other contagious=theory practices?
May we hope to see ‘judicious guiding’ by our officials?
How I wish we could have had you to ‘guide’ the work at least for the first year or two?!
I have done what I could, and I am sure others will also, to have your book properly reviewed.
but, as you may suppose, attention here is concentrated on the fall of Khartoum, Gordon’s death, & the prosecuting of Genl Wolseley’s expedition.
But we will try again -
I will write again before I/you leave India -
This is written in haste
Pray believe me with every good wish ever your faithful servt Florence Nightingale Jas. M. Cuningham Esq MD

signed letter, 2ff, pen

JH letter, black-edged paper

34 South Street, [printed address]
Park Lane.
London. W.
May 18/65
Dear Mr. Rawlinson
Your Memo (from Oxford) was all that could be wished.
And I am truly grateful to you for it.
It is all that
could be done for
the moment.
[& I shall have to
   apply to your kindness
   many times more]
Lord Stanley has
seen it. And
it is now on its
way to Sir J. Lawrence

many, many thanks
  ever yours gratefully
    F. Nightingale

JH signed letter, 2ff, pen, black-edged paper

Private       London 12/2/69
My dear Sir
    I take shame to myself for
having only just left myself
time by this day’s mail to
write & thank you for your
truly kind note of Jan 5
& for your great goodness
in sending me a complete
copy of Dr. Murray’s report
on the Hurdwar Cholera
Epidemic which I asked
for & which has duly
reached me.
    I am afraid I must
put off till next mail
the letter which you are
kind enough to remember my
promise of writing.
The early months of the year
are always very busy months,
as you may suppose, when
Estimates & measures are
preparing - & when every
body wants to save their
own little Moses in the
bulrushes - but this year’s
early months are busier
than usual, from the
new Ministry having put in
all new men, tho’ not
new Ministers, to the
respective Offices - a
peculiarity, I think, of the
Briton in making Ministerial
appointments.
         Pray, dear Sir, believe me
your ever obliged & faithful servt
         Florence Nightingale
Jas M. Cuningham Esq MD.
My dear Sir 

Most truly do I thank you for the pleasure & profit & great information which have been afforded us by your invaluable Report for 1867. And I trust & believe that great will be the result for good from it in the practical measures which will follow from so able an Exposition. It is a most important contribution to Indian Sanitary literature - the most important subject of all, since we must live, in order to think, act, or legislate, or even to fight.

As you say, in your kind note to me of Jan. 5, "whatever difference of opinion "may exist as to theoretical questions" (about Cholera) we do & shall fully agree "in the practical part of the matter."

Yes: but the harm is in putting forward that which is theory, pure theory, as if it were "practical". And, as I am sure you will agree, in some instances - taking
two theories, - if one is true, the other is not true. And the practice which would logically follow from the one (if we were logical) would be diametrically opposite to the practice following from the other.

If you will kindly bear with me, I will submit to you one matter - chiefly based on Dr. Murray’s Tables with regard to the great practical Sanitary steps to be taken for mitigating Epidemic diseases -

The matter I wish to bring before you is: that these hypothetical points - viz. the relation of movement of people to Cholera - are fair subjects of discussion, provided due care be taken that views of this class are not made subjects of legislation. Laws are applicable only to proved constant phenomena; and the danger is that civilian outsiders who do not know the grounds of Medical discussion should act as if the views on either side were constant demonstrable facts, & so include them in legislative provisions, as has been done in England uselessly or mischievously. [You are aware how eminently this was the case in the late Cattle plague legislation of this country & the useless destruction which followed. And the last Quarantine against Cholera in the Mediterranean which did not in the least stop Cholera cost the Mediterranean trade 4 millions sterling for a mere hypothesis.]

I have studied Dr. Murray’s Report which you were so kind as to send me, & after examining his curious & interesting tables I find the following results which do very little indeed as you will see, towards supporting restrictions on intercourse:
Results of Dr. Murray’s Table of the Hurdwar Epidemic

1. Total number of towns at which pilgrims arrived from Hurdwar – 210 –
2. In no instance is the date of arrival given so that it is not possible to judge how far the arrival & subsequent appearance of Cholera are related “in time”
3. The evidence is hence summed up as follows: “Pilgrims arrived & Cholera appeared.”
4. Out of 210 places at which pilgrims arrived Cholera appeared in 199:
5. But of these 199 attacked places cholera appeared among pilgrims only at 85, so that out of 210 places visited by pilgrims, at 199 of which cholera appeared, there were 114 at which the disease showed itself among others than pilgrims
6. Of these 114 places where pilgrims & residents were attacked the dates of attack & consequently the relation in time between the pilgrim cases & those among other residents are given in 51 instances only. Hence the only reliable data on which an enquiry could be founded so as to avoid the most obvious fallacies are the following:
Pilgrims from Hurdwar visited 210 places. At 85 of these the disease appeared among pilgrims & was confined solely to them, affording in these 85 cases not even the fundamental fact of communication: - in 114 cases cholera appeared among pilgrims & residents but in 51 instances only are the dates given & in 63 instances there are no dates whatever to shew the period of attack: - Hence out of 210 places visited by pilgrims there are 51 (less than one quarter), in which there is a time-relation between the attacks in Pilgrims & those among residents.

7. The number of days intervening between attacks among pilgrims & attacks among residents was as follows: - in two cases residents were attacked before pilgrims (1 two days, 1 nearly a month) in ten cases residents & pilgrims were attacked the same day in one case pilgrims were attacked two days before residents in nine cases three days - in 7 cases four days- in 7 cases five days -in 7 cases six day days - in seven cases 5 days; in seven cases six days; in 2 cases seven days - in 2 cases nine days - in 1 case ten days - in 1 case eleven days in 1 case fifteen days - in 1 case eighteen days
8. The tables include only the towns to which pilgrims went & take no cognizance of the multitude of localities in which cholera appeared & to which no pilgrims went.

9. The tables do not include many places to which pilgrims went & where there was no Cholera.

What is wanted for legal purposes are constant uniform facts. Out of any given number of epidemic facts some must always be on one side, some on another - and it is of course only by the most careful enquiries, many times repeated & many times sifted, that we can arrive at real practical truth.

We shall want you to help us - & that very much & very often - And this is only an instalment of what, please God, you will have to suffer from me & my curiosity!

You see what you have brought upon yourself by your great kindness in reminding me of your wish to have my “promised letter”. You are partly to blame for my thus troubling you by thus submitting questions to your notice - And I am afraid that you have not come to the end of me yet.

Allow me, this time, only to thank you again for all your kindness, which, Believe me, makes me your ever obliged & faithful servt Florence Nightingale

Jas. M. Cuningham Esq MD &c &c
London Feb. 25/93

Dear Madam,

Pray accept my thanks for the honour you do me in wishing me to “prepare the opening address for” your “first-Sub-Sectional “Meeting”

I very much regret that I am quite unable to do this, both on account of overflowing work & because much information referring to Nursing in America & elsewhere would be requisite -

Should I be able to contribute anything useful in a paper on the principles of Nurse=training, I have promised to send the paper thro’ Lady Burdett Coutts. But, as you so kindly invite, I hope, if I write it, to send it with her concurrence direct to you.

Pray accept my earnest hopes for the highest success of your objects in which I am so deeply interested & in/of the Chicago International Congress & believe me yours faithfully

Florence Nightingale

Miss Isabel A. Hampton
April 18/95  
10, South Street,  
Park Lane, W.  

Madam  
Would you be so kind  
as to give me the  
present address of Miss  
Pringle.  
She left you, I think, first  
for the house in Bayswater  
of the Sisters of Zion -  
& is now in a little  
Hospital at Clapham  
yours faithfully  
Florence Nightingale  

To the Superior

Owing to Miss Florence Nightingale’s great age and failing health she is no longer able to give individual attention to the numerous letters and applications made to her. Her Secretary therefore regrets it is impossible to comply with a direct message from Miss Nightingale but desires on her behalf to thank Dr. Henry M. Hurd for the copy of his Address delivered at the Johns Hopkins Hospital on the occasion of the Graduating Exercises of the Nurses Training School.
JH recipes, 1f, pen, note of R Nash says from handwriting prob c1853

Brown Bread Pudding
12 oz of brown bread - mix with warm milk - then squeeze out the milk - mix the bread about with a spoon so as to have no lumps - add 2 oz suet finely shred (not chopped) 2 oz brown sugar & a little nutmeg Butter a mould & boil for 2 hours.

Rice Shapes
Boil 2 oz ground rice in 1 pt new milk, with 2 oz white sugar for 20 min. Pour into two small shapes, to be wetted with milk - to be eaten cold next day.

Cut long squares of white bread ½ in thick. cut around piece for the bottom of the basin. stand up the oblong squares about 3/4 in apart. Pour in stewed fruits hot. Cover with another round piece bread - & with a plate. Next day turn it out cold.

Boil ½ tablespoonful ground rice in ½ pt new milk with 2 oz white sugar - & pour over the pudding.

Boil rice pudding without eggs in slow oven for 3½ hours - or more.

JH Archives has postcard to Rev James Rupel as FN Dec 13 1881

photocopy, pen

35 South St.
Park Lane W
July 1/75

Messrs. Trübner
Gentlemen
Be pleased to send me a copy of the Revd J. Long’s “Bengali Proverbs” (With Acct.) & oblige yr obed servt
Florence Nightingale

JH, FN annotated The Zemindar, the Sun and the Watering-Pot.
Title page: FN
p 115
Many Lenders when 100 percent interest
p. 114 middle class
1874.
[p89] FB: red pencil Mr Toynbee [beside, collecting revenue insignificant compared to increasing it
[91] FN: red pencil. Sir L. Mallet [beside More than this we are constantly
told to this day that we cannot have the ‘public works’ in India because we
cannot raise the ‘revenue’ to pay for them, so ingrained is the idea that
taxes are to pay for the works--not works to pay the taxes]
[p97] FN Jacobabad [corrects spelling of Jaccobund]
[p114] FN pencil: middle class
on Sim’s […] Minute
Sir H. Montgomery
on middle class
in Madras
[p115] FN pencil: cultivators middle class
[p141 Familines in India]
[p152] FN blue pencil
& a good water supply
for drinking & cooking [beside Irrigation combined with drainage]
[p161] FN pen: wheat flour
clarified butter (? from the buffalo)
pepper vetch: peas
pot herbs cabbage &c [beside 3 or 4 chittacks] 2 oz
[p163] FN blue & for water supply [beside thorough system of drainage in
conjunction with one for irrigation]

JH Welch Library Introductory Notes on Lying-in Institutions dedication
Offered to
R Angus Smith
(tho’ not much in his line)
this little book
ON
LYING-IN INSTITUTIONS [printed]
as a tiny tribute of respect & gratitude
for his most important Sanitary
discoveries
by his warm admirer
Florence Nightingale
London July /72

JH FN dedication on Notes on Nursing, lib standard new ed revised & enlarged
ink
To my dear friend & “Patroness”
E. Herbert
from F.N.
July 1860
London May 11/77

In reply to yours of yesterday’s date:
though I could almost have thought that the important object of having fully qualified Female Physicians should rather have been ‘worked up to’ by beginning with a Lying in Hospital & also a Female Hospital so to train at the bedside as well as by Lectures women as Physician Accoucheuses & Physicians for the diseases of women & children than by the methods which are in use:
yet the object in itself has my so hearty concurrence that, if you think my poor name can be of any service, I would gladly ask you to add it to your Memorial to the Senate of the University of London, as you desire.
May I venture to ask you kindly to accept a copy of a little book of mine on Lying-in Institutions? I am only waiting for some reprieve from illness to publish in a second edition: the Hospital & Lecture Courses: for training Midwives or Physician Accoucheuses in the chief towns of Europe: including the magnificent 4 years’ course at St. Petersburg for which I have all the materials ready.

Pray believe me, Sir

ever your faithful servt

Florence Nightingale

A.T. Norton Esq &c &c
Dean of the
School of Medicine for Women

Barrack Hospital
Scutari
10 December 1854
Dear Sir
Would you take the trouble to find out & if possible, procure an Apparatus for the administration of Chloroform such as
is used in the Hospitals
for operations &
send it me by the
first opportunity,
drawing upon our
Consul for payment.
Also, half a dozen
of what in the French
Hospitals answer to
our MacIntyre’s or
Liston’s splints for
compound fractures
would be, if procurable,
most acceptable here,
& may be addressed
to me. The sooner
they can be had,
the more acceptable.
I remain, dear Sir

with many thanks
for your kindness
yours truly
Florence Nightingale
[CH Bracebridge hand follows]
The Consul illeg
please illeg

JH, FN letter, pencil

Sept 6/87
Claydon House [printed address]
Winslow
Bucks
My dear Mrs Robertson
I enclose my Cheque for
August with thanks
& return this nice letter from Mr
Marshall with thanks
Pray thank Mr Robertson very
much for his kindness in giving
me such a detailed account of Sir
Harry’s new experiment in farming
with the 30-40 labourers – which
I value very much
I am glad that you have seen
Dr Benson. Do you know exactly
what he called it?
& sorry that you cannot come to
London till next week – I hope that
you will rest meanwhile.
Lady Verney says that you could sleep at 4 South St.
And I should be very glad if you will take your meals at 10 South St. - which is only 3 doors off.
Perhaps you have no immediate friends in London - to whom you wish to go.
If you will kindly tell us when you are coming, a day or two before, all shall be ready for you.
Did Dr Benson tell you exactly what sort of pad you ought to have?
Spratt’s in New Bond St is not far from South St.
Success attend you-
God bless you - And may your daughter derive great benefit from Mr Marshall’s preparation
I rather envy her in great haste
sincerely yrs
F. Nightingale
Dear Sister Anne

Are you going today?
If so, I must, please
know from you up to
what date the Nurses
from Koulali have been
paid - What clothing
they have had - What,
if any, is due to them.
& I must have, if
possible, their Printed
Lists of Clothing -
I hope to see you again
ever yours

F. Nightingale
[14:289]
[end]
Dec 21/55

My dear Sir
I am unwilling not to thank
you more particularly for
yours of the 1st than I
was able to do this morning
(in posting to you my enclosure -
to make sure of their reaching
you before you started - I
being exceedingly hurried at
the time by business which
would however be nothing
to me, if not so ill.)
It is not that I have
W. Clark Esq.
really anything to object –
or should venture to object –
to the practical Engineering
discoveries, we may call them,
of your great experience &
ability. that I now write.
It is only that I should say
that no one principle will
be applicable in all cases,
but that the true function
of the Engineer – as who
has successfully proved
more than you ? – is to
examine minutely his problem
& to apply his principles so as
to obtain the required result
at the smallest outlay.
[But who am I to say this to you since if I had to choose the ablest example of this, I should name yourself]

In Mr. Chadwick’s paper in the I.O. Blue Book, to which you refer, this is overlooked: - and when the Govt. of India printed it for circulation in India, they actually appended a note to the effect that Mr. Chadwick’s paper was useful but that he had quite misunderstood the Cawnpore case.

An Engineer should of course deal with every separate town just as a Doctor deals with every separate Patient -applying the principles of his art to the particular case.

Much controversy would have been spared had you explained the facts about the Sewers of your Calcutta system which you have been so kind as to tell me.

In telling me you have clearly described your case & you have replied completely to Mr. Chadwick & to all people who hold by a principle & not by an application.
May I repeat what I said this morning about the desirableness of your giving to the world this your new Chapter on Sanitary Engineering?

A principle which would certainly not apply in many cases can scarcely be laid down as an infallible Law, like a Law of Nature.

Here was how the Metropolitan Sany: Comm: & Mr. Chadwick arrived at their views about Sewers: London was sewered by great sewers: they had these sewers gauged after heavy rains, & then they calculated what size of drain pipe would carry away the sewage, & they found that quite small tubes would do; and then they laid down the same principle as of universal application.

The Calcutta problem was quite different than the London one. You had to free continuously a town sub soil not only charged by rainfall but by river water. [I suppose that tho’ the sizes of your sewers are somewhat over calculated for the existing flow, if the entire city were drained into your outlets, they would not be too large.]
The French Algerian method of dealing with such a site (except with large sewers for all the sewage) would be, I suppose, to drain the houses separately & to lay sub soil drain pipes of sufficient size & depth in the same trenches & then to use the House Drainage solely for agricultural purposes. Capt. Galton however shews by Chemical Analysis, I understand, that street washings, at least in London, are as rich in manure as house sewage is - And hence on the whole that it is cheaper to have one set of drains. In small places, I suppose, the true way is to drain the house & trust to surface washing - provided there be fall enough by the rain.

But I must ask your pardon for these very elementary remarks - my knowledge of the subject being really as superficial as that of Nursing would be by a person who had never nursed a real live Patient. My only object on troubling you thus: is 1. To acknowledge your clear & valuable letter 2. to ask whether it is possible to lay down a principle which shall be universally applicable 3. & chiefly - to wish you again Godspeed & again
on your noble course of saving
life & health & civilization
& to beg that you will believe
me, (tho' in haste,) my dear Sir, always
& ever your faithful servt:
Florence Nightingale

Is Bombay only to remove the
house sewage only?-

{envelope} W. Clark Esq
3 Brown’s Road
Surbiton Hill
Surbiton S.W.

F.N.
5/10/72

University of North Carolina, signed letter, 1f, pencil

35 South St.
Park Lane W
Dec 2/73

My dear Sir

Major Tulloch says that
it did not occur to him
when he saw you to
recommend (as your Successor)
“a Mr. Hart who
“has been in the Bombay
“Public Works Dept for
“some years: & who is a
“very scientific Engineer
“with at the same time a
W. Clark Esq

“good deal of practical
“experience.
“He would be a capital
“man for the post, if
“the Bombay Govt. would
“spare him
“Mr. Hart is a man
“of about 35 or 40; &
“no doubt knows the
“vernacular: a great
“advantage.”
You may know something
of him. Mr. Hart -

Believe me.
in haste yours sincerely
Florence Nightingale
PRIVATE  35 South St  
       Park Lane W.  
       March 13/74  
My dear Sir  
   Believe me, we have  
not lost a single occasion  
of advising that you  
should be appointed to  
Sanitary work -  
   And we shall repeat  
this whenever there is  
an opportunity  
   You are probably aware  
that we think that the  
W. Clark Esq  
&c &c  

    time has come to have  
        some one at Head  
        Quarters in India to  
tell them what to do  
in Sanitary Engineering -  
I have already put this  
forward  
And you may be sure  
    that I shall neglect  
no opportunity  
    for the work’s sake  
quite as much as  
for your own  
of urging this.  

I trust that Mr. Leslie  
may turn out well  
for Calcutta -  
   Pray believe me  
my dear Sir  
   ever your faithful servt=  
Florence Nightingale
My dear Sir

I thank you very much for the copy of your invaluable Report on the Madras Drainage: & for your kind note - I was very glad to hear that you are come back: & I shall be still more glad to hear that you are going out again to do it -

When your principles are carried out & the houses drained, we shall hear little of high Madras death-rates. The principles are so sound that the question reduces itself to one simply of Engineering detail. [end 9:920]

The only point on which one would wish for more information is on the ‘Cooum’ question. It will doubtless be an enormous improvement to get the Madras Sewage out of it: but is it not a nuisance, altho’ the greater part of the Sewage does not go into it, but into the subsoil?

Is not the ‘Cooum’ foul because the surface washings (rainfall) get into it? Might I ask how you mean to provide for this? Qy some form of catch=watering the sides was talked of?

In your kind note to me you allude to this, & trust to keeping out the sewage: which your scheme, there cannot be a doubt, will succeed in doing. You have in view also to keep out the foul surface water ?
There is small doubt that Lord Hobart died of delay: i.e. in carrying out Drainage. Europeans are under the scourge of Typhoid Fever in India for not acting up to our lights in Sanitarily doing our duty. Some years ago we did not know that the fatal Indian fever is typhoid. In 1874 101 soldiers died of it in India. And you must seize it by the throat, please God. 

Your estimate appears to be £234,800:

2 certainly not high for so great a work

Have you seen Sir Bartle Frere yet? And will your Report come before the Army Sanitary Comm?: Pray believe me ever your faithful servt=

Florence Nightingale

W. Clark Esq

University of North Carolina, aigned letter & envelope, 2ff, pen. {archivist: 5/7/61}

Address 35 South St. Park Lane W

July 23/75

My dear Sir, With regard to Sir Bartle Frere’s suggestions that I should write to the Duke of Buckingham about your Madras Drainage scheme, it was thought better that I should wait until the plans came home officially: they were expected every week. But still they did not arrive. And under the circumstances I wrote yesterday to the Duke of Buckingham to entertain the scheme kindly.

I hope that he may send for you I gave him your address. in great haste & with the warmest wishes for your success: and may God speed the Madras Drainage ever your faithful servt. Florence Nightingale

I do not know the etiquette in such cases: perhaps you could learn whether it is desirable for you to seek an interview
with the D. of B. without waiting.

W. Clark Esq. C.E.
My dear Sir

‘By desire’ I am to write to Madras
(my letter to be there by the time the P. of W. arrives -) giving such a short sketch of what you want to do there
- & of what the present state of the question is: - & of what the hitch is that now prevents its progress: as an unprofessional man who cannot be expected to read or understand your Report: & who is violently pressed for time: can understand.

Will you enable me to do this?
[of course nothing can be carried by a ‘coup d’ état’: but at least word will be sent home of the true state of the case.]
Will you tell me briefly, so that a Statesman not an Engineer can understand:
- What your scheme is to do:
- Why it does not go on:
- & exactly how the matter stands now -

I could of course easily make an Abstract of your Report & letters. But I am sure that it would be of much more use if you yourself would tell me tersely (for the purpose mentioned)
- What you want doing:
- What is the evil that wants removing:
- How do you propose to do it:
- Why it is not done:
in great haste

Pray believe me
My dear Sir
ever yours faithfully
Florence Nightingale
Address
35 South St.
Park Lane W
Sept 9/76

My dear Sir,

I am sure that you will believe it is no mere form of words when I say that your plans & the Madras Drainage Works are almost as near my heart as they are near your own.

I was not aware till I received yours of Aug 31 that nothing had been done.

W. Clark Esq.

And I immediately wrote for information as to the present state of the question. This I have received only this morning: & I am sorry to say it is very discouraging.

I assure you that last year I spared no effort either with the Governor or with the Prince of Wales’ party when at Madras: sending out your Memo. & my own by ‘desire’. I know that much passed between Sir Bartle Frere & Sir Wm Robinson upon these: & that Sir Wm Robinson hoped to get Lord Northbrook when he met him at Calcutta, to give Madras the required loan: but at Calcutta he was told that a revision of the Madras Municipal Act was a necessary preliminary: & this has yet to be done.]

I am advised by Sir Bartle Frere to recommend you to write to Sir Wm Robinson, & ask for news of the new Act & the prospects of work. to be sent to you at Sydney.

Sir Bartle Frere will write too.

At the rate they do things now, I fear you will have drained & watered all Australia before you are wanted to work out your scheme at Madras.
Indeed as regards any plan requiring money I have seldom seen prospects less hopeful: - but things must mend & probably by the time you have finished your Sydney inquiries, the Madrassees, who seemed thoroughly to appreciate your value, will be prepared to intercept you on your homeward voyage.

The enclosed, sent in answer to me, is all I have been able to find on the proceedings of the Madras Govt. regarding their Drainage works:

I heartily congratulate Sydney on having you: & I bid you & your works ‘Godspeed’ with all my heart & soul.

Pray believe me
My dear Sir
ever your faithful Servt
Florence Nightingale

W. Clark Esq.
I may possibly trouble you with a small parcel for Mr. Parkes at Sydney, the ex Colonial Secretary of N. South Wales, if I hear that you are kindly willing to undertake it.

F.N.

{postmarked envelope}
Wm Clark Esq. C.E.
9 Victoria Chambers
Victoria St.
London S.W.
9/9/76
May 28, 1900
My dear children
You have called me your Mother = chief, it is an honour to me – & a great honour, to call you my children.
Always keep up the honour of this honourable profession – I thank you – may I say our Heavenly Father thanks you for what you do!

“Lift high the royal banner “I shall not suffer loss” the royal banner of nursing. It should gain through every one of you. It has gained through you immensely.
The old Romans were in some respects I think superior to us. But they had no idea of being good to the sick and weak. That came in with Christianity. Christ was the author of our profession. We honour Christ when we are good nurses. We dishonour Him when we are bad or careless Nurses. We dishonour Him when we do not do our best to relieve Suffering – even in the meanest creature.
Kindness to sick man,
woman + child came 
in with Christ. They 
used to be left on the 
banks of the great 
rivers to starve or 
drown themselves. 
Lepers were kept apart - 
The nation did not try 
to avert or to cure 
leprosy. There have 
been Lepers in *England*. 
Now it is a thing almost 
if not quite unknown.

[2]
There have been great, 
I may say, discoveries 
in *Nursing*:
A very remarkable Doctor, 
a great friend of mine, 
now dead, introduced 
new ideas about 
Consumption, which 
might then be called the 
curse of England. 
His own wife was 
what is called “consumptive” 
i.e. she had tuberculer disease in her lungs. 
He said to her: “now 
you have to choose; either

“you must spend the 
“next 6 months in your 
“room. Or you must garden 
“every day: “[they had a 
wretched little garden at 
the end of a street]
“you must dig - get 
“your feet wet every day.”
She chose the latter - 
became the hardiest of 
women + lived to be old. 
The change in the 
treatment of Pneumonia 
- disease of the lungs - 
is complete. I myself
saw a Doctor take up a child – sufferer, which seemed as if it could hardly breathe – carry it to the window, open the window at the top, + hold it up there. The nurse positively yelled with horror. He only said: “When my Patient can breathe but little air, I like that little good.” The child recovered + lived to old age.

Nursing is become a profession. Trained Nursing no longer an object but a fact. But, oh, if home Nursing could become an every day fact here in this big city of London, the biggest in the world in an island the smallest inhabited island in the world. But here in London in feeding – a most important branch of it – if you ask a mother who has perhaps brought you a sick
child to “look at”: “what
“have you given it to eat ?”
she answers triumphantly,
“O, it has the same as we
have”(!). Yes, often including
the gin. And a city
where milk, + good milk,
is now easier to get
than in the country.
For all farmers send
their milk to London
or the great cities
A sick child has been
sent to the Hospital (And
recovered). You ask what
it had: ‘O, they gave it
‘nothing – nothing’ –

It is true they gave it
nothing but milk.
Milk is ‘nothing’, Milk
the most nourishing of
all things. Sick men
have recovered + lived
upon milk.
“My soul doth magnify
the Lord: + my spirit
hath rejoiced in God
my Saviour.”
The 19th Century (there was
a tradition) was to be the
Century of Woman. How
ture that legendary
prophecy has been!
Woman was the home drudge
Now she is the teacher.
Let her not forfeit it
by being the Arrogant —
the “Equal with Men”
She does not forfeit it
by being the help “meet.”
Now, will you let me
try to thank you,
tho’ words cannot
express my thankfulness,
for all your kind thoughts,
for your beautiful Books
& basket of flowers
& kind wishes, all.
    God bless you all
and me your mother chief—
as you are good enough
to call me,
    My dear children
    Florence Nightingale
To
    All our Nurses
Great Malvern
Feb. 13th/59

My dear Sir Benjamin Brodie,
Do you consider me as
having the advantage to
be sufficiently known to you
to ask you to do me a very
great kindness?
The Bearer of this is an
English lady, Mrs. Blackwell
MD. who graduated in
America - has worked her
way up to a physician's
practice among women &
children (not exclusively
in midwifery) at New York,
& is now returned to England

where she is very anxious
to have the benefit of
your counsel as to her
future career, if you
can spare her time
for an interview.
I will not take up more
of your time by writing -
I beg that you will believe
me dear Sir Benjamin Brodie
yrs very truly obliged
{signed} Florence Nightingale
No 6    Scutari
       Dec 11/55
Dear Mrs. Brownlow
    I was quite uneasy
not to have heard
sooner than I did
of your arrival. I
am very glad to hear
that you are comfortable.
You do not tell me
whether you knew
your husband again.
I suppose by this time
you are at the Monastery
    Yours truly
    F Nightingale
    I hope Bessie is well.

Clendening, signed letter, 2ff, pencil

10 South St. Park Lane W.
    Oct. 7/89
Dear Mr Burton
    We most earnestly sympathize
with you & the School - children
this week, & know how busy
& anxious you are. But by
the spirit with which we come
out of trials, we know in Whose
Spirit & Strength we went
into them.
    I will not write any thing
more now, but after it is
over, & we shall be most
interested to know the result
- I may perhaps ask some
information about the Institute concerning which we are also much interested, as you know.
But I do not, of course, expect an answer now.
With the very best good wishes for the School's highest success in the real sense of success i.e. to make good citizens of this & the next world, & good fathers & mothers & neighbours & God's servants with kind regards to Mrs. Burton believe me always faithfully yours Florence Nightingale

I am writing to Mr. Butler, the Mineralogist, to settle with him about this last instalment completing the series of specimens. He is not a mere seller of stones. I think I may tell him that you are satisfied with his collection - that you have already done good work & gone at it in the true Educational spirit - & taught the boys to collect specimens themselves & in your Science classes are going to give one on Geology, & two Lectures on Coal &c at an Institute. - thus training the men & boys
to teach themselves - which is the true Education.
Do you know a very pretty little book of parables called "Earth's many Voices"?
I think there is one on the formation of Coal. If you have not the book, I will send it you.
These boys, I suppose, will most of them be F.N. miners, or quarrymen, or in the factory. [end 5:700]

Clendening, signed letter, 5ff, pencil {black-edged paper}

Feb 25/95
10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}
      PARK LANE. W.

Dear Mr. Burton

Thank you very much for your letter. We rejoice that the Children's Concerts have, under you, answered so well. It is the due reward of your efforts.
I do not know how many or which of the books on the first list went to the Institute - & which to the School Library. Perhaps you will ask the Institute Librarian some day to tell me the former. It is always instructive to me.
Parish Council - Pray do not be "pessimistic" about it. Should we not always back it up? I hope that Sanitation will soon form their "great work" as you say.

In all the countries I have staid in or lived in or know much about, one of the great differences between them & England is this. England's first & best men (& now I may say best women) are always ready to serve their country & fellow creatures in what appear drudgery employments without reward of any kind but duty well fulfilled.

Fancy Sir John Lawrence after having saved India by his single action in the Punjab - after his Vice Royalty - serving, as soon as he returned as Lord Lawrence, on the first London School Board - a service the most distasteful to him who
has always had to act
"off his own bat" as it
were, & now had to
be interrupted by a
parcel of people who
liked to hear their own
voices. It hastened his
end. But it was he
who gave importance & good work to
the first London School
Board.

A Board of Guardians
in London some years
ago which shall be
nameless was redeemed
from corruption by one
thing as much as any other.

[2] A lady serving on it -
the first lady woman, 10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address}
I believe, who ever served on a Board of
Guardians.

Now all over the
country we see people
willing to serve who
can do good service
who can represent
the various interests
of our population - not
that these are really
various, they are really
the same. The wife
of one of our Lord
Lieutenants, a beautiful
& charming woman, with many duties, is serving on a District Council (which is in effect serving as a Guardian).

I could multiply these instances. But I only quote them to say: - ought not we to back with all our mights an experiment at Local Self Govt= which could only succeed in England?

May I send you a little printed Preface of mine which I was asked for?

Also: Chalmers' Local Self-Govt=, which is reprinting with a Chapter on Parish Councils, as soon as it is ready?

It is delightful to know of the children attending so regularly, thanks to you.

Thrift is, I think, one of the great questions of the present day,
tho' not a popular one.

Think of many women who have been earning not only good but large wages in different industries for many years, becoming destitute from a few weeks' frost - In the South of England where wages are comparatively small, I believe there is not the same destitution from temporary causes. In great cities there is.

I hope your proposed "Relief Committee" will not rake jealousy among the children.

{vert. text in left margin of first folio:}
Hoping that you are both getting over colds, & with a hearty God bless you, ever sincerely yours F. Nightingale

Clendening, signed letter, 2ff, pencil

Nov 28/95
10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}
   PARK LANE. W.

Dear Mr. Burton
I had great pleasure in looking at your proposed Lectures Entertainments & bid you good speed - And please accept this £2.2 in aid of apparatus &c And thank you for your bit of print on regularity of attendance. It is very satisfactory. And I think I have never thanked you
enough for your
 interesting 'Crich Hill'.
About the Lectures: I
do not wish to rob
the villagers of one
moment's entertainment.
But would you not
follow these up some
day with some Lectures
on Social Economics?
It would be curious to
make a collection of
the deputations which
Ld Salisbury has received
since he took office,
from the hop-growers,
crying out for protection
to which Ld Salisbury
had the easy answer -
"Then the wheat-growers
"will ask for protection
"and bread will go
"up all over England."
Then others asked him
to fix the minimum of
wages &c &c &c
showing how workmen
& others do not
understand the very
elements of Economics.

I wish you good
speed to all your
efforts - & with
kindest remembrances
to yourself & Mrs.
Burton am always
Yours sincerely
F Nightingale
I trust betting is not
increasing among
our boys & young men
F.N.
I trust that you are
all well [end 5:708]
July 30/96
10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:} 
PARK LANE. W.

Dear Mr. Burton

I am rejoiced to hear from you & give you joy of your Gardening boys. It is the most wholesome of Lessons.

2. Was it the Medical Officer of Health who closed the School? And what is his name?

I am very sorry that your children have had Scarlet Fever, tho' so slightly, thank God.

Now your house is an infected house. And you must take advantage of it to have it painted & papered & disinfected, I suppose. What has the Medical Officer of Health said about it?

Please look to this - They can't disinfect it without having it painted & papered anew.

There is no fault in the drainage, is there? to produce this Scarlatina or Scarlet Fever.

I have been writing this note with so many interruptions - that I cannot tell you how delighted I am with the Scholarships four - And I am going to send you 10/6 by
registered letter for
the Gardening boys
God bless you -
With kindest regards
to Mrs. Burton
Yours faithfully
F. Nightingale

Clendening, signed letter, 3ff, pencil {two dates in same letter}

May 11/97
10, SOUTH STREET, (printed address:)
PARK LANE. W.

Dear Mr. Burton
First, thank you very much for the Horticultural book. And I was delighted to see the competitions for the girls. It is a great civilizer. And next for the Institute.

I have taken a note of the Periodicals & books you want & hope to supply them in due time. But as the Report is dated in January, should any body supply you with the 19th=

"Century" (say) in the mean time, perhaps you will kindly tell me. [You know the XIX Centy= is very flimsy] I hope there is sufficient provision for boys. A boy's character is pretty nearly decided at 17 or earlier, is it not? There used to be a Gymnastic room for them, I think -

Men are sometimes too careful to make themselves comfortable in the Reading-room, excluding the lads who make a noise, which
is not wonderful. The Game-room, I suppose, is chiefly for the lads. Gambling, I am told, is increasing all over England from the boy to the man. I am afraid to look at the word “Whist”. I am glad the Cricket is restored.

Please to receive the Cheque for £5.5 for Mrs. Shore & me.

2. We are extremely indebted to you for the start you are giving our boys in gardening, including vegetables, in geology &c &c & the girls in needlework. We have always felt your practical religious instruction an untold benefit.

I don’t know whether you have seen Mr. Horace Plunkett’s report on Agriculture & Industries for Ireland. [I have not time to read it myself]

Also, his address to the Surveyor’s Institute.

But I beg to send you

[2]

a very good {printed address:}10, SOUTH STREET, abstract of the report PARK LANE. W. - very readable & interesting and another copy for the Whatstandwell Coffee-room, if you like to give it them from me.

You cannot think how I have been interrupted all the time I have been writing this poor little letter. For we are hard pressed
Now God bless you for all the good you are doing us —
kindest regards to Mrs. Burton & your children
ever sincerely yours
F. Nightingale

Clendening, signed letter, 2ff, pencil

Aug. 30/97
10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}
PARK LANE. W.
Dear Mr. Burton
I am delighted to hear the result of the School Scripture Examination — not that a Scripture Examn= ensures an earnest life necessarily among the children, any more than a Grammar Examn= — But it is a Master's (or a Mother's) daily Scripture lesson, from which the children learn whether he (or she) means it for their life or no — whether it is to bring in "the kingdom" into our lives, or whether it is merely a lesson in words. I am sure yours are not merely lessons in words — but that you look to their future lives as e.g. — Dr. Arnold of Rugby did, & Mr. Jowett, the Master of Balliol College
Oxford, (who is dead) did
to the future lives of his
undergraduates.
   I have not written -
from the press of work
which has not left me
a moment. But Lea
Board School is always
in my thoughts.
   Yours sincerely
   F. Nightingale

Excuse pencil
   Mrs. Shore Nightingale
is just coming back from
Germany & Belgium.

Clendening, signed letter and envelope, 2ff, pen

April 8/89
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.

Dear Sir
   Mr. Burton, the Lea
Schoolmaster, to whom you
so kindly sent your beautiful
collection, writes:
   "I received from London
yesterday a most unique
collection of rock specimens.
The collector made a most
excellent selection as
regards variety, and each
specimen is a very good
example indeed."
   He then expresses his
"warmest thanks," and also
"the united thanks" of his
"children" (school children) for so "useful" a collection. I think he will make what you will consider a good use of it. I waited for his expression of pleasure, which I thought would please you, before paying my little Acct=, for which I beg to apologize, & before expressing my own sincere thanks to you for the kind trouble you have taken. "A case will be made
“for the collection,” he adds, "and you may be sure that our children in the future will receive many a 'Sermon in stones'."

I will bear in mind & communicate to Mr. Burton what you kindly say about adding a few more specimens & some fossils, for use in a more advanced Science course, and I hope we shall deserve to apply to you to add them to this collection.

With renewed thanks
I beg to remain dear Sir
faithfully yours
Florence Nightingale
F.H. Butler Esq
£1 enclosed

{envelope
  F.H. Butler Esq
  Natural History Agency
  148 Brompton Road
  F. Nightingale}
  8/4/89   
}
10 South St. Park Lane W. Oct 7/89

My dear Sir I am extremely obliged to you for the excellent collection of specimens which you have been so good as to send Mr. Burton of Lea Board School. He is exceedingly pleased with the completion of the series. And I am sure you will be pleased to hear that he has already done good work with what you sent him last year. & gone at it in the true Educational spirit,

teaching the boys to collect specimens themselves in the holidays in that fertile Geological county & part of Derbyshire.

Mr. Burton is not a mere School master, looking after the 'grant', but is zealous to teach the school-children to teach themselves in after life, & he has a spark of genius.

Just now he is in for the Inspector's General School Examn= - But he is going to give, besides the School work, 4 Science Classes (in connection with the Science & Art Dept= in London) of which one will be on Geology.

And he is Secretary to the Lea & Holloway Institute, & will give two Lectures there in the Winter session, one of which will be on Coal & the other on the pre-historic World, I believe -

I hope he will not go beyond his audience. But he succeeds most admirably in making the boys give a lively attention. The main thing is (& one in which we terribly fail, especially with girls) to teach them to observe what is around them every day or under their feet in the earth.

I hope in time he will catch the "black sheep", which we do not succeed in at present.

With renewed thanks & wishing you ever & the highest success believe me most faithfully yours

Florence Nightingale

F.H. Butler, Esq. [end 5:701]
Private {at angle)
    Oct 2/66
    35 South Street, {printed address:}
    Park Lane,
    London. W.
Dear Madam
    Only a few days ago
    was a letter of yours,
    of March 9, received
    by me.
    It was about William
    Henry Jones, a young man
    who died in the
    Consumptive Hospital
    early in March, & was
    most kindly visited
    by you
    He had been a terrible
    anxiety to me. And, tho'

I had had most satisfactory
accounts of the "repentance
& faith" he showed on
his death-bed, (thro' the
kindness of Mr. Dobbin,
the Secretary) - I cannot tell you
how touching & comforting
it was to me to hear from
yourself what he said
to you & what you
thought of his state.
He was a merchant sailor
boy - & when he was about
15, he was put on shore
at Balaclava in 1856 -
& taken into Hospital
there in a state equally corrupt of mind & body (if I may phrase it so). One leg was amputated and for nearly 3 weeks he was literally kept alive on Champagne-wine alone. [I have never seen such another case.] When he recovered, as there was not a soul to take any charge of him, I brought him home with me, with two other boys, one a Russian, both of whom have turned out admirably. Alas for poor William Jones. And yet not alas! - if the mercy of God has been shown him, what better can be said of any one? It was touching to me that he said to you that he "hoped I had heard no harm of him". For he knew well, if I heard of him at all, there was nothing but "harm" to hear. Not to weary you with a very sad tale, Wm= Jones was taken in first at my father's house with those two other boys - my father's servants being
of a patriarchal kind, butler & housekeeper being husband & wife & with their own boy living with them in the house. But it was found impossible to keep Wm= Jones from his inveterate habits of lying. He was then apprenticed, at his own desire, to a watch-maker, & subsequently to other trades, & furnished with a spring cork leg. From every successive home he ran away & from each I received letters,
calling upon me to pay his debts. I am afraid there was worse behind. But, not to enter into more detail, I was quite relieved to be able to get him at last a bed in the Consumptive Hospital - still more relieved when I heard (thro' Mr. Dobbin) from Chaplain, Matron & Nurse how much "repentance" he had shown. He told Mr. Ross (an excellent man, formerly a Non-Commissioned Officer, who never lost sight of poor
Wm= Jones, tho' wearied out with his backslidings, & who visited him to the last,) that he had written me a letter (in the Hospital), expressing "repentance & faith in "the Lord & asking my "forgiveness" - This letter I never had. But I think it likely that, in the weakness of illness, there may have been some confusion, & that this was the message which you so kindly conveyed to me, & which I received only last week. I cannot tell you what a comfort it was to me - I blame Wm= Jones, poor fellow, less than myself. He was quite corrupted when he came to me. I think, if I had placed him in a good Reformatory he might have been alive & honest now. But I thought an honest trade would be as well. For, at that time, there was no overt act by which he could legally have been placed, except by his own will, in a Reformatory of any
kind.
   But God has done
   better for him - the best.
The two other boys are now
   - one, a steward on an
   excellent landlord's estate
   in Scotland - the other,
   a servant in my father's
   house - both, steady
   & well-principled young
   men - tho' the Russian
   when he first came to
   me,- a poor little (scalded)
   boy of 9 years old,- when
   he was asked: Who made
   you? - by a female
   Missionary of mine -
   (in English, which he spoke perfectly)

answered: "Miss Nightingale."
And, after some further
steps by the same lady
in his religious education,
when he was asked: -
- Where shall you go to
when you die? - answered,
"To Miss Nightingale's."
   I would not have
troubled you with so long
a letter but to shew
my gratitude, however
imperfectly, for yours.
You kindly ask after my
health. I am an incurable
invalid, entirely a prisoner
to my bed (except during
a periodical migration) -
& overwhelmed with
business. I should not
say 'overwhelmed' for,
of all the causes I have
for the deepest thankfulness
to God, there is not one
I feel so deeply as that He
still enables me to work
for Him - & leads me so
plainly, tho' by a way I "have
not known."
   I have heard with the
greatest interest of
Miss Marsh's good work,
which she has added to
her many others, for
   Convalescents from Cholera.
   Might I enclose a small
   sum, £5, to help in it?
With my most fervent thanks to her for
her kindness to my poor boy.
   Pray believe me
dear Madam
   ever your faithful & grateful
   servt
   Florence Nightingale
Mrs. Chalmers
{printed address upside down:}
   35 South Street,
      Park Lane,
         London. W.
Burton: Lea School Jan 29/94
{printed address:) 10, SOUTH STREET, PARK LANE. W.

My dear Arthur I venture
to send you another flag of
Burton's which I have
answered with enthusiasm
At the same time I cannot
think his Programme very
wise - There are lovely
operettas for children's
performances with a
better moral than small
feet & marriage with a Prince
But And could we not
have had one or two pieces
of good music in all that
trash. I have told him
how even in my day the
Street & Park bands have
miserably deteriorated in
music. We used to have

Mozart's 12th Mass, Beethoven's
Adelaida, Rossini's Stabat
Mater &c played in the streets.
And I have been guilty of
giving them gold. And on
Xmas Eve a man with a
trumpet came straight from
heaven at midnight to
perform the Angel's song.
Now the Park bands' execution
is excellent but the music
detestably frivolous. And the
"Waits" a horrid squeak.

Still Burton is a hero to
'go'. And I hope you
encourage him. Was he
absent when you & your
lady were so good as to
go to Lea Hurst?
I hope to see her
some day. ever yours F.N. [end 5:706]
My Dear Sir
I venture to enclose a few criticisms, in which Mrs. Verney agrees, on your "Missioner's" Form, as you desired. I ought to have returned it before-
I give you joy with all my heart & soul at the success of your opening Lady Lectures - especially as it appears that at least Miss Bartlett had so many invitations to visit cottages-
That is capital -
Go on & prosper.
God bless your work.
I hope the Lady Missioners always report to you how many invitations they have had to Cottages.

PRIVATE
// I am afraid there is nothing doing about the draining of Lower Steeple Claydon. [Did you send a Draft for Sir Harry to write to the Authorities?] & nothing doing about Earth Closets.
// Could you give us a simple wholesome way for Cottage Mothers to stop up the gaping chinks between boards of floor?
Tow & red lead is recommended - but babies might find red lead dangerous. Tow & tar is messy -
What is the best thing? 
// May all your measures prove successful. But we must not expect too much practical progress at first -
Yours ever sincerely
F. Nightingale

Dr. De'ath

Clendening, signed letter, 1f, pencil, copy RP 2055 [6:652-53]

May 10/87
{printed address:} 10, SOUTH STREET, PARK LANE. W.

My dear Sir
I cannot thank you enough for your attention to poor Bratby & for your kindness in keeping me informed. The account you were good enough to send me this morning is certainly discouraging. Pray have Dr Webb to meet in consultation whenever you judge it desirable.

Valentine's Meat-Juice recommended by Dr. Webb for a change I sent yesterday.

And tomorrow I will send Brand which it is fortunate that he likes. I am sure that everything is done for him that can be done. You will tell me if anything else occurs to you, pray.

With many thanks, pray believe me ever faithfully yours
F. Nightingale

C.B.N. Dunn, Esq.
10 South St.  January 8/86
Dear Alice Hepworth
    I am very sorry not to see
you before you go back to
Lea. But the snow & the
frost made the streets really too bad
for Mrs. Lushington & me to
wish you to come out so far.
    I wish you a good New
Year & a happy New Year
& many of them, to do God
Service.
    And I give you joy that
you have brought the infants
on so satisfactorily &
enabled them to take such

    a good place in both
Examinations.
    And we all of us thank
you - you & Mr. Butler.
    I should like to have
heard from you about all
your Infants & all your
classes - & to have asked
you what they did, if I
could have seen you.
    Will you be so good as to
take these two parcels of
books with you -
    one for Mr. Butler for the
Holloway Institute -
    & one which perhaps he
will be so good as to send
to Mr. Peacock
Whatstandwell Coffee-rooms
(for the Whatstandwell Library)
Or perhaps if you get out at
Whatstandwell Station,
you might leave it there
to be sent to him (Mr. Peacock).
But don't hurry yourself to
do this - if perhaps the
train hardly stops at
Whatstandwell Station -
& you get out at Cromford.
And will you be so good as to tell me what book you would like yourself, which I should have asked you had I seen you - God bless you - and with my kind regards to Mrs. Hepworth believe me yours most sincerely

F. Nightingale

I am obliged to write in pencil

Clendening, signed letter, 7ff, pencil [5:691–93]

10 South St. Park Lane W
March 9/86

Dear Alice Hepworth

Please accept the (Revised) Bible which has been waiting for you so long; not but what I sent for it for you as soon as ever I heard from you, but I have been almost unfit to do anything - & am still - but what was absolutely necessary - from illness.

I need not tell you again, my dear child, to whom I wish all the highest blessings of that book which tells us how Christ loves us so much that He will even come & dwell in us & make us live & love like Himself. - And you will be a little mother to your very large infant family - - - - - - - - - - - - I need not tell you how pleased we were at the School being worked up so nicely, to a good standard of usefulness - nor how we feel sure that this year will show a still higher
standard. And perhaps
that very gain of a certain
assured progress in
essentials will enable the
nice lessons practised in
Thomas St. to be introduced,
if there is time for them -
e.g. the little moral tales
which you used to give
your scholars once a week
at Thomas St., tho' they
do not 'tell' directly on the
Examination.
You told me last summer
that there was no time
then for these & other things,

which I could easily believe
then.
But now perhaps Mr. Butler
& you might think that
there might be time -
and e.g. for drawing maps
on the floor -
that nice plan that you
told me of in Thomas St.
& without which I do not
think the children, even
when they are grown up,
ever really understand
what a map means, do you?
I was reading the other day
the account by a Russian

[2]
Prince who in his exile had
become a famous Professor
of Geography, that he feels
quite sure no Collegians
even ever understand
maps & plans, or what
they represent, or what
Geography represents, if
they have not drawn their
garden, their house, their
village or their district
to scale on the floor or
wall or the big slate.
It is curious that this Russian who writes in French
& who is one of the greatest teachers of Geography should find the same things as we do. And would there be time now for giving the religious morning instruction in talk? Perhaps you always do this. I do not know exactly what the Infants' religious instruction is. It may be necessary to give a good deal of learning Scripture by heart

But then if Scripture is really to tell on the children's lives - the only thing that Christ cares about & that Christ came to live & die for - & still lives for - the little 'mother' must explain a good deal by little tales & illustrations. We have a little boy of 6 years old in one of the Male Surgical Wards of our St. Thomas' Hospital - we often have such children - it was brought in cussing & swearing - [it had never heard a good word in all its life.] with an abscess in its back - about a year ago. It can only just stand now - it will never be well, tho' it is much better. The 'Sister' of the Ward (Head Nurse) did not scold or preach to Bobby - he goes by the name of Bobby, for no one knows its name. She was very gentle with Bobby - & very loving - but he must obey} he soon found that.) By degrees
she taught him his little prayers. And now if she is busy, he calls: 'Sister, Sister, I have not said my prayers.
And it is a real speaking to God with him. And the men Patients stop & listen to hear him - And now he has his real little mission in the Ward - tho' he never preaches - he is not goody - he is quite a little "elf" - but it is as Christ meant when he said that the little child might be the best preacher of us all -

So he is a little Missionary & quite an influence among the rough men Patients. And his little cot cot is run in at night between two of the men-Patients - And they take care of him - And never a word is spoken now before him which a little child ought not to hear. And one of the poor men who had to be taken into a Medical ward where he died, sent a message to Bobby from his death-bed - And the dying man's brother made some playthings for him

[He was a joiner] -
Bobby has the real thing in his heart, the true religion. I hope some Bobbies will come out of Lea Infant School. - with the talking classes - tho' they, your Bobbies, will not have to come out of the moral mire that our Bobbies have

Pray give my kindest regards to Mr. Butler. And I beg him not to think that
we are not careful for the "three Rs" first & foremost.
or that we want to judge ourselves, instead of him & you, whether there is time now to introduce the nice lessons of Thomas St. or not -
My kindest regards to Mr. & Mrs. Butler - I hope she is pretty well. The winter has been so very severe.

Ask him whether any books are wanted for the boys' or girls' Library I shall be writing to him soon

[4]
Miss Dexter will think I have forgotten her. Tell her why I have not written - & that I will write. Never was any one less forgotten -

God bless you all - & all your children -
ever yours sincerely

Florence Nightingale
Do the "Infants" know that Christ loved little children & that He was always meek & gentle? and are they more (or less) gentle & loving with each other? or do they tell tales of each other, instead of themselves?

F N
How are Mrs. Butler's own children? Pray tell her I asked particularly after them.
with hearty good wishes - not the
   less hearty for being tardy -
   to Alice Hepworth -
   for all the future.
I was very sorry that you left Lea
- but knew not what to say,
as you appeared to have quite
made up your mind to leave -
   but my best wishes are
with you, whatever you undertake
of good. And I should like
to hear what you are doing -
   I am overworked & ill - &
unable to write more than this
   You did good work at Lea
And I was surprised you
wished to leave it.
   God bless you always,
   ever faithfully yours
   F. Nightingale
Jan 1887

30 Old Burlington St.
   London W.
August 11/57

Dear Sir
   I am encouraged to
ask you to do me a
favor by having had the
honor of meeting you at
the Hospital of the
Grenadier Guards - altho'
I fear you will hardly
recollect it.
   I was so very
much pleased with
the admirable Model
Lodging House which
you have made for the Guards that I am most desirous of doing all in my power to introduce something like it for our "miserable" Line -
A recommendation to that effect has been put into the Report of the Royal Commission now sitting upon the Sanitary Regulations of the Army, but struck out, because it was uncertain whether it would "pay".

Now, if you would be so very good as to tell me what percentage of interest the Guards' Lodging House brings in, it would materially assist our purpose.

I beg you will be so kind as to employ the small sum I take the liberty of enclosing in any way that you may think best for the
Lodging House you have so magnificently provided - the only deficiency in which appeared to me to be the washing & drying places.

Any accounts that you would furnish us with of the Expenditure, Receipts & Management of your Lodging House would be most valuable to us -

Also, if you would tell me who arranged the camp of the Guards during the winter of '55-'56 before Sevastopol - It was a "Model Lodging House" too - yours very faithfully Florence Nightingale

faithfully Florence Nightingale

{envelope with printed monogram on back}

{FN hand} Lt. Colonel Higginson
Grenadier Guards
Horse Guards

letter
Clendening
Gordon Boys’ Home)
       Matron  } June 10/88 [16:485-86]
10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}
       PARK LANE. W.

Dear General Higginson

Sister Constable will be at Waterloo Station on Tuesday morning in time to catch the 7.35 a.m. train there to go to Sunningdale, where the F. Verneys will meet her & take her in a fly to see Gordon Boys' Home & Hospital, returning to Sunningdale at 11. She will then come here, according to your kind wish, & "report" to me "quietly" "What she thinks of it".

I am sorry her visit there will be so hurried. On account of its being the Ascot week, she
National Library of Medicine

was advised to put it off
till next week. But if you mean to come to a "formal" decision at your Wednesday's Meeting, she must, at least, as you wisely stipulated, have seen the "Home" & Hospital first.

I wish she could have spent some more hours there & seen the boys' dinners served - &c &c - & the sickly lads.

But when will you or your "Home" Committee see her before your Wednesday's Meeting? Shall it be on Tuesday afternoon at Cockspur Street? I will keep her here till any hour
you may appoint for her to come in the afternoon, if you wish it.
And when will you take her character from her Matron, Miss Vincent, at
St Marylebone Infirmary, Ladbroke Grove Road, W.?

independently of us —
I trust before Wednesday.
I have just ascertained that
"She will have to give a one "month's notice" — (this 'one'
month is a concession) "to the
"Committee" at St Marylebone Infirmary, "and stay the "month; and should have
"at least three or four

"weeks' holiday, before "she undertakes a new "post," if you engage her.
They will "miss' her work" at St. Marylebone Infy-
"extremely"

Unless you could put off the proposing her at the Meeting of the General Committee on
Wednesday, how are the most necessary steps to be gone thro' ? on Tuesday?
[It was "impossible" to arrange her going to the Gordon B. Home on Monday (tomorrow).]

Have I met all your wishes as nearly as was possible?
[2]
I have sent S. Constable a copy of Genl- Tyndall's kind answers to our Questions - also a copy of the "Matron's duties", as laid down by you. As you will see her so soon, I will not trouble you with more
May the Home's best interests be served
is the ever present wish
of yours most faithfully
Florence Nightingale
I have troubled you with the hours of S. Constable's visit to Gordon B. H. on Tuesday, as you kindly wished to "warn "General Tyndall"
F.N.

Clendening, signed letter and envelope, 2ff, pencil [12:511-12]

No 1 – August /97
{printed address:}10, SOUTH STREET,
PARK LANE. W.

Dear Sir George Higginson
May I presume to write to you as Chairman of the "Home" Committee for the Gordon Boys Home to ask you to be so very good as to enquire into the grounds of dismissal of Sister Constable from being Nurse to the sick boys. The notice given to her expires on Oct. 18.
If upon enquiry you find that the charge made against her of
being absent without leave was either based upon a misunderstanding on her part or otherwise insufficient as the main ground of dismissal, might it not be possible or equitable to grant her some compensation after 9 years' service? As a Nurse trained in the "Nightingale Fund" School at St. Thomas' Hospital & afterwards as Nurse at the St Marylebone Infirmary, I have known her well & have always considered her to be a strictly trustworthy & truthful woman & an excellent Nurse. And this is my excuse for taking the liberty of making this Suggestion. Pray look upon it with kindness & believe me yours very faithfully Florence Nightingale General Sir G. Higginson &c &c

{envelope} [not for this letter] Lockinge House Wantage Berks General Sir George Higginson 28/8/97
Private {up at angle}
London October 24/95

Dear Mrs. Leiter

I send you the two pamphlets: ("Bucks San’y Confer’e —"Health at Home
according to your requests,
- & Mr. Fredk- Verney's two copies which you wished
to return to him yourself-
May I take the liberty of adding to these
"Rural Hygiene": a pamphlet
to carry out "Health at Home"
& enlarge it

Mrs. Cheadle's Short "Report"
on our two "Health Missioners"
We requested her to go
down to N. Bucks to give
us an unbiased report.
She was for many years the
most efficient Supt- of our
District Nurses

I have asked Mr. Fredk-
Verney your question
whether you "may quote", as
you kindly wished, as
mine from the pamphlets.
And he says that he sees
no objection
It occurred to me as
to your two suggestions
1. of using the District Nurses
(I forget the names for
them) for Health Missioners
and 2. that poor women
would not like instructions
as to lyings-in & babies
from young unmarried
women —
1. that our trained District
Nurses in London are
used as "Health Missioners" and 2. that the poor mothers have always welcomed their "Health" suggestions, tho' none are married, few are widows, & many are between 23 or 24 and 30. The poor mothers feel so comfortable after being attended to & washed by these Nurses that they are glad to attend to their further suggestions. But I must not take up your time. And I must ask your pardon, because I have been so interrupted even while writing this.

Accept my heart-felt wishes & prayers for your good work & believe me ever yours sincerely Florence Nightingale
I venture to add my little old "Notes on Nursing"
And might I venture to ask that you will kindly not give my address in America I have sometimes received about 17 letters from the U.S. by every mail, asking me to be "interviewed" by such & such a newspaper - sending stories cut out of newspapers about me which were "extremely not so" &c &c &c after my address had been given.
My dear Miss Lückes

I am always so glad from you to hear - & I hope not in unfavourable circumstances -
Your last question I will answer first:
1. R. Charter: Before you receive this, you will hear that it was published on Saturday. And the "London" will probably have received a copy of a letter which it is proposed to make known what those who have opposed the Charter in the Nursing interest - on public grounds consider the essential modifications in favour of what we have contended for on those public grounds -
   There are several essential differences for the better from the draft Charter -
   E.g. Even the word "Register" entirely disappears -
   Nursing is not placed entirely under the Medical profession -
   Bye laws are to be referred to the Pr Council &c &c &c
I will not anticipate the "London" conclusions.
It was well worth while to place before the Privy Council the Conclusions of the most experienced people.
   For, after all, is it not
the great thing to get the Hospitals to improve their training?

To stop that is what the danger of the draft Charter lay in.

To forward that is what we are all striving for - & what must be our strenuous & Continual attempt, & of those who come after us.

For we are only on the very threshold of Nursing.

Into the future our work, we may hope, will open a better way.

We must not be surprised if the R.B.N.A. do not perceive the difference between the actual & the draft Charter. But now. Let there be peace in Israel.

2. Your Quarterly Court will not harm you - nor your "Fisher" - And your Chairman's "almost "daily visits" will do good.

3. Thank you for sending me your "Sick Cookery" class - paper. "Demonstrations" are almost useless, as we find not only in Hospitals, but in the vast number of "Technical Education" classes now sprinkled over the country.

To do any good, the pupils must do everything with their own hands - must not they?
4. How glad I am that you have a good prospect of efficient & kindly "assistants" settling down to their work.

But what I always long for for you is a good "Home Sister" (Class Mistress) (Mother of Probationers) - Where you have all under 2 years as Probationers, of course it must be different from where for one year the Probationers are in a separate Home mothered by a Home Sister.

But you have all your Nursing Staff, Probationers, or otherwise, in one Home - none outside of your Home

5. Your Maternity Nursing will be most useful when it is carried out. I conclude it is for Nurses to attend the Out-Patients - & to teach the poor mothers how to manage their infants - how to feed, wash & clothe them &c. This is such a very great item in the National Health - & so neglected.

The "Charity Org. Soc.", reviewing our "Health at Home" pamphlet (what we have been doing in Bucks)
National Library of Medicine

says: how inferior is the human
mother to the animal mothers
in intelligent care of their
offspring. You never see a
cow trying to make her calf
eat grass. And a cat licks
her kittens all over in the
first ¼ of an hour.

I never knew a trained
Midwife who had the least
idea of showing the mother
what to do with her infant.

The Midwife recommends
boiled bread!! for the infant.
And neither mother nor
infant are properly washed.
I don't see that we are
much better than the poor
Hindoos in this respect

I am so glad that Guy's
is doing so well in this
matter. Thank you for
telling me - Is there any
report that I could read?

6. Thank you very much
for your Sisters' book.
And while I wish you
had a Home Sister to
help you with the
Probationers, I feel that
we, the Hospitals, have no organized
system of helping & training
the new-made Sister to her
Sisters' duties. Such a book
as yours is much wanted.
Still as you point out a Sister's
duties are different in a/one Ward
all under her own eye where she
is really the Head Nurse, & the key
to the whole situation, from what they are in a cluster of 4 separate wards.

I think we shall, as you say, "ultimately win the day" "with our own" "weapons", if those "weapons" are - to get the Hospitals to improve their training, not by party spirit, more or less unfriendly, - but by patient, careful, hopeful work, and a friendly rivalry with all others.

I hope to see you soon - as you kindly wish it. For the last 6 months I have been very ill - often entirely forbidden to see people, even my own - & almost unable to do the most pressing business.

But I am better now - & I shall hope to see you - tho' we are both so occupied - before you go on your much needed holiday

Mr. Burdett has published a verbatim report of the proceedings before the Privy Council, called 'The Battle of the Nurses'. What an unfortunate name!

God bless you & your work -

ever yours sincerely

F. Nightingale

I am so anxious to hear from you - but yet I always dread lest those interesting letters are written by night

F.N.

Excuse a thousand interruptions, tho' I am writing - at least I began at 5 - a.m.
I must trouble you to return me this also -

2. Several of our Hosps= have been good enough to send me their Statistics this year. Among these, St. Bartholomew has unquestionably the best. (Though I think he might do still more in improving his Statistical Forms).

And Guy, who used to be the best, is now unquestionably the worst.

I wish I could say that I had done anything yet in utilizing your invaluable Materials for the record of "Causes of Death after Operations". But I have not. I do not however despair of doing something this year -

We are overwhelmed with business at the War O., business now almost hopeless, now that we have lost our head -

I am like Professor Tyndall, if he had
broken both his wrists
at the top of the
Weiss horn.
  Our chief is dead.
Also, since Albert is
dead too, the Commander
in Chief has gone to
the dogs entirely
Yours faithfully &
gratefully
  Florence Nightingale
James Paget Esq.

Clendening, signed letter, 2ff, pen

  31 Dover St W
      Feb 21/62
My dear Sir
  An Irishman (apparently)
writes to a very honest
Irish Captain of my
acquaintance, Captain
of the Army Hospital
Corps, apparently
taking him for the
Captain of the Doctors
& therefore the Chief
Doctor - for Medical
advice for his, the
applicant's, brother.
Whereupon the Captain
writes to me "to
admit him" (evidently
the Captain) into a
London Hospital.
  I can make
nothing farther out
of the case, except
that the injury is
one to the wrist
of long standing
(since October) -
that the patient's
name is Wm Chalklen
of New Brompton,
(near Chatham) -
that he has been an
Out Patient of St. Thomas, without benefit - which looks, I am afraid, as if he were not an In-Patient case.

Would you be so kind as to see him, & to admit him into St. Bartholomew's, if you think him a proper case? Should you be so good as to be willing to see him, will you tell me where & when he may come to you to be seen?

Ever yours sincerely,
Florence Nightingale

James Paget Esq &c &c

Any how the loss of the use of a wrist is a serious thing, whether it is an Irish wrist or not.
35 South St.
   Park Lane W.
   April 27/74
Dear Sir James Paget
   I was about to write &
   thank you for your kind advice
   (for Mr. Jowett) to consult
   Sir William Jenner [Mr. Jowett
   followed it in every respect];
   - & also I was going to write
   to you about my dear Father,
   who, you may perhaps have
   forgotten, consulted you at
   my house, & about whose
   ailment you were so very
   good as to write to me:
   when that very morning
   my dear Father was taken
from us quite suddenly:  
a great blow: to me especially,  
whose mind it had never  
once crossed that I should  
survive him.  

In the same month, my  
best old friend, Mrs. Bracebridge,  
without whom my life &  
Scutari would have been  
impossible, we lost.  

And Quetelet and  
Livingstone: nearly all  
my heroes, whose great  
heroic life gave wings to  
me, - something to do & die  
for, - in the base perplexities  
of lesser life, - are gone -  

I only hope that you  
are pretty well:  
& pray believe me  
ever yours faithfully  
Florence Nightingale  

Clendening, signed letter, 1f, pencil  

Dec 2 1881  
10, SOUTH STREET, (printed address:)  
PARK LANE. W.  

Dear Sir James Paget  

Among the many, many  
thousands to whom your  
life is precious, none  
more than Florence  
Nightingale will pray  
for your health or rejoice  
in your recovery. May  
God grant you to us all!  

I cannot thank you enough  
for your two invaluable papers  
which you so kindly sent me  
& for your note -  

I will not write more now.  
God bless you -  

Yours ever sincerely  
Florence Nightingale
General Hospital
Balaclava
April 17/56

Sir,

May I ask whether it would be possible to borrow or to purchase 6 bottles Tincture of Myrrh (if 4 oz. bottles) from the Medical Stores, replacing them in any way you shall direct, either in money or in kind?

I should not make this request had I not found upon enquiry that the article is not to be had nearer than Constantinople - otherwise than from the Govt= stores.

I have the honor to be

Sir
Your obedt Servt
Florence Nightingale

To the
Principal Medical Store-keeper
Balaclava

30 O. B. St
Feb 12/61

Dear Mr Rawlinson
Enclosed is the long promised tracing of the Regimental Hospital for £100 per bed (120 beds) which I think on the whole the best thing we have done.

I need not point out to you that some alterations
must be made for
a Civil Hospital -
with women - Patients.
- that a better
elevation might
cheaply be procured
by a little more
relief - that &c &c

You are quite
at Liberty to have
the tracing copied,
if agreeable to you.
But I have no
other copy.
I read & returned
your Winchester Report,
Could you have a
stronger fact than
the death from Fever
of poor Mr. Barton,
the Warden of the
College itself? What
do they want more?
I have just heard
a similar fact -
where danger was
succeeded by death
as rapidly. Now
for these mortal
Fevers among well=
to = do people, living
good & temperate lives,
there can be but one
explanation Would
to God that people
would see it!
I don't think you
could say more than
you have done in
your Report.
I thought Mr.
P. Holland's Manchester
letter exceedingly good
ever yours sincerely
F. Nightingale
Aug 31/94
10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}
PARK LANE. W.

Dear Mrs. Robertson
You know perhaps how sadly I have been & am occupied -
But I have enquired whether there is any Hospital in London which would take in such a case as Webb's for more than say a fortnight, just to heal a wound or so, & then turn the case out. I can hear of none.
Probably Dr. Benson may know of one - as he recommends it. And I would do my best to get Webb in -
Would Aylesbury or Buckingham Hospital?
I have some idea that poor Webb did go to Aylesbury & that Aylesbury did just what I have said above.
I am writing against time - but hope to pay your Acct- & thank you tomorrow. Forgive me.
I was so distressed about Lord Home who wrote me a very nice letter. Pray give my kind regards to Mr. Robertson - I hope
He will hear of something else where I can help him — I would so readily.

God bless you

Yours sincerely

F. Nightingale

It was a great & sudden shock to us what our cousin's death was.

Signed letter, 1f, pen Clendening

Your Meeting on June 19

My dear Madam

I have a silent horror of my poor name being used by those who do all the work: & I should be very thankful if you did not find cause to take what you ask — but I wish 'God speed' so heartily to your undertaking & your Meeting that no scruple of mine ought to oppose anything that you think of the least use:

Pray alter or suppress altogether what I enclose (especially if it is not quite true now that troops are beset with bad invitations before landing:)

If you wish to announce Subscriptions at the Meeting, may I send you £10.10, which otherwise I should prefer sending you in a more private manner. May all blessings attend you & prosper your work: may the God of peace & the Lord of hosts' be with you & our men is the fervent prayer of yours ever faithfully

Florence Nightingale

London June 12/77

Miss Robinson
London, March 23/78

Madam

Pray accept my best thanks for your very kind note which has been forwarded to me here. Overwhelmed with business as I am, London has necessarily been my home for the last 21 years. I am sure that you bid me God speed in all my objects: the Training of Nurses which becomes more & more essential every year: the Sanitary reform in our Army & country generally: the Sanitary development - & above all the "Irrigation development", to prevent famines, of India: poor millions of our starving fellow-subjects. "I trust that you will do me the favour of accepting a little pamphlet of mine on this subject": which I enclose. I shall have, I am sure, much pleasure in looking at the little volume which you so kindly send me.

"Many thanks for your kind wishes about my health: overworked as I am, it is necessarily very bad, but I thank God who still gives me work to do for Him. I am indeed entirely a prisoner to my room, except when once a year I take my widowed mother to Lea Hurst, now no longer ours. I bid you 'Godspeed' in all your undertakings for others' good": pray believe me ever your faithful servt=

Florence Nightingale

Mrs. Roe
My dear Sir,

You entirely understood my meaning.

Pyaemia is an indigenous disease in Paris, as it is elsewhere, altogether independently of Surgical conditions. This has been observed by one person at least through a period of 35 years. And now on enquiry it is found still to exist; and to a greater extent than in London or other English towns.

Those who know the construction of Paris dwellings know full well the reason.

Given a Surgical Patient admitted into a Paris Hospital: - there is a strong ground for believing that that Patient labours under Pyaemia to begin with.

As regards the general practical result, Patients die more frequently in Paris where the previous
pyaemic condition is more manifest than in London where it is less manifest. And generally the need of many serious Surgical operations presupposes the existence of Pyaemia.

The question is one quite distinct from Pyaemia after operations, where the additional shock may perhaps have led to the disease. Even this is doubtful, unless we add to it bad sanitary conditions.
of wards & houses.

You yourself have probably often delayed operations because the "Patient could not bear" them. Why?
Is it not often from Pyaemia in some form or other, already existing?

Nosology is always ready with a name which means nothing.

Fact & observation determine the real cause of the evil.

It would be a fine thing indeed if I were to enter into a controversy with you. It would be as if I were to contend with the Speaker of the Ho: of Commons on a point of parliamentary precedent.

But you know I don't do it for that

Yours sincerely

F. Nightingale
Private & Confidential {at angle}
30 Old Burlington St.
London W
March 28/57

My dear Sir
I have been waiting for a moment's leisure to write to you - I was much struck with all you said & shewed to me I should be very glad, if I could, to give any help, however humble, if you would accept it, in your plans - The simplest seems to be that of the "Hospital Kit" for the men, & of the Infirmary for the women.

I dare say you know that I am no favourite with Dr. Andrew Smith, which I deeply regret - Whatever improvements are made must be made through you, & while you are at Chatham.

Lord Panmure acceded to the "Hospital Kit" plan some months ago, and informed me that it should be carried out at once.

I therefore conclude
that I am acting in conformity with the War Minister's plans in placing at your disposal that portion of the "Free Gifts" (for the use of the War Hospitals) which has returned home, & which I informed the War Department I should destine to this purpose & in filling up the deficiencies myself - Their sanction was granted - immediately -

As it is important that the thing should be done as quietly as possible, I will ask you to instruct me how to proceed. Whether I should send you an Inventory of what I have or whether you should send me one of what you want.

I will go to Lord Panmure (I cannot, alas! to Dr. Smith) to settle the matter if you recommend it - It strikes me that Fort Pitt is a very good place to begin - because it must have room for Pack Stores.
2. Would you be kind enough to place the accompanying Cheque at the disposal of the Female Hospital? I have thought much on the subject of Soldiers' Wives, since what you told me & what I have seen -

I have not forgotten your kind invitation to visit Fort Pitt again - which I shall gladly do under your sanction.

I need not remind you of what you probably know already - that I have heard enough of my "ostentatious & unnecessary " benevolence to be aware that, even were I not a woman, it is of the highest importance for me that all things should be done quietly.

Believe me, dear Sir with kind regards to Mrs. Taylor

very faithfully yours

Florence Nightingale

I hope you do not think me a "turbulent character" as I have been called
I cannot bear that they should think one can do something for them, if only one would —
I have written to London for a prescription for Mrs. Hamp's 'breath' to be made up:
also: for one for the Child's bed sores.
also: for a Water - pillow -
About the silk: please tell your lady that there may be some little advantage in it: (but we do not use it in Hospital life) if there were any real advante-, a Hospital could buy up all the old silks in Christendom from the Jews

To prevent bed sores, I myself think - that a few very small pillows, such as any woman could make, placed here & there & moved about, wherever there seems to be pressure:
are really preferable to water or air pillows on beds:

F.N.

Sat.

Clendening, signed letter, 2ff, pen

1 Upper Harley St
23 January 1854
Dear Madam
As I have not heard from you this morning, I will give you an account of my "stewardship".
I sent Miss Varney off this morning with Miss Crossthwaite, having written to the Matron of the Institution that they were coming, & made all the preparations in my power for their comfort. I sent sand: wiches & biscuits & a little brandy with them for the journey.
Finding Miss Varney had no money with her, I lent her £3 for her journey.
Her medical man
thought it quite necessary
that both the young
ladies should go first=
class & by Express for
so long a journey -
otherwise I should
exceedingly have regretted your being put to this increased expence - But he saw no alternative - This may not be necessary on their return. The Institution at Torquay does not keep patients longer than the 1st June.

I am extremely glad that you were saved the expence of sending some one to accompany Miss Varney so far. Her medical man thought it better that she should make the journey through in a day. She will arrive at Torquay soon after 4. The first class carriages are cushioned. Her address will be

Western Institution
Wycliffe House
Torquay -

I remain, Madam, yours faithfully
Florence Nightingale

incomplete letter, 1f, pen RP 7046

30 Old Burlington St
W. London
3/11/58

My dear Sir
I have often remembered the large share you had in our deliverance at Scutari.
I now venture to send you a copy of my Report to the War Office, which is really "confidential"
& in no sense public property -
I am sure you will look upon it as it is meant - viz. strictly private.
If you ever have occasion & time to look into it, you will be reminded of some scenes we have passed through together - of some of the causes which brought about the

frightful evils of those places & of the indomitable patience of our men who had to bear them -

Believe me
faithfully yours
Florence Nightingale
To enquire
35 South Street, April 6/71
    Park Lane, (printed address:)

W.

Dear Madam

I cannot thank you enough for so kindly writing to me about Mr. Paget.
And Mrs. Paget has been so good as to write to me herself - greatly relieving my anxiety -
I trust that now Mr. Paget is on the rapid way to perfect recovery - & that he remembers his own maxim to let "the wind" blow over him -

yours (still anxiously)

Florence Nightingale
30 Old Burlington St
W.
21/11/58
Dear Sir

In remembrance of the days of Scutari, may I venture to send you a copy of my Report to the War Office? It is an old story now. But the good sense, the unalterable patience, the heroic simplicity of our men will never be an old story. This Report may recall to you some scenes we have both witnessed -

May I ask you whether you read it or not, not to let any one else read it? The War Secretary has not laid it on the table of the House -

And it must not therefore lie on any other table. It is really "confidential" & in no sense a public document.

You who have done so much for your men will, I believe, feel some interest in my humble exertions to do something for them too.

faithfully yours
Florence Nightingale
Private {at angle}
March 4/87
{printed address:)10, SOUTH STREET,
PARK LANE. W.

My dear Sir,

With insular unwillingness
to delay, - in which we differ
so widely from our Eastern
fellow subjects - I have tried
while you were yet in England
to get something started as
to your finding a London
publisher for your "Elementary
Botany", or as I persist in
calling it, your invaluable
plant & flower life.

I hear this very morning
from my emissary & cousin,
Mr. A.H. Clough, son of the

poet, that his friend, Mr.
Arnold Forster, (nephew of
the Forster who carried
the Elementary Education in
1870,) acting for Cassell's,
"has very little doubt that
"Cassell's would be glad to
"undertake the publishing of
"the book"

"Would Dr. Watt be able
"& willing to call on him,
(Mr. Arnold Forster) at
"Cassell's Offices, close to
"Blackfriars between 2
"and 4 to-day; or on
"Saturday morning by appointment"
Mr. Arnold Forster's address (to make the appointment) is
2 Onslow Houses
Onslow Square
S. W.
Cassell's is as you know, the enterprising great publisher of the day - especially for elementary books.
Mr. Clough was not able fully to explain whether the books for India would be in Hindustani, (if so, Cassell's would scarcely be able to undertake them) & whether, if in English, there are enough readers to make a large sale for them.
If you see Cassell's, you will kindly explain to them.
Mr. Arnold Forster said, however, as you anticipated, that he must see the book, "Lessons on Elementary Botany" - (which you kindly left with me)
Can you show him one?
If I lend him mine, I shall most likely never see it again.

[2]
I most earnestly hope that you will be able to spare time to see Mr. Arnold Forster at Cassell's, as probably one quarter of an hour from you would advance negotiations further than months of correspondence, especially between you in India & Cassell's here.
This is the reason why I have been so anxious to make a start while you were still here.
My dear Madam

I cannot thank you enough for sending me these most interesting & invaluable letters -

All the information that I receive, even from Germans, goes to bear out exactly what is herein said - tho’ said by your correspondent with very much more point & piquancy, as you may suppose, than by most of mine.

I believe her to be absolutely right in all her “guesses”!

Might I suggest to you that, when the time comes to draw up some conclusions, whether for publication or not, as to the working of the different International (Rec Cross) Societies with a view to future progress, suggestions quite invaluable will be found in these letters?

I have laid many in store, tho’ quite deep in my own breast.

I am so very sorry about her distress as to the French poverty at Versailles -
Mr. Bullock, the gentleman who was the author of what is called the “Daily News Fund”, & has been working it himself in the Ardennes, is now gone to Versailles with a similar purpose - I take for granted, at your instigation.

You know also of the “War Victims’ Fund” - (I enclose one of their papers) 89 Houndsditch E. [end 15:757]

Pray excuse a very hasty note - & pray believe me dear Madam yours devotedly Florence Nightingale

Mrs. Nassau Senior

signed letter, 1f, pen {black-edged}

35 South Street, Dec 31/70
Park Lane, {printed address:}

W. Returned - this beautiful & spirited & mournful letter with very many thanks.

It seems a mockery to wish her & you a happy New Year - tho’ I do with all my soul & strength. At least it is a relief that this terrible & dreary & bloody & wicked Old Year is over, laden with the sorrow & agony of millions which, alas! are not over - People tell me to be thankful that we are “not in it”. And so I am, most deeply thankful that our country is not “in it”, -
but that I am not in it is
the bitterest regret of my life.
My whole heart & soul are
longing to be with those
wretched sufferers of the Loire.
I am very sorry that you
have an anxiety about “a
child”. I trust it is nothing
serious.
in haste
yours overflowingly
Florence Nightingale
Mrs. Nassau Senior

Clendening, signed letter, 1f, pen {black-edged}

35 South Street, April/71
Park Lane, {printed address:}
W.

My dear Madam
I cannot thank you enough for your extreme kindness in sending me a copy of Mrs. Inglefield’s masterly answers to “Questions” - I am shocked at the trouble it must have given to copy. But I think I may add that it is equalled by my appreciation of the value of its contents - I send you a note from Mrs. Inglefield - (which I think Emily Verney has not shown you) - What insight she has into the best, indeed the only way of helping her poor people back into their lives - And how dreadful it is to think that this brutal Commune has forced them
Mrs. Nassau Senior
all again into misery -  
Oh when will it end?
Again thanking you for your  
unparalleled kindness  
believe me ever yours gratefully,  
faithfully  
Florence Nightingale
Please return me Mrs. Inglefield

signed letter, 4ff, pen & pencil {black-edged}

35 South Street, April 5/71  
   Park Lane, {printed address:}
   W.
My dear Madam  
I cannot thank you enough [15:787-89]  
for letting me see the enclosed  
admirable paper.  
   Like everything the writer  
does, it is capital.  
   Her account of the “Johanniters”  
is clear & masterly - And I can  
bear out her statement, from  
a great amount of private  
correspondence, that the  
campaign of the Red Cross  
was in fact a campaign against  
the Johanniters (for the Patients) -  
   As Mr. Gladstone said of  
the Bourbon Neapolitan rule:  
Mrs. Nassau Senior  

the Government is itself the  
the conspirator against order -  
so I say of the “Johanniter”,  
it was they themselves conspired  
against the Patients & Hospitals  
& won in too many cases.  
[To question 19, I should therefore  
answer: God forbid.]  
The moment that practical  
action, by practical English  
men & women is subordinated  
to any foreign bureaucratic  
element, that moment its  
efficiency will cease.  
The Johanniter are essentially  
an aristocratic or princely Bureau -
But I do not speak of them
alone - All Prussian Authority
is a Bureau -
[English people can have no idea
(who have not lived in Prussian
Institutions) what this means
in every detail of life - what
it means to be without the
free Parliamentary element
where every body, especially
every Public Office may be
called to give an account of
what they have done - what
it means to be without the
free Public press or Public
opinion element which
would make anything like
the normal treatment of
Prussian Wounded perfectly
impossible among us - as was
shown by the Crimean War -
where too the abnormally bad

Hospitals of the beginning were
infinitely superior to the
normal French Prussian
Hospitals all through the War.]

There is a strong bureaucratic
element in the French too - of course
- yes, even or principally (do not
think me censorious) among
Soeurs de Charité.
But, from many considerations
too long to trouble you with,
it does not work against the
welfare of Patients & sufferers
to anything like the same degree
that it does under Prussian
rule - (And French War Hospitals are
always better than German -

My object however here is
simply to bear out what
this masterly investigator
evidently points at: -
that, if an English Red + Society
is to be subordinated in its
action to any foreign Govt’s
bureaucratic ways, it is lost -
it may as well not exist.

[I have no preconceived theory on this subject - as to how the essential connection is to be made between belligerent authorities & neutral (or indeed belligerent) Red + Societies.

On the contrary -
I was waiting - for the immense amount of information (which must be at the command of St. Martin’s Place) to settle this point of primary, first-rate importance.

But - to bring out conclusions & experience: - public opinion must now be called in in every way - public opinion alone can right the Red + ship -
Every kind of criticism must be invoked.]

2. These answers shew, “as well as much else similar experience, that, so far as Prussia was concerned, she threw her sick & Wounded on the Red + for the “Johanniter“ to manage and -- to neglect - and to lend themselves to Governmt (not Hospital) purposes.
The French, poor wretches, were more on honour. And they have more a notion of what Hospitals ought to be -

3. I could very much have wished to suggest to you to ask the writer of these admirable remarks to put down under her head “Nurses” some clear & brief Résumé which she is so well able to do
as to the action of the "Soeurs de Charité" (as she has done with regard to that of the Johanniter.)

I have seen expressions of here with regard to the "Soeurs" which I echo with the whole force of my experience, personal & acquired -

[And no Protestant can have had the personal experience - of their working as I have had.]

I will not trouble you, unless you ask me, with this -
I will only say 1. I was greatly disappointed not to find anything about them in the (returned) paper - 2. everything I have learnt from private, impartial, female observers during this War confirms my past experience -
And I will add that the experience of the (first-rate) Administration of the Assistance Publique at Paris is so exactly the same that, for many years, no Paris Hospital except the “Necker”, admits “Soeurs de Charité” as Nurses. The Augustinians & Soeurs de Ste Marthe are entrusted with the Nursing of all the (Civil) great Paris Hospitals - & they alone - to which distinction I give my most emphatic concurrence -

[This is not to say that “Soeurs de Charité” are not to receive English gifts - It is only to say that Englishmen/gentlemen, taken by their nice white caps, good manners, & orderly appearance know very little of what is going on below in the Patients’ region.]

I have seen the best French doctors, “tearing their hair”, et pour cause, at the Soeurs’ doings - exactly as the “tearing the hair at the Johanniters’ doings - is here described.
4. There are excellent things in the paper about Nurses. But I do not agree with all the conclusions - that is to say, my experience differs from the writer’s in some things. Also: she does not at all enter into the question of language - If important (& difficult to find) among Surgeons, how much more important (& difficult to find) among Nurses - especially among “Trained Nurses”

Also: I do not quite agree with her distinction between “Sick” & “Wounded”. “Severely wounded” require even more the hourly spoonful during the night, & all the rest of it, than any but the worst, Sick. And no well-trained London Hospital woman but has had
the experience (in the “Accident” Ward) to do it. [A really trained London Surgical Nurse is the first in the world-]
Also: I do not quite agree with the distinction she draws between “Field Lazarettes” & others - She has probably not had the opportunity of knowing that some of the very best work done during the War was done in the “Field Lazarettes” before Metz - And this by an English lady whom I am proud to call my pupil.
This leads to another question: - will the best women enlist or “register” under a “Society” - a Society of which the heads necessarily know little or nothing about Hospitals? & where they may be called upon to serve under a Miss P.?
I don’t know - It is against experience that they will -

But, If I were to go into this, I should be forced to write as long a paper as the one enclosed -

I return with “honour bright” the paper, tho’ I should much have liked to keep it another day. And I apologize for the length of this letter which I could have made much longer - With repeated thanks ever yours faithfully & gratefully Florence Nightingale
35 South St. Jan 28/73
Park Lane W.

My dear Madam

   I rejoice more than I can say that you have this work to do —
   You are the person to do it.
   And no one else —
   And, tho’ I would, most gladly, serve as your handmaid in it,
   if I could, yet I am much more glad that this work has you to do it — &
   that you & no one else have it to do —

The enquiry is one of the highest importance — & will take a very long time to do it justice

Mrs. Senior

   You have all the three classes of Schools to compare — & very likely you will scarcely find any two alike, even in the same class.
   Tho’ I am sure that I cannot give you any hints but what, if they are worth anything, you will have anticipated, yet, as you are so very good as to ask me, I will say that I should begin by the essential but least practical part, the Statistical: —
   I should open the enquiry by some
Statistical Table

1. Name of School
   a. District  b. Separate  c. Workhouse
2. When established -
3. No of Inmates (average last year)
4. Yearly Admissions
5. Yearly Deaths & Causes of Death
6. Yearly Discharges
   a. to service  b. to friends  c. other causes -
7. Nos of girls for every 5 years of age
   0-5  5-10 &c
8. Nos of orphans
   a. both parents dead  b. father dead  c. mother dead

9. No of classes with average attendance in each
10. Branches taught in each class
11. Duration of Classes
    a. hours per week  b. in years
12. Domestic training
    description of & similar particulars as to time
13. No of Teachers & Salaries
14. Holidays, if any -
15. Examinations, if any -
16. How the School & Training managed by Board of
   Guardians or School Committee
      (generally some good & interested in the children -
      some hard-fisted or rate-saving or bad)

17. Then would come your own
    thorough personal routing out
    of the School & Girls
    as to cleanliness
    clothing
    bedding
    general care
    &c &c &c

18. Then, most important &
    most interesting of all,
    your own direct & indirect
    routing up
    of the moral state -
I should meet the Poor Law
Inspectors & discuss the
subject with them -
& then take specimens of
Schools
good
bad
indifferent
merely to get my hand in.
In this & similar ways I
would get the requisite
experience before I
committed myself to an
official investigation
knowing that I must look carefully
for defects & be ready to suggest practical
remedies.

Amongst other points, I should
go minutely into the method
of placing out the girls to
service
& the kind of supervision {illeg}
kept up over them & their
situations afterwards -
- including (horrid blot!)
the number of failures
where the girls return to the
Workhouse
or go to the bad -
This point, its causes & remedies
are of vital need -
as I need not say to you -

3a
Training=school for Midwives
(a suggestion made by the
kind permission of Mr. Stansfeld)
The 'Medical General Council'
recommend that a system
of Registration of Midwives
should be adopted -
hence the idea* that the
Privy Council under which
the General Medical Council
stands should be the
Department to initiate any
scheme for educating Midwives
But the question of Registration
cannot at present be entertained
because there is nobody to
register. For there are no
*Mr. Ernest Hart & Co:’s idea
proper means of training.

Have the Privy Council any thing to do with Medical training beyond the rules for Examination? or any means for initiating such a plan as a School for Midwives?

What is wanted is a Model Training School for Midwives - [at present there is no ground for examination or registration.]

Any opportunity that can be made available for introducing this to the Public with authority should be sought for.

The Local Govt Board have - have not they? - a distinct ground for requiring such a School - viz. the supply of Midwives for Workhouse Infirmarys.

[Could any other Govt Dept, such as the Privy Council, take up the subject except on the general score of Public Health - a too general score?]

4-

as I need not say to you it would be the most conceited thing in the world; if it were not the one I am most disinclined to, for me to give you hints - you who have done so much for the Boarding out in Families - the greatest step of all in favour of these poor girls who are to be our future mothers - I would think it a privilege to see you, - if I thought I could be of the slightest use - But - besides that I do not think so -

I am at this moment engaged (not exactly in a similar enquiry but) in seeing all the Nurses=&=Matrons=in=training of our
Nurse=Training=Schools  every day
& am pretty nearly worn out - not having
yet got a third through the whole -
But, if any point arises in which you
think I could be of the slightest use,
please command me -
Write to me first what it is -
& then command my best consideration
& answer - either by word of mouth or letter
I give you joy -
Or rather I give Mr. Stansfeld &
the girls joy -
I always think of you in connection
with dear Emily Verney
‘And she is in her grave - but O
The difference to me!’
Good speed - ever yours most truly
Florence Nightingale
{in right margin}
1000 thanks for Mrs. Inglefield -
I will write about that soon -
unsigned notes on printed form Order by the War Ministry, 1f, pencil

[FN:]
Sent by desire of Mr. Stansfeld
[printed:] St Petersburgh July 10, 1872
H.M. the Emperor on the 6th of May 1872
issued these commands.
There shall be a special course of four years
at the Medico-Surgical Academy, as an experi-
ment, to train educated Midwives.
For means to defray the expenses of this
course, a private capital will be formed of
50,000 roubles [in addition to] the payments
of the Pupils for the right of attending the
Lectures, and for the use of surgical apparatus,
books, &c. [Hilfslehr gegenstände] of the
Academy [for them] to refer to....

FN: Notes in margin:
If this should ever be
introduced into
England, it must be
with great modifications
& with great caution -
Aug 8/73

3a
Russian Training=Sch. for Midwives
On “Memo by Dr. Bridges” London Oct 18/73 [6:469-73]
The cases put are:
1. The Medical Officer is always there:
   he is an educated man: and in many cases
   the most able man of the set
   Ergo make him supreme -
2. The Governor is always there: but he is not
   Master
   necessarily a man of sufficient power or education
   Ergo he cannot always be trusted with supreme
   jurisdiction
3. The Committee are difficult to get together; and
in some cases cannot exercise supreme control.
[This is not however the case at Highgate (Central London Sick Asylum Board)]

And there are first-rate men on the Committee or Board.]

Ergo they cannot be trusted.

Conclusion: that Matron & her Nurses must virtually be under the Medical Officer:
an experiment which has been tried since Hospitals began & has always ended ill, either for the
moral or the efficient element.

A Medical Officer has quite other things to do
than to be head of the Nurses -
A man can never govern women -
-No good ever came of Medical Officer doing Matron’s duty
-And even the efficient treatment of sick is thereby sacrificed.

The fight has been fought out in Military Hospitals since Military Hospitals existed:
owing to warning experience, the following is now the system:
(1) At the Central Military Hospital (Netley) the Nursing & the Nurses are obliged to do the bidding of the
Principal Medical Officer.

But he can’t stop their beer if they don’t -
(a notable expedient formerly adopted in India.)

The Matron (Supt) only can do this: i.e. wield discipline.

And there is a Governor over all -
with appeal in certain cases to the Secretary of State
(2) In another large Military Hospital the Principal Medical Officer is also (unfortunately) the Governor.

But precisely the same relation exists.
If in the case (1) the P.M.O. got up a ‘row’ with the Matron (Supt) both sides could come before the Governor.

If in case (2) the P.M.O. got up a ‘row’ with the Acting Supt. both could come before the P.M.O. as Governor,
with appeal in either case to the Secretary of State

[N.B. I would observe that this anomalous state of things is what it is sought to make law & system at the Metropolitan Workhouses is it not? INFIRMARIES

If the Matron & Med: Off: differ on a point of
Nursing morality or discipline, or on what are the best internal arrangements to carry out the Medical Officer’s orders, — (which if she does not know the better than he does, she is not fit to be head of the Nurses, & ought not to be there at all — any more than he ought to be there, if she knows Medical treatment better than he does — (a thing which has happened) — then the Medical Officer & Matron go before the Medical Officer as Supreme Head — Is this administration? — ]

II. As regards the application of this to Metropolitan Workhouse Infirmaries: is it permissible that the whole administration should be under the Medical Officer?

If he does his duty as Governor must he not neglect his duty as Medical Officer?

[N.B.] He is not like the Principal Medical Officer at a Military Hospital:
he has to attend with one Assistant on 500 sick perhaps or more]
Must there not be some supreme power with appeal?

And must not the Guardians (or their Committee) be that supreme power?

And The Appeal Court the Local Government Board?
[N.B. If the Guardians won’t attend or won’t act,
Mr. Stansfeld can appoint, can he not?
ex officio Guardians to watch over the interests of the rate payers.] I may add that the first-rate men won’t act: unless they have the power as well as the trouble: If the power is vested in the Medical Officer & the L. Govt Board, the best men will not serve as Guardians —

III. It would seem, would it not? —
as if the application of this were to Metropolitan Workhouse Infirmaries, were: —
1. You must trust to your Committee of Managers/Managers.
2. Your Steward must be their Officer.
3. Your Medical Officer must be their Officer.
4. Your Matron must be their Officer.
5. If the Committee choose to appoint a Governor — as in the case of Liverpool — to represent them, altho’ under them, let them: [But don’t let the Medical Officer be implied be Governor.]
6. If they appoint the Medical Officer as Governor, let them do it subject to approval as to administrative fitness by Local Govt Board — taking care however that the attention of the Medical Officer, withdrawn from the sick, be supplied by additional medical assistance, and taking care that duties, & authority of the Matron over the Nursing Staff is properly defined & guarded.

7. As to the Nurses: —
   They must be under the Matron —
   They must be amenable to her alone in discipline and for the discharge of duties subject to appeal to the Guardians (better) to the Local Governmt Board thro’ the Guardians.

- in the same cases in which, in Military Hospitals, Nurses have right of appeal to Secretary of State.

The Matron & Nurses must be obliged to obey the professional orders of the Medical Officer: subject to complaint against Nurses SOLELY TO THE Matron: and against the Matron to the Managers or through them.

or to the President of the Local Govt Board.

{ (Such complaints to be transmitted through the Committee or Guardians —)
{ The Matron must look to the Medical Officer for professional instructions which she has to obey: but for nothing else —
   She is/should be supreme over her Department, so long as she discharges her duty & sees that her Nurses discharge theirs — is not she?
   She loses her supremacy only when she neglects her duty or fails to see that her Nurses discharge theirs: and this only
-6-
until the complaint is investigated; (& appealed about to the Local Governmt Board if thought necessary)
The Matron must be admitted, censured, & suspended by the Managers; & if discharged solely by the sanction of the Local Govt Bd.

LIVERPOOL Workhouse case
I might say that it is because it is the Governor & NOT the Medical Officer: the Governor “who “is supreme over the whole Establishment”, MEDICAL Officers & all: that it “works harmoniously” And the “Hospital Committee” is the real practical head of the “Lady Supt” - (her real masters, as they ought to be-) NOT the Governor.
The Medical Officer at Liverpool Workhouse has no administration authority whatever over the Nursing Staff And when there was a bed Governor, we know the result to poor Agnes Jones - the first Lady Supt who died there.

-7-
But I should prefer to say/add that the success of a great & hazardous experiment at Liverpool was due mainly to self-devotion, to forbearance, to sinking personality in work - to the good wishes of the Committee - to the action of good men & true privately - Mr. Rathbone, Mr. Cropper, & the like - xx & not to any law or Regulation - that there was in fact no ground on which to rest either & that this example shows clearly that not much can be expected if a cut & dry plan is laid before Boards of Guardians to make or to mar - can it? “Make slow haste”. Better to get it done & a tradition introduced at one place at a time is it not?
XX There are equally good men at Highgate (Central London Sick Asylum Board) - Mr. Wyatt, a prince of men: Sir Sydney Waterlow &c &c But will these men “come when you do call for them”, if you don’t give them power?
IV. On the "Certificate question: (viz. to Nurses leaving)
It does not appear to be quite understood that
it is because "Medical Officers", & ex="Matrons"
& all sorts of people give Testimonials
(& these T.s are taken) that the mischief arises.
The rule at one great "Sick Asylum": an excellent rule: was that the MANAGERS’ Stamp should be put on all Testimonials received or given - [but how if other "Sick Asylums" will accept Testimonials without the stamp — — — — ?]
At that very Asylum, upon a Nurse being dismissed,

very properly, by the Matron for insubordination, the "Medical Officer" (whose certificate it is now proposed to take) and the ex=Matron gave the Nurse such excellent? “Testimonials” that she was immediately taken on at higher wages at another “Sick Asylum” —

As for asking "Medical Officer" as to "Nursing efficiency" - how can the Matron be the “head of the Nurses” “the head of her own Department” if this be done? - If the Matron is not directly responsible for carrying out the directions of the Medical Officer, -
-If the Matron is not the best judge of her Nurses’ Nursing, she had better not be there at all -
And we had better give up trained nursing Matrons, & revert to the old Housekeeping=Matrons: the
decayed cousins of some green=grocer Guardians -

[I have known - & not once only - a Nurse of my own receive an excellent Testimonial from the very Doctor, an excellent man, upon whose report I had (rightfully) dismissed her.]

And it may be added with at least equal truth as what has been said of good men acting as Guardians:

- that you cannot get educated women, gentlewomen, trained Matrons, to act; if they have not the power given them to fulfil their responsibility, - if they are not really the Nursing heads they have been trained to be: And that successful Medical treatment depends mainly upon successful organization of Nursing.

If however the Local Government Board object to the War Office plan, would not the best way about Certificates be to prevent their issue altogether, & for some authority say the Board itself of Guardians to grant a statement of Services only on the application of persons wishing to employ the Nurse?

[One does not give certificates to servants to hawk about]

V. On the "DUTIES" question: proposed (v. Dr. Bridges' "letter")

If the above pages 6. at all acknowledged as true, must not these "duties" be recast? Will all that mixing up of authorities & "aidings" do? Is not the first thing wanted: a common sense set of rules putting every body’s saddle on every body’s own back?

At present they have one saddle for the whole household: and it is expected that every one will put it on when so disposed. Is it possible to ingraft a really good Nursing system on these Rules? Do as you will - will not every body with any authority interfere with Matron & Nurses? If the President does not see his way to alter this - would it not be better that he should, by attacking the enemy in detail & carrying one fort after another - introduce the Nursing element completely & successfully?  

Florence Nightingale
"On Memo by Dr. Bridges" London Oct 31/73 [13:634-36]

P.S.] On the “Duties” question:
As to NURSES: Article 50. No 1,2,3.

1. “To attend the sick, Quite right, as far as it goes. administer Medicine, and Medical & Surgical applications, according to directions of Medical Officer.”

2. “To inform the Matron [Here there is one saddle and the Medical Officer for the 3: and any one and the Visiting Committee may put it on or take it on their visit of any defects which the Nurse off ad libitum.] may observe in the -To which of these three arrangements of any Ward”. Superior Officers is she (the Nurse) responsible?
   -From whom is she to learn what are defects?
   -How if she tells some to one & some to another, & does not communicate anything to another (say to the Matron?)
   -Is that the best way to get the defects cured?
   -Will the Matron’s authority over the Nurse be so upheld?

Query: Omit “Medical Officer” & “Visiting Committee” Report only to Matron.
Make Matron responsible to proper authority for calling attention to all defects in wards.
Would the authority of any given Supreme Head be thus diminished? Supposing the Matron remiss, would not her remiss-ness soon be discovered? And would she, being responsible, be more likely to be more negligent than the Nurse?

3. “To take care that every Ward is duly warmed, ventilated & otherwise kept in order according to the directions of the Medical Officer; & that a light is kept thro’ the night therein”. Quite right: so far as it applies to Warming & Ventilation: the addition of the words: “kept in order”; implies that the Medical Officer is to be also Head Housemaid; & the final sentence as to keeping a “Night-light” is rather bathetic than pathetic - Is the Nurse - in this particular Rush-light - responsible to some highest authority quite outside? In these 3 sentences are given the whole Nurse & the whole Nursing - apparently - So far as regards the Matron, the Nurse’s only duty & responsibility is to inform her (amongst others) of any defect in the Ward - She is responsible to the Doctor - NOT to the Matron - for “keeping the ward in order” - for cleanliness, punctuality & all internal arrangements.
[Can any one expect that an educated, trained woman, fit to take the office of Matron at all, would take it, if these terms were really the custom & the terms practically of her office?]

And is not this the most complete stopper that could be clapped on upon any efforts to raise the status, education & training of Matrons?

-Duties of Matrons -

Article 49

1. “To aid the Medical Officer and Superintendent in enforcing order, punctuality, cleanliness, & the due observance of all regulations for the Government of the Asylum by inmates, subordinate Officers, Assistants, & servants, and report to the Medical Officer any negligence or other misconduct on the part of any of the FEMALE Officers, Assistants, and Servants had a thorough & expensive training, - one may say ‘professional’- to be the M.O.’s subordinate, - to have no authority over any one, not even the Nurses - but merely to ‘report’ upon their misconduct -

and to whom?

- to the Medical Officer with whose Department the Nursing Staff have the most intimate relations, and who is therefore the least fit Official (let alone his being a man)

to whom to refer such matters -
The Matron **She** is merely to “aid”, & in a very indefinite way, in a variety of undefined duties -

[Here the saddle is put on two backs: & fits neither.]

2.3.4.5.6.7.8.

“Cause Paupers upon admission to be cleansed, clothed & placed in proper wards: making clothing: beds & bedding: linen: washing: meals & cooking.”

She has certain other defined duties: but these consist entirely in supervision of things - not persons - solely of housekeeper’s work - which with sufficient assistance is very proper work for a Matron: as supplementary to the Nursing -

[It is a case of ‘lucus à non lucendo’ - an Infirmary Matron from having no Infirmary duties: ‘head of the Nurses’ from having nothing to do with the Nursing - What is to become of her “influence”? (v. Dr. Bridges’) able paper.)

The Medical Officer is invested by the Rules with the immediate charge & supervision of the Nurses in all respects, in matters of conduct & discipline, as in other things.

The Matron may be occasionally used as an Assistant - (to “aid”) - but if her duty is merely to “report” the Nurse to the Medical Officer -- who has the “influence”? -
-15-  

to whom do the Nurses look as their head? -
There can be no Nursing Morality or real discipline
[And if the Matron is to “influence”, she must do it by
some occult art, like the Rosicrucian]
Lastly: “Duties of Medical Officer”

2. “To attend upon the paupers &c
and to give directions as to their
treatment, nursing & diet: & the
ventilation & condition of the wards

3-9

10. “To govern & control all the
Officers, Assistants, & Servants
in the Asylum in conformity
with this Order & the regulations
of the Board of Management,
to inform Board of state of
Asylum in every Department:
to report to Board any negligence
or misconduct on the part of
any of the Officers, Assistants or
Servants &c

To “govern & control” are
the widest possible
expressions.

As Dr. Bridges states that
the Medical Officer is to be
“supreme Head”: and, altho’
the Matron has her “Sub= Dept,”
that “Sub=Dept
does not include the charge
of the conduct & discipline
of the Female Staff; so that
under every article, this is
directly subordinate to the
Medical Officer

-16-

Even were the Clauses so altered, or the practice -
(thro’ the discretion of the Medical Officer: NOT to act
upon his own Regulations -)
so altered as to give the Matron authority over
the Nurses as a “Sub=Department”,
the Medical Officer is still left as the authority
to whom all appeals are to be made -
-both as between Nurses & Matron
and as between himself (& his Dept)
and the Matron (& her Nurses) -
-deciding the various questions that may arise
between himself as head of his “sub=Department”
and the heads of other “sub=Departments” -

F.N.
Private 35 South Street
   Park Lane
   W
   Nov 1/73
   My dear Sir

   Your kind packet of Oct. 7 [13:636-38]
   -including a Memo of Dr. Bridges
   which I return- was put
   into my hands just as I was
   leaving Derbyshire.
   I wrote my answer as soon
   as I possibly could: but then
   I saw that you were not in
   London. And now I am
   sure that you will think that
   I have rather to apologize for
   The Right Honble
   James Stansfeld MP

   my answer than for its absence.
   This answer is so long that I will
   only venture to add to you
   2 things:
1. The very same difficulties
   which now trouble you in the
   Nursing of "Pauper Sick
   Asylums" had been, if
   possible, still more rife in
   Military Hospitals.
   These have solved them,
   it appears, victoriously.
   To return to your case:
Should not the Matron be responsible directly to the Managers for the efficiency of the Nursing Establishment?

That is to say: the Matron who is the proper head of the female Staff, who (& not the Medical Officer ought to know what Nursing is. She is not merely to “aid” him in doing her duty: but to be directly responsible to the chief authorities for the efficient carrying out of his directions.

N.B. This has come to be the result in practice, in spite of Regulations to the contrary, where there is an efficient trained Matron, (e.g. Highgate) Why should her efficiency be marred by the possible—probable indiscreet interference (supported by Rule) of the Medical Officer as has happened?

If the Matron is not efficient, she should be dismissed.

Is it not a lame conclusion to trust to the “discretion” of the Medical Officer not to act upon the Regulations?
Note. As to "complaints": - is it not clearly right if the Matron is to hold the position we contend for that these, whether coming from her own subordinates, or from other Departments, should be made to the chief authority not to the Medical Officer. His duties might necessitate frequent complaints on his part against her & her Nurses, if there is inefficiency. Is he to be also the Judge - the Court of Appeal?

II. You are good enough to ask me for "suggestions" for the proposed "Instructional Letter". If what I have tried to set forth, in my (too long) pencil Memo, be correct: would not the "Instructional Letter" become like the Chapter on Snakes in Iceland. There are no Snakes in Iceland. The "Instructional Letter" would in fact be: 'None of the above Regulations are to be kept'. This would be the real English,
would it not? - of leaving
the existing Articles &
over-riding them by an
Instructional Letter?
Dr. Bridges suggests “that the
Matron should be regarded
as chief of a Sub-Department:
- the Medical Officer to refrain
from interfering in details -
- to support the Matron in
all save very exceptional cases
but that his authority should
remain in the last resort
in the absence of the Committee
supreme”-
How is this position to be defined
by Rules?

The Medical Officer cannot
“govern & control” the Matron,
if she is to be directly responsible
to the Managers:
he cannot “govern & control”
the Nurses, if they are to
be responsible to the Matron.
He must not “report” to the
Board any “negligence or
misconduct” &c of the Nurses,
if this is the duty of the
Matron.
[N.B. This seems to be
admitted in the expression
made use of by Dr. Bridges]
that the Medical Officer should
in the absence of the Committee
be supreme-

Perhaps this object might be
attained by providing that
in the absence of the committee
the Med: Officer shall in
any case of emergency be
empowered to exercise the
powers of the Committee].

Otherwise:-- if what I have said
is true, must not the
definition of the Medical
Officer’s duties be altogether
recast: not overridden by
an Instructional Letter?

I will not lengthen my
offence by lengthening this
letter with apologies:
but pray believe me
my dear Sir
ever your faithful & grateful
servt
Florence Nightingale

Clendening, unsigned letter, 11ff, pencil

35 South St
Park Lane W
Jan 5/74

My dear Madam

[I am so delighted to hail you ‘Inspector’, -
Officer of a Government Office, - “Senior” Officer, as
you strictly are (Senior of one) - General of Infantry, tho’ they are
only female Infants, only Poor-Law female Infantry
-that I hope you will allow me to address you
as such]

My dear “Senior” General of Female Infantry,

I have read your papers once [you, or rather
cruel Fate, has given me such very short notice
& I am, at this time of year especially, so very
busy with my workhouse/Infirmary Matrons & other Pearls]-
that] I read your papers through in the cool of the
morning, i.e. before it was light, on Sunday:
and on this single perusal I must write in
the cool of Monday morning.
1. I agree with your “Conclusion” so frantically that I agree with you more than you do with yourself: that is, that Boarding-out is the only way to save life and capacity in these poor children - You have proved the case to demonstration - nem: con: And then you are obliged to secede from your case: Boards of Guardians con: This is very hard.

N.B.- Scrofula & its eldest child Ophthalmia are greatly developed by merely bringing children - especially poor children - together. [You have no occasion to resort, even to “clean”? towels as a means of carrying “infection”]

By sub-dividing (i.e. boarding out) you at once cut up this cause of ill-health & incapacity, root & branch, & clear the ground for training. You cannot do this in a large School, except at great cost.
This, I believe, stated roughly is the ‘conclusion’ of the whole matter. And in this I agree with you violently.

I incline to think that, if I were you, I would put the “conclusion” at which you have arrived, & which is quite beyond dispute, broadly:

viz. that the shortest & best way is:
to set about at once the introduction of the Boarding-out system in the country:
(never in a town, unless under compulsion.)

[A General must decide which point in the enemy’s country she marches for: & then she must calculate her forces & his roads.]

Boarding-out solves all the difficulties.

‘You want only - houses to receive the children - money to pay their board - Inspector & Committee to see that everything is going on right

The new Schools will supply education.
Your poor little Infantry are poorly bred & poorly fed, & most, or all, more or less scrofulous -
What they want of all things is: fresh air, good food, exercise, & personal kindness,
-& even with all this some will grow up to consumption: & many more to incapacity -
To collect these children into large Schools where they must be crowded & have impure air: - the two conditions for the finest development of Scrofula & encouragement of incapacity
is: simply dooming 8500 children of London to this prospect in different degrees

2. But with an inevitable inconsequence which is hard upon the General, she is compelled to fall back upon the Schools & propose to improve them -
Much could be done: but it will be very costly: [tho’ not so costly as the having to maintain a large proportion of these 8500 & their offspring, on the Rates.]
The General’s suggestions are excellent:

(1.) **Superficial Area**
You must have at least 50 square feet per child of Dormitory Area -
[superficial area is more important than cubic space: or rather cubic space is more important horizontally than vertically]
besides suitable means of warming (not by gas)
& ventilation:
& cleanliness” including change of linen:
(day linen must never be worn by night)
& dirty clothes never to be kept in Dormitory -
(2) There must be far more sub-division. If this sub-division cannot be carried out by Boarding-out, it must be by “Homes” Schools or Cottage Schools of not more than 30 children - (mixed ages -) [You may say of all this poor little Infantry that they are ill - And certainly the danger & difficulty increases as the square of the number -]

(3) The Child/Infant inmates of each “Home” Schl should be certainly mixed with older girls - Providence has arranged that each child of each age should have a mother to itself: (for no woman has 28 children between the ages say of 5 and 6:) and if unfortunately the Mother is absent from death or wickedness, the best thing we can do is to imitate Providence’s arrangement as nearly as we can - [Experience, e.g. teaches me every year more & more that sick children are much better scattered about in adult Sick Wards:]

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than conglomerated in wards to themselves. Every sick child ought to have a Nurse to itself: this is impossible in the best Children’s Ward.

But in Adult Wards, the man or the woman in the next bed, if well selected, will often take almost entire charge of the adjoining/adjacent child-Patient - Even the most unlikely Patients: young men of 20 or 21: will do this: to the immeasurable benefit of both child & adult.

This is only an illustration from Hospital life: but the real way of benefitting Pauper girls & infants, if they cannot be boarded out, would be to put them mixed up into a Cottage= or “Home” School, with a good Nurse=Matron & female servant: -girls to learn house=work & help ‘mind’ infants: (as they would do in a good home.) [Would it be quite impossible for them to have a cow, pig & poultry?]
[The 3 Rs do little to help poor-law children - What is most wanted is: continued administration of the milk of human kindness: which is the appointed nutriment of Child-souls: & which no cow belonging to the R. farm can yield]

(4) The General’s proposed improvements most judicious, if you must have the present schools-
But A/all this will cost so much, that Guardians will scarcely sanction it: Boarding=ouut cheapest

(5.) As regards Casual children, it is clear that there should be some power somewhere to keep the child in School, if the character & circumstances of the Parents appear to render its going out unadvisable -

[It is heart-rending to us sometimes - in the Workhouse Infirmaries - to have to give up a little child to a bad mother going out.
E.g. We had a little girl of 7 years old who used to go down on her little knees by herself - in the Lavatory -praying that she might not forget the ‘good words’ she had heard with us when she went out:
She knew already that her mother was a bad one.]

(6) (whispered with the utmost diffidence)
Nothing, I believe, can well be worse for children than the Infirmary Wards of the large Schools -
And nothing, I believe, could make them much better: the dulness, dreariness, want of amusement & occupation, indifferent air: the having, instead of one Nurse, to each sick child, not even one Nurse to each sick Ward.
Could it be that the School sick children might be sent to the Sick Asylum of their district? as e.g. the St. Pancras’ &c children to the “Central London Sick Asylum” (Highgate Infirmary) -
As this suggestion may be quite impracticable in Guardians’ eyes, I will and I know that we, at Highgate Infirmary, are just as full as we can hold, better say no more at present -
The present School Infirmary wards combine all Hospital disadvantages, all School disadvantages, all home disadvantages, without the advantages of any: do not they? -
(7) Were I the General, I would “go in for” Female Head to appoint, dismiss, suspend, pay all Female Servants; of course reporting to Committee & with (formal) sanction of Committee of Managers. There is absolutely no other way of obtaining or keeping good female servants or Nurses.

[In our - Workhouse Infirmary - case; we are at this moment waiting for the nod of the Lord of the Local Government: on this very subject: on which really depends the future of good Nursing: during which period (of waiting) I, - as all the gentlemen on the Guardians’ Management are on my side, - do - as I like: wh: is of course the right. But how it would be if I were not alive enough to ‘intrigue’ & ‘lay about’ me - like a furious old pauper (as I am): unless the Imperial nod comes soon: - I do not like to think. [Without such a condition, it is quite impossible that we should send our Trained Matrons, who are gentlewomen, into Workhouse Infirmaries].

(8) Please look at my paper on this subject in “Report on Cubic Space of Metropolitan Workhouses” 1867. I have no copy; but send an adaptation of it, made ‘by desire’. Please look at p. 4 - about duties & responsibilities of Female Head.

(9) I have long thought that an Industrial School for Poor-Law girls might be attached to the Sick Asylums: especially if these took in the child=Patients from the large Union, District or separate Schools, instead of these Patients being placed in those wretched School Infirmary wards; where they never, poor mites, get really well. Please look at p 3, same paper.

To Her Majesty’s “Senior” General of Poor Law Female Infantry 5/1/74
35 South St
   Jan 5/72/4
My dear Madam
   I am so shocked at
myself for sending you
such a scrawl.
   But if you knew how
entirely bankrupt & a pauper
I am of all time & strength:
& how, ever since it was
light this morning, I have
been interrupted at every
word in writing this even -
   Happily for you, I have
not a moment to write a
Mrs. Senior

word more:
   but if you like to try
me again & let me see
the Report again, I need
not say, if you can give
me a little more time,
how pleased I should be
if you thought I could be
of the least little use
   God save the General!
   ever yours devotedly
   Florence Nightingale

I have made a few
unimportant notes
in red
on your M.S. (Report)
   F.N.
My dear Madam

I write my poor answer (overcome with sorrow (my/God’s dear Mrs. Bracebridge, more than mother to me, is dead too) & with illness & with the most painful & harassing of all (family) business besides my usual work)

But I will do my best; only regretting that it will be so far short of your best: & thanking God that you feel yourself called for life to this great work of yours: & trusting that he will give you health & strength for it.

Pray take care of yourself: & do not go/rush to work, (as I have been always compelled to do): but give yourself a rest. You cannot think what an intense impression my own experience leaves me about this.

I am ‘appalled’ that your appointment has not yet been confirmed by the Treasury.

It is an national misfortune, if it is not—Your “Appendix” is far from hopeful.

One can see far more clearly how a better system could be introduced than how such a system as exists can be improved.

Take the evil characters shown in your Notes of Cases:

the result of early neglect & early bad example:

-partly hereditary

And partly — they are doing about the worst thing they can for young children:

namely, massing them into great Schools

where no habits of self-dependence & self-restraint are or can be taught:

beyond & outside which all is for them unknown &/or hopeless -

[F.N.’s “Appendix” — There is a large Miséricorde Anglici: “Union School” — well known & with an
immense reputation at Paris — for orphans (Anglicè = pauper) or deserted girls who are kept till the age of 18. The Sisters of Charity, (Soeurs de S. Vincent de Paul) have the entire charge of it: excellent, well educated women, as I know from personal friendships. And the School is actually self-supporting or very nearly from the girls’ work. Into that Miséricorde I entered myself: sleeping & eating under the roof: even being ill under the roof: a capital way to learn what the results of the work really are — & in all points conforming myself as an inmate —

The School is really a Model School:
N.B. the girls are never turned adrift:
   but carefully placed out.
Now mark the results: wh: I give from actual personal knowledge — the knowledge of an inmate.
The girls have no power of independence, no wish for it; no Christian self-command:
   no moral or physical power of making their own way — no self-reliance: no nothing —
And the longer they stay in the School, the more idiotic, stunted in mind & body, helpless they become — — — — —
Till the first Class, the girls from 16 to 18, appeared to me the most useless machines — for doing anything but Machinery needle work — I had ever seen in all my much-driven life:
Machines all the worse for having — I will not call them womanly but — animal instincts: & worse for having I will not call it power of right & wrong but power of wrong —
They knew no kind of domestic work; they could not even make a bed: tho’ of course they fumbled their own.
They were never sent on a message or errand:
   they could not be trusted —
They never went without the walls of their (large & healthy) Recreation ground, in charge of one another: rarely even with a Soeur.
They had no desire, no power, no exercise
of earning their own bread: or of becoming
human beings at all: farther than as
cyphers ranged after the first figure
who was a Soeur -

[There were large Barracks near: & the
Soeurs stated themselves to me that
if the girls above 12 or 13 were allowed
to go beyond their own walls, they invariably
fell a prey to the soldiers’ vice:

& that most of these girls ultimately
went on the streets - i.e. not on the streets:
you know the (much worse) equivalent at Paris -]
It was so totally unlike the cheerful, frugal,
active, self-dependence (tho’ not over-
=moral) of the French grisette or peasant
that that School is really a type of
what this kind of education produces -
out of the same class as the grisettes come from -
[The food was plentiful: but would have been
heavy even for English meat-eating servants]
The religion was absolutely nothing (tho’ the Soeurs
were truly religious) but muttering hymns &
prayers - it illeg/matters little whether to the
God or the Virgin: (it was to the Virgin.)

When one sees a bad School, one says: oh
the good a good School might do:
when one sees a good School, one sees
that no School - can do good to pauper children
in this kind of way -
This is a long story: one almost better known to

you than to me:
so I will cut it short & only allude to
another sort of School:
large also but divided into small groups
of children where ages are mixed:
where the elder girls do all the domestic
work under superintendence: look after
the small ones &c &c
& where it is promotion to appoint them, the
elder ones, to this office
When a girl has won by years & by good
conduct, an “appointment” to this little servant=
ship (in her own School) she receives ‘wages’,
- hardly more than what her own clothes
cost. And out of her ‘wages’, she is
expected to find her own clothes: & does
it And this is an important element
in her Education for future life & self-dependence
[I need not say that the 3 Rs prosper all
the better for it]

2. In other words,
your facts are all in favour of
Boarding-out:
or (as an imitation & an alternative)
of Schools divided up into small families
where the elder girls do the work under
a good servant
(your own plan)
And the sooner in life this is done,
the better.

3. Do you think that any voluntary
oversight is likely to do much
(it may of course do something)
-v. your Scheme for Supervision of girls in places:
towards improving matters?
With such tempers & histories, will not
these girls always consider themselves
as wronged: & will they not always
try to elude their Inspectors & escape?
Or rather will not those profit by it
most who need it least?
And those who need inspection most
profit by it least: or not at all?
4. Is not the real question:
how to train the Infant shoot
& implant in it elements of good -
This is not done by the present Schools:
cannot be done by any massing together.
5. **Sub division**
   domestic teaching
   & care (imitation of mother’s care)
are worth all the **Supervision**
   all the **Schools or Universities**
in existence    for such as these children -
6. **Your proposed rules for oversight**
are as or more worthy of trial than
any I could suggest.

   But the animal cannot be trusted.
   **It is not proposed to train it** so that
   it can be trusted.
   And to provide against the results
   it is to be police’d.
   But will all my heart & soul I say
   God speed the right
   And ‘**Try’** - - - - -
   -A Committee and a “Home” by voluntary effort
   - & see how it works.

7. A caution you are well acquainted with:
   the amazing difference there is among some
   **untrained Voluntary Ladies** - & others -
   [I was once connected with a large District
   Organization worked by Voluntary “Lady
   Superintendents” with Trained Nurses,
   one under each: & Central Office,
   Home, & funds -
   All that one could say of it was that
   where the **Voluntary “Lady”** was good & wise,
   the thing worked well & wisely:
   & where she was not - very much the contrary
   -it degenerated into mere alms-giving:
   sometimes into the vexatious interference of an
   inexperienced “Lady” with those under her
   or visited by her who knew more than
   herself -
   Within the last few weeks I was told by the
   promoter that with their present experience
   they would have arranged it differently: more
   like the Elberfeld plan -
10. **Sanitary Teaching:**
   most important:
   applicable to *all* Schools
Requisites; 1. that Teachers should themselves
   be taught
   2. a good simple School book
Will you not see Mr. Forster & consult him?
   & let *him* consult *you*? -
All depends on the temper of School Boards

So far as concerns *pauper* children:
is it not infinitely more required to give
   moral & religious culture
   & self-restraint.
Without these, is not teaching
   Health-laws to such subjects
   pretty nearly useless?
Is not self=restraint the foundation
   of Personal Hygiene?

Should not teaching Health=Laws
   be limited in these Schools to
personal instruction in all kinds of
   cleanliness
   & fresh air -
And above all a never-ceasing protest
   against drunkenness
   & selfishness -
Would not this be enough to begin with:

& then the Senior General of Poor Law Infantry
   could expand her agency according to experience:
   not aiming at too much at first -
   “Go on & prosper” in God’s name.
11. P.S. One need hardly say:
   let the proposed Central Home & Visiting plan be tried on a small
   scale: worked alongside the existing Schools:
   & if it succeeds, then go for a *grant in aid*—
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[F.N.'s “Appendix”]

1. P.S. So far from thinking Pauper work hopeless, some of the best servants & School-Masters I have ever known have been pauper children -
   One, a boy out of a Workhouse School, was placed with dear Dean Dawes at his School, & became our National School-Master in one of my Father’s parishes -
   Of another family of 4 girls, the two eldest are in service with me: the two youngest of 5 & 9 years - in good single-handed places: [yes, laugh:] they are visited by the two elder sisters in my service:
   {f missing?}

   are much older now: & doing as well:
   but the ‘object’ talks exactly as if it were a Matron: or a Grandmama: of its Master & Mistress “who can’t do without me at home” -
   And it is true -

F.N.’s Appendix No 2 -

2. The greatest griefs we have are at our Workhouse Infirmaries:
   children claimed by their bad mothers: we have one now whose mother has (luckily) run away: the Matron keeps it in her own rooms:

   -9-
   -it would otherwise go back to the Workhouse - & sends it to a National Day School at Highgate. It is 7 years old - a little girl.
   Do you know of any small ORPHAGE NOT pauper - where this child could be placed? Do not trouble to answer this, unless you do -

3. Sanitary Teaching in Schools:
   P.S. All my papers are in London: I can’t refer to
   {f missing?}

may she live a thousand years & a day ever your most faithful servant Florence Nightingale
Mrs. Senior
My dear Mrs. Senior,

In this to me disastrous year, nothing has given me such pleasure as your confirmed appointment. I am most thankful that you are resting: and I beg you for the work’s sake & for all our sakes not to move till your restoration to power (of work) is also ‘confirmed’ -

As for me, I vibrate most painfully between

London & my poor mother at Embley, from which home we shall have shortly to remove her - I believe I must go back to her on March 9 for a few/2 or 3 weeks: but if you are really well enough to return to London on “Thursday” March 5, I would gladly see you on Friday or Saturday, (whichever you please, if you can kindly tell me beforehand) at 4, if I can be of the least use, or even you fancy that I can be.
I am a very bad one at giving an opinion be/offhand. Could you not kindly write me in a very few lines of what it is question? - if I am to be of any service.

2. I do not know that I ever felt more regret than in being compelled to say that our rule is against admitting any of not unblemished character or in whom is any temptation to drink - to be Nurses - When I began Hospital work, the Hospitals were literally nursed by these two classes of women: as they are still in other countries, where not nursed by religious Orders. The experiment I made was hazardous enough in itself - that of trying to drive out these two vices by a secular Society: & of inviting mama/mothers to send their daughters to us on the ground that they would be kept as safe as at home, or safer: (gentle & poor are mixed in our Training- School).
[You who are honourable & generous cannot conceive how ladies have been sent to us as to a Penitentiary, by the highest religious names in the land; & without the safe-guard of a Penitentiary - viz. telling what these ladies had been; - no, not even to me]

But I am so very anxious to serve if we could the lady you mention that I will, if you will allow me, during the 2 months you say are still disposable, devise some scheme, if we can, to submit to you.

You probably know Mrs. Vicars of the Home at Brighton -

She wished us to train some of her Penitents as Nurses -

We were obliged to decline.

What should you think, if I could get one of our best Trained Matrons (not at St. Thomas’) to take the young lady whom you have saved for a year’s training: & for her then to become a Nurse over Mrs. Vicars’s proposed Ward?

[This would entail no more than my Matron & Mrs. Vicars knowing the secret.]

I should think the young lady not incapacitated (but the reverse) from doing great good in Hospital Nursing: & so extremely regret that we cannot take her ourselves.

Believe me ever yours sincerely

F. Nightingale

[end 13:651]
35 South St
Park Lane W.
Dec 7/74
My dear Mrs. Senior

I am so concerned at what I heard yesterday: that you had resigned Office:
that I cannot help writing a word of sorrow.
No personal grief has ever affected me more
(tho’ I have had many & bitter: indeed, my whole
life has been one of sorrows.) But I look
upon your resignation as a national misfortune.
No one could have done what you would
have done: what you indeed have done during

this brief space: against growing=up, grown=
up female pauperism; a worse evil than
a Cholera, or a War, or Popes, or
Slavery, or Indian Zemindars: or than
any other evil we know. Consternation is my state. How
many will remain paupers whom you would have saved.
You were arrayed almost singlehanded, a
noble Army of one, against this evil.
And who will take your place? Who will redeem
our generation?
The outcry of the enemy shows what a club
your gentle Hercules arm has wielded:
and would you leave off till you had
become Apollo Victor with his bow?

I only hope that ill health is not the cause:
or only a temporary cause: of this great
disaster.
At all events, the great principle which you
have initiated (without writing!! or platform=
=ing about it!!) namely, that women must
‘inspect’ women, [& how well they do it!] cannot be again
laid aside.
Yet Rather the resignation of the greatest Cabinet
that ever was than yours!
I never thanked you for your Report, for it
was un=thank=able for. I am so miserable
that I can only say further how much
I am, dear Mrs. Senior,
your faithful & grateful servt
Florence Nightingale

N.B.
By a strange coincidence, (if there are such things,) I received
while I was writing this a letter from an old friend
who was out with me in the Crimea & whom I have
not seen for 17 or 18 year, asking for advice &
Workhouse work: Miss Tebbutt (you may recognize the
name, as having been with her Sister & brother-in-law,
Mr. Paget, M.P., washed from a rock at Filey by a wave into
the sea. Mr. & Mrs. Paget were drowned: she was saved).
Her idea seems to be: but she asks advice: to do something
for Workhouse girls: out of place: who, she fancies, “cannot
return to the Workhouse.” [I thought the mischief was that they
did return to the Workhouse].
No one could give her such advice as you:
but I hardly like to ask you:
unless indeed you might know of some opening
which a person was wanted to fill.
She has come to live in London.
F.N.

Did you see an Article in Saturday’s “Illustrated
News” on “Little Prisoners” (little Paupers)?
I pray God that your Successor may be
one-tenth of you.
F.N. [end 13:652]

Clendening, signed letter, 2ff, pencil {black-edged} [13:652-53]

35 South St
Park Lane w.

Please return Dec 30/74

My dear Mrs. Senior
It is I who am sorry that I have been so
“troublesome” in keeping your invaluable papers
so long –
Any publication which of the result of your
labours & of the plans which you had formed,
is of priceless importance. And all female
England which is worth anything ought to be
employed, officially & unofficially, in carrying them out.

I will not prey upon you with any remarks but will only say that every woman of large experience knows that from 16 to 18 is the dangerous age for girls: & therefore your Association=plan at the end is peculiarly important.

If there is the least risk of “copies enough” not “being bespoken” “to publish at all”, pray let me “bespeak” 20, or any larger number which may help to avert such a catastrophe -

I will not say either how deeply touched I was by your former letter: & indeed by your writing at all -

May God grant us that you have perfect rest now: & perfect recovery by & bye -

I prophesy that you will see of the “travail of your soul”: & “be satisfied” -

{there are diagonal lines drawn through the rest of the letter}

My apology for delay must be that I have been so unusually ill that the thing I most dreaded has happened to me: namely that I cannot get a rather voluminous India paper out by the middle of January when it was asked for: a trial which I do not bear as you do - But we

-2-

have a higher & a better hope which failure & disappointment cannot take away: & that is that Perfect Wisdom will some day complete His work, whether we live to see it or not.

May He bless you:
yours ever overflowingly
Florence Nightingale

Tho’ I know that all that friends can do is plentiful with you, I cannot help sending a brace of pheasants, just sent me.
August 11/67 [5:394-96]  
35 South Street, [printed address]  
Park Lane,  
London, W.  
Private  
Dear Sir  

I can't tell you how much pleased I was nor how grateful I feel, that you should take the trouble to write to me.  
And, if I ill naturedly answer your note by asking a question, it is because I have scarcely any one Who can give me a "considered opinion," (since those who were always with me are dead).  
That women should have the suffrage, I think no one can be more deeply convinced than I. It is to
important for a woman
especially a married woman
especially a clever married
women, to be a 'person'.
But it will probably be
years before you obtain the
suffrage for women. And,
in the mean time, are there
not evils which press
much more hardly on
women than not having a
vote? - And may not this,
when obtained, put women
in opposition to those who
withhold from them these
rights, so as to retard
still farther the legislation
necessary to put them in
possession of their rights? -
I do not know. I ask the
(in smaller writing -not F.N's it says, Gift of Alfred C. Meyer)

question very humbly. And I
am afraid you will laugh
at me.
Could not the existing disabilities
as to property & influence
be the legislation as it stands
at present?- & equal rights
& equal responsibilities be
given as they ought to be,
to both men & women?- I
do not like to take up your
time with giving instances,
redressible by legislation,
in which women, especially
married poor women with
children, are most hardly
pressed upon now. I have
been a matron on a large
scale the greater part of my
life. And no Matron with
the smallest care for her Nurses can be unaware of what I mean. E.g. till a married women can possess property, there can be no love & no justice. It is not possible that if' women = suffrage is agitated as a means of removing there evils, the effect may be to prolong there existence?-
It is not the case that at present there is no opposition between the two elements of powers, there is a probability that the social reforms needed might become matter of political partizanship—and so the weaker go to the wall?-
I do not know - I only ask

& very humbly. And I can scarcely expect that you will have time to answer. I have been too busy for the last 14 years (which have never left me 10 minutes' leisure—not even to be ill) I wish for a vote— I want personally political influence. Indeed I have had, during the 11 years I have been in Gov't offices, more administrative influence than if I had been a Borough returning two M.P.s— (notwithstanding the terrible loss I have had of him who placed me there)- And, if I thus egotistically draw your attention to
myself it is only because I have not time to serve on the Society you mention. Otherwise, there is scarcely any thing which, if you were to tell one that it is right to do politically, I would not do. But I could not give my name without my work. This is only personal. [I am an incurable invalid]. I {FN uses the square brackets in her letter} entirely agree that women's "political power" should be "direct & open". But I have thought that I could work better for others, even for other women, off the stage than on it.

During the last 6 years that I have worked hard at the India Public Health Service, I have often wished for an opportunity to ask Mr. Mill for his influence in it. Is it wrong. {She does not use a question mark here} I take the opportunity of asking you now to ask him for his invaluable help. & so to beg him to believe me (this in haste) ever his faithful servant Florence Nightingale

J.S. Mill Esq M.P.
Letter From J.S. Mill to F.N, Inscribed: To Miss Nightingale, Aug. 9, 1867, of draft letter. Contents identical with that sent, in 45787 f36, on embossed stationery

letter 8 of the Series

f1
Dear Madam As I know how fully you appreciate a great many of the evil effects produced upon the character of women (and operating to the destruction of their own and others happiness) by the existing state of opinion and as you have done me the honour to express your regard for my opinion on this subject I should not like to abstain from mentioning the formation of a society aimed in my opinion at the very root of all the evils you deplore and have passed
your life in combating.

There are a very great number of people, particularly women, who from want of the habit of reflecting on politics are quite incapable of realizing the enormous power of politics that is to say of legislation to confer happiness and also to influence the opinion and the moral nature of the governed.

As I am convinced that this power is by far the greatest that it is possible to wield for human happiness I can neither approve of women who decline the responsibility of wielding it nor of men who would shut out women of from the right to wield it. Until women do wield it to the best of their ability, little or great, and that in a direct, open manner, I am convinced that the evils of which I know you to be peculiarly aware can never be satisfactorily dealt with and this conviction must be my apology for troubling you now.

B.P.
Aug. 9, 1867
May 4 {archivist: 1883}
[printed address] 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

Dear Sir,

It rejoices me more than I can say that the ‘silent millions’ of India find a voice in your Review.

This is a critical time in India - I mean that vital measures are at last beginning to run vigorously the race that has long been set before them.

It is of untold importance that the great public organs of England should help them.

I am extremely obliged to you for wishing to look at my paper on the condition of the Indian ryot, inten asked for by the East India Association, to see if it is suitable for your ‘Contemporary’.

It is not ready yet. I am an overworked invalid. Will you allow me to delay my answer a few days?

ever your faithful servt

Florence Nightingale

Percy W. Bunting Esq
May 8/83
I am afraid that the arrangement
you kindly proposed about
inserting my Indian paper in
the Contemporary cannot be
carried out. I find that it
has been otherwise arranged to
produce it. F. Nightingale
Success to the Contemporary’s
Indian efforts. Perhaps you may have
something to command me another time. F.N.

V

Percy Wm Bunting Esq
11 Old Square
Lincoln’s Inn
W.C.
8/5/83

signed letter, 2ff, pen

June 12/83
10, South Street, [printed address]
Park Lane. W.
My dear Sir
I cannot thank you enough for your very kind note,
comprehending so well the peculiar difficulties
which prevent my doing what I would so gladly do
to help in any of your great objects in such way as I
may be able.
1. To one of your questions
I beg to enclose what I
hope may be some sort
of guide to what you want
2. You kindly ask me:
would I write anything on
the Egyptian “Medical
“break-down”?
I could not write anything
which would bring me
into hostility with the Military
or close my relations with
the Army Medical Depts.
But I think I could write
something, rather as if
I were representing what
the best of the Doctors
themselves wish to obtain
in order to make themselves
as Officers & their Orderlies as

men of the “Army Hospital
“Corps” efficient, which
might at this crisis be useful,
If you would kindly tell me
what space you wish to
allot to it, & what
number (July or ) you
wish it to appear in. And
if July, how soon it must
be ready. The “Medical vote” in
the Ho. of C. may be put off till July. [end]
Pray believe me
ever your faithful servt
Florence Nightingale
Percy William Bunting Esq
signed letter, 2ff, pen

       June 13/83
       10, South Street,   [printed address]
           Park Lane. W.
My dear Sir
       In reference to your
kind note, & 'order' for an' strong
Article on the "Army Medical
Service", or rather the present
phase of it, for your
July "Contemporary", (10 pages),
- I am afraid it is quite
impossible for me to send
it you by "Monday morning".
It is not as if I could
set apart an hour of my
overworked time for amateur
‘writing’ - My ‘writing’ has to
be done before 7.30 am
for you.
       I was in hopes that you
could have given me till
Friday or Saturday week,
June 22 or 23.
       But I quite understand
that you might not consider
my paper as suitable
at all when you see it:
& that then there would
be the deciding how to fill
up your space to the
best advantage.
Tell me what to do: or rather if I do not hear from you, do not trouble yourself, I will conclude that you do not wish me to do anything. I am very sorry.

ever your faithful servt
Florence Nightingale
Percy W. Bunting Esq

signed letter, 2ff, pen

June 14/83
10, South Street, [printed address]
Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir

I am much obliged to you for your kind note & trouble about the paper you asked me for on the Egypt ‘Army Hospital Service’ for your July No.

I will try, if possible, to let you have it by “Wednesday, 20th,” as you say.

If I find it impossible I will let you know before that date.

___After our usual fashion, everything is running to crimination & recrimination
about the Egyptian War, even in the Ho: of C.
And nothing as to what is to be done is so much as heard of - The recommendations of the Committee are not so much as discussed. The Medical vote will probably be taken as late as in July. The de-fervescence will begin before August. And what little can be done to direct people’s thoughts in a right channel should be out & published

on/by July 1: should it not?

It is this that makes me so anxious to avail myself of your kind invitation, if it be only possible, for July.

Does any body read anything in August? except for amusement & sleep -

in haste ever your faithful servt

F. Nightingale

Percy W. Bunting Esq
signed letter, 1f, pencil

10 South St W
June 18/83

My dear Sir

I am very sorry that I have no hope of finishing the paper on the (Egypt) Army Hospital Services enquiry by Wednesday morning for your June Number -

I have been very much overworked: & am a good deal the worse for wear this year -

That something could have been said before the Medical vote in July, was very much to be wished. The Military element will probably be as loud & strong in the House on the one side as the Medical on the other -

Pray believe me ever your faithful servt

Florence Nightingale

Percy W. Bunting Esq
PRIVATE Claydon House  
Bucks Sept 1/83  
10, South Street;  
Park Lane, W.  [printed address]

My dear Sir

Your kind note was forwarded to me here whence I was telegraphed for to be with my sister, Lady Verney, who is in most sad suffering but not in immediate danger. & where I am now.

Yes: I think I might, provided you will kindly tell me the very latest day you can give me, have the “Medical Reform Paper” - i.e. the views of the best Medical Officers on the Army Medical (Dept & Egypt) question “ready” “for your October number.”

2. In May last you kindly asked me for an Article on India (the Bengal Rent Law question) And I declined, because I was otherwise engaged. That measure comes on in the Viceroy’s Council at Calcutta in November next for discussion & decision. The Zemindars, who were very quiet, excited by the furious uproar that has been raised against the so-called Ilbert Bill in particular & against Lord Ripon’s policy in general are getting
up a tremendous opposition.

It occurred to me that, as you had asked me for it before, you might like an article now upon this matter which dwarfs all others in importance - & compared to which the Ilbert Bill, tho’ not of course Lord Ripon’s policy, is a mere straw as compared with the millions of acres under cultivation in Bengal.

To be of use the paper ought properly to be “out” before November.

Do not trouble to answer this, if you see no opportunity for such a paper.

You saw that the “Medical vote” on the Army Estimates came on in the House, (“after”, I think, “we had gone to press,” - ominous words!) & was passed & dismissed in a few words - the Army Medical (Egypt) advocate, Mr. Gibson, not even putting in an appearance. So ends for this Session, at least, any chance of our learning the Egypt lesson. The Crimean lesson is already lost.

[end]
Private

It suggested itself to me that you might possibly prefer a Bengal Rent Law (or Agrarian) paper now - &
the Bengal engine is standing with its steam up - & the Army Medical paper LATER ON [they promise us a discussion in the Ho: of C. next Session - no steam is up.]

You will of course kindly do what is best without regard to me. I am at all times so overworked, so always under the severe pressure of business & illness, that now the added attendance upon my poor sister takes heart as well as strength out of me. But I will do my best whatever you decide. [I have never “time to recover”. Pardon me: you so kindly ask]

I do not know whether you care about an attempt that has been made to give us the ‘public opinion’ of native India, such as it is, by a monthly résumé of its newspapers, called the “Voice of India” But I trust you will forgive the liberty I have taken in ordering it to be sent you for one year, beginning with the July No. You can but put it in the waste paper basket.
3. The unspeakable relief that the Cholera in Egypt is subsiding! I think the Foreign Office, Dr. Hunter & indeed all our officials have done their best. I hear from the English Doctors who went out from here - & how bravely & devotedly the young English Army Officers worked, tending the Egyptian soldier- Cholera cases with their own hands, when natives were not to be had.

I have also “Sisters” of our own Training School nursing in our own Army Hospitals in Egypt who chose to stay out - & so, joyfully came in for nursing the Cholera cases.

But the Cholera is too long a story to begin -
I am glad Mrs. Sheldon Amos was not in it.

Pray believe me ever your faithful servt
Florence Nightingale
Percy. Wm. Bunting Esq
{printed address, upside down:}
10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.
My dear Sir

Thank you for your kind note. I am ashamed to say that it is a relief to me not to have the Army Medical ‘Reform’ question to prepare before “a couple of months.”

Bengal Rent Bill

your October No. Discussion on such a vital, enormous question is indeed worthy of the “Contemporary”. i.e. - to admit both sides of the argument. But for the “Contemporary” to go “against”

the Bengal Rent Bill - while it so gallantly advocates another, really trifling, part of Lord Ripon’s policy, the “Ilbert” Bill - is it this not as inappropriate as if it had fought for Slavery, or against the Repeal of the Corn Laws in times happily long past - as the times of Bengal Serfdom OUGHT to be long past - or as if it had fought against education in India, or the admission of natives to judicial & administrative
employment in India - in times unhappily not long past?

You ask me to “send you “a few pages on the other side;” that is on the side of the Bengal Rent Bill - And you “will put them in.” (in your October No)

I send an uncorrected Proof. This M.S. I wrote for my own use. The Editor of the XIX Century saw it in my room, & asked me to give it him. He printed it: At my earnest request

he has now returned it to me, because I said that I wanted it for another purpose, as it was urgently necessary that whatever was published for the Bengal Tenancy Bill should be published before November. [He is gone abroad.]

As to my “paper on India “in the XIX Century” of August I “did not discuss “this Rent Question there,” [you ask.]
-2-

If you insert this or any you will of course allow me to correct/revise it. There is some want of connection in it: & I do not think it deals so exactly with the “remedies” in the Bill as with the “remedies” needed [I have not even time to read it over before I sent it you].

No one has seen it but the gentleman named. No use has been made of it.

I am sure that you will be kind enough to return it to me in any case.

2. I also send (in another Envelope) a more logical & I think better form of the Lecture which you at first asked me for, read at the East India Assn.

I think if you preferred it I could make “a “few pages” out of this for you.

That You will be so very Good as to return this to me I know I may ask.

Now good speed to all your efforts for India - but bad speed to your Article “against” the Bengal Rent Bill, which Bill, between ourselves, does not go far enough, & which is the smallest instalment of justice we could give the Ryots. [end 10:602]

Pray believe me in haste ever your faithful servt
Florence Nightingale
Percy Wm Bunting Esq
signed letter, 2ff, pen

Sept 26/83
{printed address:} Claydon House,
   Bucks.
My dear Sir
   Thank you very much
for your most kind Telegram.
   Do you think that you
would be so very kind as
to advise me how to get the “note”
as a Post Script into your
November Number, if you
think it adviseable?
   The reformers & the
Ryots’ friends will be
‘down upon’ me - & justly:
They say: it is cruel of
the Zemindars to urge as
an excuse for their own

nefarious doings with
   their tenants that the
Government acting as their
   Trustee supported
Landlords’ rights on Wards’
estates & reduced privileges
& establishments &c &c, & so
   disencumbered them of
debt- & did for them
   what they had not
resolution to do for
themselves.
We also say: And they, the Zemindars,
have conveniently forgotten
that 10 years ago Sir
George Campbell asserted that Government was not only trustee to Wards’ estates but trustee to tenant right, - & radically reformed any such abuses there might be, tho’ some of these, it appears, may have crept in again. The Zemindars say so.

The P.S., if you allow it, need not be more than half a page. If you could advise me how to begin it, I should be grateful. And if you could return me the unlucky ‘note’, I should be glad. But do not trouble about this - I want to enlist you as a Ryot’s friend. Pray believe me with thanks for all your kindness ever your faithful servt Florence Nightingale

John Rae Esq

signed card/note, 1f, pen

Oct 31/83
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir Tho’ it is very considerate of you to allow me till “November 20” for the “Army Medical Service article,” yet I feel sure that I shall not be able even to look at it for some time: You kindly add a word about “December,” which I am fain to accept. Till what
Till what day in “December”
can you give me?
   Pray believe me
   ever your faithful servt
   Florence Nightingale
Percy Wm Bunting Esq

signed card/note, 1f, pen

PRIVATE  Jan 14/84
  10. South Street, [printed address]
   Park Lane. W.
My dear Sir
   You are very good to give me
the rein.
   There are some reforms being made,
proprio motu, in the Dept we have
to do with, tho’ no fundamental
ones. I think if you see no
objection that it might be
better to see what is doing before
we write about them.
   Shall we wait till next month?

Till what time can you give me?
   I confess that I have been overworked
& unable/unfit to work at this as an Article,
tho’ busy at the work with the principals.
But my main reason for delay is
what I mention.
   My best wishes for the highest
New Year’s blessings on you &
your work: and thanks for
yours:
   ever your faithful servt
      F. Nightingale
Percy W. Bunting Esq
Aug 2/84
10, South Street, [printed address]
   Park Lane. W.
My dear Sir

   I am grateful for your long suffering towards me, but I am obliged to cry you mercy.
   It were too long to tell you why: illness in others whom I have had to nurse as well as myself, pressing business &c

   My article on the Army Medical Dept reform question has been half written a long while, but is not ready because I have not had time to acquaint myself with the latest proprio motu steps on the part of the Dept.
   But I will -

   Is it possible that your interest in India might lead you to like to have an Article on Lord Ripon’s reforms in India which I could finish without much delay.

I have been completely laid up with cough for more than a month. And now I have to go to Claydon (Sir Harry Verney’s) almost immediately to help nurse my sister.

   Pray believe me ever your faithful servt
   Florence Nightingale
Percy Wm Bunting Esq
signed letter, 1f, pencil

Dec 5/87
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir

It is very good of you to think of me & my Army Medical Reform for your Review. And fain would I do it.

But I am now under the Doctor’s hands for over-work And on Wednesday he ‘turns off’ the gas - i.e. the eye-sight to prevent me from working, except by

word of mouth my inevitable business - So what can I do but make my most reluctant excuse & hope if I live for better days -

ever faithfully yours

Florence Nightingale

Percy Wm Bunting Esq
Dear sir,

I am encouraged by Mr. Chadwick to venture to write
to you direct.

My reason is to ask you whether you would consent to
read my religious work confidentially and to return it to me, -
if with your remarks, for the sake of which it is printed on
half margin, I need not say how much they would help me.

Your "Logic," especially as regards "Law," "Free Will"
and "Necessity," has been the forming influence of it and of
"me" - though whether you would acknowledge the superstructure,
I am quite ignorant.

At all events, I am inclined to try, altho' quite
aware that you ought, for your own sake, to decline even looking
at it if it troubles you.

Many years ago, I had a large and very curious acquaintance
among the artisans of the North of England and of London.

I learnt then that they were without any religion what-
ever - though diligently seeking after one, principally in Comte
and his school. Any return to what is called Christianity appeared
impossible. It is for them this book was written.

I never intended to print it as it was. But my health
broke down. I shall never now write out the original plan. I
have therefore, printed the MSS. as they were, mainly in order
to invite your criticism if you can be induced to give it.

I beg that you will believe me, dear sir, one of your
most "faithful" adherents.

Florence Nightingale
I acknowledge the justice of your animadversion (of which Mr. Chadwick wrote to me) upon a passage of my little book Nursing, if I meant what you think which I did not. If my words bear that interpretation, and you will kindly point them out to me, I shall be glad and grateful to alter them.

F.N.

B. Sept. 10, 1860
Dear Madam - Your note should have been answered sooner, but I was from home when it arrived.

I should most willingly do my best to be of use to you in the matter which you speak of, if you think that I am a suitable person to be consulted about a work of the kind. In one respect indeed I am very well fitted to test the efficacy of your treatise, since I probably stand as much in need of conversion as those to whom it is addressed. If in spite of this (or perhaps all the more on that account) you would like me to read and give my opinion on it, I will do so with much pleasure.

I am very happy to hear from yourself that you did not mean to convey impressions which I still think the words of the concluding passage of your Notes are calculated to give. I did not myself think you could possibly mean it, since in the same passage you also seem to imply that women should not be excluded by law or usage from the liberty of trying any mode of existence open to men, at their own risk in case of failure. But as the advocates of the "rights of women" contend for no more; and are even in general, ready to make what appears to me for no more; and concessions as to the comparative unfitness of women for some occupations I do not think they can justly be accused of jargon, nor of contending that women ought to do certain things merely because men do them.

{The following paragraph was struck out}

It is very agreeable to me that you should have found my Logic of so much use to you, and particularly the chapter on Free Will and Necessity, to which I have always attached much value as being the uniting issue of a train of thought which had been very important to myself many years before, and even (if I may use the expression) critical in my own development.
From F.N. to J.S. Mill, September 5, 1860, University of Chicago, typed copy of letter

Private
{Address in upper right hand corner}
30 Burlington St.
London W
Sept. 5/60

Dear sir

I am encouraged by Mr. Chadwick to venture to write to you direct.

My reason is to ask you whether you would consent to read my religious work confidentially and to return it to me, - if with your remarks, for the sake of which it is printed on half margin, I need not say how much they would help me.

Your "Logic," especially as regards "Law," "Free Will" and "Necessity," has been the forming influence of it and of "me" - though whether you would acknowledge the superstructure, I am quite ignorant.

At all events, I am inclined to try, altho' quite aware that you ought, for your own sake, to decline even looking at it if it troubles you.

Many years ago, I had a large and very curious acquaintance among the artisans of the North of England and of London.

I learnt then that they were without any religion whatever - though diligently seeking after one, principally in Comte and his school. Any return to what is called Christianity appeared impossible. It is for them this book was written.

I never intended to print it as it was. But my health broke down. I shall never now write out the original plan. I have therefore, printed the MSS. as they were, mainly in order to invite your criticism if you can be induced to give it.

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Florence Nightingale
I acknowledge the justice of your animadversion (of which Mr. Chadwick wrote to me) upon a passage of my little book Nursing, if I meant what you think which I did not. If my words bear that interpretation, and you will kindly point them out to me, I shall be glad and grateful to alter them.

F.N.

Blackheath Sept. 23, 1860

Dear Madam - I have read your treatise, or rather the portion of it which you did me the honour of sending to me. If any part of your object in sending it was to know my opinion as to the desirableness of its being published, I have no difficulty in giving it strongly in the affirmative. There is much in the work which is calculated to do good to many persons besides the artisans to whom it is more especially addressed. In point of arrangement indeed, of condensation, and of giving as it were, a keen edge to the argument, it would have been much benefitted by the recasting which you have been prevented from giving to it by a cause on all other accounts so much to be lamented. This however, applies more to the general mode of laying out the argument than to the details.

With regard to the substance of the book, it is scarcely to say that there is very much of it with which I am in entire agreement and strong sympathy; and when I am not, I neither have any desire to shake your own conviction, if I could suppose myself capable of doing so, nor should I regret the adoption of the same creed by any one to whose intellect and feelings it may be able to recommend itself. It would be a great moral improvement to most persons, be they Christians, Deists, or Atheists, if they firmly believed the world to be under the government of a Being who, willing only good, leaves evil in the world solely in order to stimulate the human faculties by an unremitting struggle against every form of it.

In regard however to the effect on my own mind, will you
forgive me for saying that your mode of reconciling the world as we see it with the government of a Perfect Being, though less sophistical than the common modes, and not having as they have the immoral effect of consecrating any forms of avoidable evil as purposes of God, does not, to my apprehension, at all help to remove the difficulty? I tried what I could do that hypothesis many years ago; that a Perfect Being could do everything except make another perfect being, that the next thing to it was to make a perfectible one, and that the perfection could only be achieved by a struggle against evil; but then, a Perfect Being, limited only by this condition might be expected so to form the world that the struggle against evil should be the greatest possible in extent and intensity, and unhappily our world conforms as little to this character, as to that of a world without evil. If the Divine intention in making men was Effort towards perfection, the Divine purpose is as much frustrated as if its sole aim were human happiness. There is a little of both, but the absence of both is the marked characteristic.

I confess that no religious theory occurs to me consistent with the facts of the universe, except (in some form or other) the old one of the two principles. There are many signs in the structure of the universe of an intelligent Power wishing well to man and other sentient creatures. I could however shew, not so many perhaps, but quite as decided indications of an intelligent Power or Powers with the contrary propensity. But (not to insist on this) the will of the benevolent power must
find, either its own incompleteness or in some external circumstances, very serious obstacles to the entire fulfilment of the benevolent purpose. It may be that the world is a battlefield between a good and a bad power or powers, and that mankind may be capable, by sufficiently strenuous cooperation with the good power, of deciding or at least accelerating its final victory. I knew one man of great intelligence and high moral principle who finds satisfaction to his devotional beliefs and support under the evils of life, in the belief of this creed.

Another point on which I cannot agree with you is the opinion that Law, in the sense that we predicate all of the arrangements of Nature, can only emanate from a Will. This doctrine seems to me to rest solely on the double meaning of the word Law, though that double meaning cannot be more completely and clearly stated than you have done. It is much more natural to the human mind to see a divine will in those events in which it has not yet recognized inflexible constancy of sequence, than in those in which it has. No doubt, this instinctive notion is erroneous; and Will is in its own nature as regular a phenomenon, as much a subject of law, as anything else; but it does seem rather odd that unchangeableness should be the one thing which to account for its existence must be referred to a will; will being, able to change; indeed it cannot be unchangeable unless combined with omnipotence or at all events with omniscience.

With all that you say in affirmation of the universal-
ity of Law, and in repetition of objections on the subject of Free Will and Necessity, I need hardly say how heartily I agree.

I have made a few cursory remarks in the margin of your book, but what I have now said is the chief part of what I had to say. I do not yet return the volume because, unless what I have said of it takes away your desire to shew me any more of the book, I hope to see the remainder. If so however it should be soon, as I shall leave England for the Continent in about a week.

I have not time or space left to say much on the other subject of our correspondence. My opinion of the medical profession is not, I dare say, higher than yours. But it would be dealing very rigorously with the M.D.'s of whom you have so low an opinion to expect that they should already have made any improvement in medical practice. Neither when we consider how rare first rate minds are, was it to be expected, on the doctrine of chances, that the first two or three women who take up medicine should be more than what you say these are, third rate. It is to be expected that they will be pupils at first, and not masters. But the medical profession like others must be reformed from within, under whatever stimulus from without, and it surely has more chance of being so, the more the entrance to it is widened. Neither does the moral right of women to admission into the profession at all depend on the likelihood of their to reform it. On this point however we are agreed.
From F.N. to J.S. Mill, September 29, 1860, University of Chicago, typed copy of letter, Letter 6 of Series

30 Old Burlington St.
Sept. 29/60

My dear Sir
I need not say that, if it would be less inconvenient to you to take my unfortunate "Treatise" abroad with you than to read it now, it would be much more useful to me that you should read it anyhow, than risk to me that it should be lost coming home (by the Universal Carrier, Wheatley) or that it should not return while I am alive.
But I suspect this proportion, viz. that you should take it abroad, would be the greatest inconvenience of all to you. And therefore, I only suggest it - I do not even wish it.
Ever yours gratefully,
F. Nightingale
Dear Madam - You will readily believe that only the pressure of constant occupation has prevented me from replying earlier to the interesting letter I received from you in August. If you prefer to do your work rather by moving the hidden springs than by allowing yourself to be known to the world as doing what you really do, it is not for me to make any observations on this preference (inasmuch as I am bound to presume that you have good reasons for it) other than to say that I much regret that this preference is so very general to women. Myself, but then I am a man, I cannot help thinking that the world would be better if every man woman and child in it could appear to others in an exactly true light; known as the doer of the work that he does, and striving neither to be under nor overvalued. I am not so "Utopian" as to suppose that bad people will very readily lend themselves to this programme; but I confess to considerable regret that good women should so often be almost as fond of false appearances as bad men and women can be; acting as much to hide their good deeds as the others do to hide their bad ones; forgetting probably the while that they are putting somebody - more or less willing - in the position of a false pretender to merits not his own, but belonging legitimately to the lady who delights to keep in the background.

I know that it often appears, in practical matters, that one can get a great deal of work done swiftly and apparently effectually, by working through others; securing perhaps in this way their zealous cooperation instead of their jealous (or perhaps only stupid) obstruction. In the long run however doubt whether any work is ever so well done as when it is done
ostensibly and publicly under the direction or at least the instigation of the original mind that has seen the necessity of doing it. Whether this is the fact or not, I am quite certain that were the world in general to know how much of all its important work is and always has been done by women, the knowledge would have a very useful effect upon it, and I am not certain that any women who possesses any talent whatever could make a better use of it in the present stage of the world than by simply letting things take their natural course and allowing it to be known just as if she were a man. I know that this is not pleasant to the sensitive character fostered by the present influences among the best women; but it is to me a question whether the noble and as I think heroic enthusiasm of truth and public good ought not in this age to nerve women to as courageous a sacrifice of their most justly cherished delicacy as that of which the early Christian women left an example for the honest love and admiration of all future time. I have no doubt that the Roman ladies thought them very indelicate.

In regard to the questions you do me the honour to ask me, first, "Are there not evils which press much more hardly on women than not having a vote?" 2ndly. "May not this, when obtained, put women in opposition to those who withhold from them their rights, so as to retard still further the legislation necessary to put them in possession of their rights?" 3rdly. "Could not the existing disabilities as to property and influence of women be swept away by the legislation as it stands at present?"

To answer these questions fundamentally would require
only to state fundamental principles of political liberty, and to reiterate that debate so nobly carried on in our own history whether, to wit, happiness or dignity, commercial liberty, religious freedom, or any form of material prosperity, is or is not best founded on political liberty.

It may be granted in the abstract that a ruling power, whether a monarch, a class, a race, or a sex, could sweep away the disabilities of the ruled. the question is, has it ever seemed to them urgent to sweep away these disabilities until there was a prospect of the ruled getting political power? More than this, it is probably a question of whether it is in human nature that it ever should seem to them unjust.

In the same way it may often be a question whether painful symptoms do not press more hardly upon a patient than the hidden disease which is the cause of them. And undoubtedly if the symptoms themselves are killing, the physician had better address himself to them at once, and leave the disease alone for a time. But if the oppressions and miseries under which women suffer are killing, women take a great deal of killing to kill them. God knows I do not undervalue these miseries for I think that man and woman too a heartless coward whose blood does not boil at the thought of what women suffer; but I am quite persuaded that if we were to remove them all tomorrow, in the years new forms of suffering would have arisen for no earthly power can ever prevent the constant unceasing unsleeping elastic pressure of human egotism from weighing down and thrusting aside those who have not
the power to resist it. When there is life there is egotism, and if men were to abolish every unjust law today, there is nothing to prevent them from making new ones tomorrow; and moreover which is of still greater importance, few circumstances will constantly be arising for which just legislation will be needed. And how are you to ensure that such legislation will be just, unless you can either make men perfect, or give women an equal voice in their own affairs? I leave you to judge which is the easiest.

What, however, constitutes an even more pressing and practical reason for endeavoring to obtain the political enfranchisement of women instead of endeavoring to sweep away any or all of their social grievances, is, that I believe it will be positively easier to obtain this reform than to obtain any single one of all others, all of which must inevitably follow from it. To prefer to sweep away any of these others first, is as though one were to prefer to cut away branch after branch, giving more labour to each branch than one need do to the trunk of the tree.

The third question, whether there is not danger of political partisanship and bitterness of feeling between men and women is also a question which I think has been asked and answered in other departments of politics. It has been asked and answered too, though the answer has been different from that which we most of us approve of in politics, in the case of marriage. To prevent quarrels, it has been thought best to make one party absolute master of both. No doubt, if women can never do anything in pol-
itics except for and through men, they cannot be partisans against men. No doubt, where you have death, you have none of the troubles of life. But if women were to prove possessed with ever so great a spirit of partisanship, and were they to call forth there-as the weakest, to be driven to any extremities, I don't see that the result could be very different from what it is at present, inasmuch as I apprehend that the present position of women in every country in the world is exactly measured by the personal and family affections of men, and that every modification for the better in women's absolute annihilation and servitude is at present owing not to any sense of abstract right or justice on the part of men, but to their sense of what they would like for their own wives, daughters, mothers, and sisters. Political partisanship against the mass of women will not, among civilized men, diminish the sense of what is due to the objects of their private affections. But I believe on the contrary, that the dignity given to women in general by the very fact of their being able to be political partisans is likely to be itself a means of raising men's estimation of what is due to them. So that if men come to look upon women as a large number of unamiable but powerful opponents and a small number of dearly loved and charming persons, I think men will think more highly of women, and feel less disposed to use badly any superior power that after all they themselves may still possess, than if they look upon women as I think men generally do at present, as a few dearly loved preeminently worthy and charming persons and a great number of helpless fool.
On the whole then I think firstly that political power is the only security against every form of oppression; secondly, that at the present day in England it would be easier to attain political rights for such women as have the same claims as enfranchised men, than to obtain any other considerable reform in the position of women. 3rdly, I see no danger of party spirit running high between men and women and no possibility of its making things worse than they are if it did.

Finally I feel some hesitation in saying to you what I think of the responsibility that lies upon each one of us to stand stedfastly and with all the boldness and all the humility that a deep sense of duty can inspire, by what the experience of life and an honest use of what our own intelligence has taught us to be the truth. I will confess to you that I have often stood amazed at what has seemed to me the presumption with which persons who think themselves humble..................to the capacities of improvement of their fellow creatures, think themselves qualified to define how much or how little of the divine light of truth can be borne by the world in general, assume that none but the very elite can see what is perfectly clear to themselves, and think themselves permitted to dole out in infinitesimal doses that daily bread of truth upon which they themselves live and without which the world must come to an end. When I see this to me inexplicable form of moderation in those who nevertheless believe that the truth of which they got hold really is the truth, I rejoice that there are so many presumptuous persons who think themselves bound to say what they think true, who think that if they have been fortunate enough to get hold of a truth they cannot do
12/31/67

a better favor to their fellow creatures than by saying it openly; who think that the truth has not been too much for themselves will not be too much for others; who think that what they have been capable of seeing, other people will be capable of seeing too, without a series of delicately managed gradations. I even go so far as to think that we owe it to our fellow creatures and to posterity to struggle for the advancement of every opinion of which we are deeply persuaded. I do not however mean to say that there is any judge but our own conscience of how we can best work for the advancement of such truths, nor do I mean to say that it may not be right for any of us endowed with special faculties to choose out special work and to decline to join in work for which we think others better qualified and which we think may impede us for our own peculiar province. Therefore while I have seen with much regret that you join into few movements for the public good I have never presumed to think you wrong, because I have supposed that your abstinence arose from your devotion to one particular branch of public spirited work.

Avignon
Dec. 31, 1867

The following passage was written in the letter of Dec. 31, 1867 but was crossed out. It is probably not a part of that letter.

The consciousness of effort, which we are told of, is this state of conflict. The author I am quoting supposes the effort to be only on one side, and he calls it, as I think improperly, an effort because he represents to himself the conflict as taking place between Me and some foreign power, which I conquer or by which I overcome. The obvious truth is that I am both parties to the contest; the conflict is between me and myself - between (for instance) me desiring a pleasure and me dreading self-reproach. What causes Me, or, if you please, my Will to be identified with one side more than with the other, is merely that one of the two Me's represents a more permanent state of my feelings than the other; after the temptation has been yielded to, the desiring I will have come to an end, but the conscience-stricken I may endure to the end of life.
386.1
30 Old Burlington St
W
Nov 5/60
Dear Mrs. Truelove
Indeed I have
not forgotten you
nor the pleasure
I had once in
knowing you.
I wish I were
likely ever to be
well enough to see
you again.
Will you do me
the favor of accepting

368.2
some little works
of mine, as a
small proof of the
pleasure your
letter has given
me
ever yours sincerely
Florence Nightingale

with parcel
Mrs. Truelove
240 Strand
Dear Mrs. Truelove,

Since my return from the Crimea, I have been occupied five years (this last month), without a day’s cessation, in working for the Army with Sidney Herbert the late Minister of War. His death has put an end to my work -

I am now completely an Invalid, almost entirely confined to four walls - and I cannot talk well for more than an hour at a time; or to more than one person in a day -

But I should like to renew an old acquaintance -
now that unfortunately my time is so much more my own -

Could you spend a day here? If you will fix the day, I will faithfully tell you whether any engagement prevents me from seeing you on that day.

Should it be more convenient to you to bring your

385.1 daughter with you pray do so - altho’ I am afraid I should scarcely be able to see her - But it will be a little country air for her.

I am only here for a short time -

Yours faithfully
 Florence Nightingale

Enquire for Miss Mayo’s Oakhill Park
first house to the right as you come into the private road to Oakhill Park houses (with a lodge on the left)

[envelope] Mrs. Truelove
464 Strand
{ or 4 doors from Temple Bar }
N. side of Strand

signed, addressed envelope, M1957.374, pen
Mrs. Truelove
240 Strand
F. Nightingale
12/1/64
IMSS card, M1957.375, pen

with F. Nightingale’s
kindest regards
Dec 16/64

IMSS signed letter, M1957.372.1-3, pen

372.1
August 5/67
35 South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane.
London. W.
My dear Mrs. Truelove
I can’t tell you the pleasure it gave me to think of your kind remembrance of me - Yes, surely, I will “accept” your beautiful work from such a kind friend as you are.
You must excuse my delay in answering your good & sweet sign of

372.2
kindness. I am quite a prisoner to my room - & so overwhelmed with business that I never know what it is to stop unless I can do no more. And yet I would not let any hand answer you but my own - I have no time or strength to choose my words - I am very thankful that, amid much grief &
sorrow & disappointment, 
I am still able to work 
incessantly. Indian 
matters are what 
chiefly occupy me now. 
If I find anything that 
I think may interest you 
among my more recent 
papers, I shall venture 
to send it you - I don’t 
know whether you have 
seen what I now take 
the liberty of asking you 
to accept - nor, if you 
have not, whether it will

372.1
interest you.
Pray believe me
dear Mrs. Truelove
ever most truly & I
may say gratefully yours
Florence Nightingale

372.3
35 South Street, {printed address:}
   Park Lane, 
      London. W.
P.S.
I feel inclined also to send 
you, because you are so 
kindly interested in my 
occupations - not, that 
I am afraid, if I 
will interest you much, 
a copy of a paper of 
mine which was 
drawn up by desire of 
the Poor Law Board & 
presented to the House 
of Commons - as I have 
been much employed
lately about this terrible
question of the Workhouses.
And also a little book
on “Social Duties” by a
Mr. Rathbone of Liverpool.
I can fancy that you
will not agree with it
all. But Mr. Rathbone
is not a theorizer - he
is also a doer. No one
has done more than he
in civilizing his own
town of Liverpool. He
has enabled us to do for
the Workhouse at
Liverpool, (1272 sick
beds) what ought to be
done in London &
everywhere - But I
should never have
done, were I to tell
you of his capital
organizations at
Liverpool. He gives his
money - his heart - his work
F.N.

IMSS signed letter & envelope, M1957.371.1-2, pen

371.1
Sept 5/67
35 South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane,
London. W.
Dear Mrs. Truelove
I remember that your
boy was at Mr. Hawtrey’s
School - & that Mr. Hawtrey
took much interest
in him -
I fancied that it
might interest you to see
the enclosed little book,
if you have not seen it
already -
   I must ask you to
be kind enough to return
it to me, when you have quite done with it, with its two printed Enclosures - as I have promised Mr. Hawtrey, who is now absent from home, to correspond with him about it, when he returns.
ever yours sincerely
Florence Nightingale

The cap which you were so kind as to work for me, is much too smart for me - But I mount it on my head, when my dear mother comes to see me, as she likes to see me in it.
F.N.

{envelope}
25/9/67 3 partridges
Mrs. Truelove
256 Holborn
with F. Nightingale's kindest regards

IMSS signed card, M1957.370, pen

with F. Nightingale's kindest Christmas love & greetings - Dec 23/68

1 Hare
1 Pheasant

2 Rabbits
1 Duck

Evergreens
1 Jar Mincemeat
1 Jar Jam

Mrs. Truelove
256 Holborn
369.1
Carriage paid

\{ 2 brace partridges \\
1 Hare \\
Mrs. Truelove \\
256 Holborn \\
London \\
with Florence Nightingale’s kindest regards \\
21/9/69

369.2
with F. Nightingale’s kind regards

Mrs. Truelove \\
Strand \\
4 doors from Temple Bar \\
N. side

IMSS signed letter, M1957.368.1-2, pencil [black-edged]

368.1
Dear Mrs. Truelove

I cannot help sending you
my best Christmas greetings & love.
I am sure that you will
smile at my Leg of Hampshire
Mutton -
But I hope the Evergreens
will cover this very un=poetic
remembrance.
I was so very glad to hear
of your son’s new position. I hope
he is prosperous.
With hearty Christmas wishes
for you & all you care for
Believe me
ever yours
Dec 23/69        F. Nightingale

368.2

Evergreens
1 Leg Mutton (Hampshire)
Mince pies & Buns
1 Pheasant
1 Brace Partridges
Mrs. Truelove
256 Holborn
Dec 23/69
IMSS signed card, M1957.367, pen

Evergreens
1 Pheasant
1 Rabbit

{printed address:}
Mince Meat & Pie
35 South Street, Cranberries & Apples
Park Lane, & Pears. Beet Root
Mrs. Truelove
256 Holborn

with Florence Nightingale’s truest
Christmas love & best
Christmas greetings
Dec 21/70

IMSS signed letter, M1957.366.1-2, pen

366.1
London Dec 22/71
My dear Mrs. Truelove
I cannot let Christmas pass without one
word of Christmas greeting to you -
A thousand & a thousand good wishes for
all the best Christmas blessings on you & yours
& all you love -
I cannot help sending you a little book of
mine on Lying-in Institutions - not that it is
much in your line but as an “old remembrance”
merely, tho’ not so sweet as thyme.
Now I had taken this great sheet. But
in the press of business & illness I find, alas!
less & less room - I will not say for friendship
or relaxation - those I have long since had to give
up - but for any but the most necessary claims -
(And now I am interrupted unavoidably.)
Believe me ever yours
Florence Nightingale

Do not smile
at my Hampshire
Mutton

366.2
Christmas greeneries
1 Loin Mutton
1 Teal -
mince pies
with a packet

Mrs. Truelove
256 Holborn
{date cut off} arch. 22 Dec 1871
Evergreens 2 pheasants
1 Hare
Mince pies 1 doz

Mrs. Truelove
256 Holborn
with Florence Nightingale’s
kindest Christmas greetings
25/12/72

35 South St.
Dec 27/75

a tiny Christmas greeting
with Florence Nightingale’s very
best Xmas wishes for the very
best Xmas blessings:
27/12/75

My dear Mrs. Truelove

Remembering that you liked Dean Stanley’s Life
of Arnold, I cannot help sending you Miss Yonge’s
Life of a most interesting man (to me) Bishop
Patteson, - tho’ perhaps you may have seen it already.

It is strange to see, in such a man, how, for
theological reasons, he condemns men labouring
quite as zealously as himself in other fields
But for all that he has always seemed to me
the very essence of a Missionary: understanding
as scarcely any one else has done: how to
be the Gospel is the only way to ‘preach
the Gospel’: how ‘the Church’ is only a collection
of any people trying to live like Christ:
& almost everywhere in Vol II.
This with his astounding courage: (I think he
was shot at 6 different years before he
was killed, as he expected): & his practical
way of making his converts into ‘a family’
instead of a ‘Regiment’ seems the real
secret of his success - What that success was
is shown e.g. by his pupil, Atkin, a settler’s son,
(who was killed with himself; & whose
letters are almost as good as his master’s).
Every family, every Institution might be a
‘Church’ in the real meaning of the term??
How I wish that our Training-School for Nurses
at St. Thomas; (which takes in every denomination
& every class) may become a ‘Church’!
I am sure that, if you know any really healthy
young women: healthy in body & mind: (from
the country, best): who would like to become
Hospital or District Nurses, you will think of us:
[we get more applications from gentlewomen
of the right sort than from working women
of the right sort.] I venture to enclose you
2 of our papers.
May I also send your daughter a book about
a country (Egypt & Nubia) where I travelled
25 years ago & which I shall never see again.
Excuse this pencil scrawl.
& believe me yours sincerely ever
F. Nightingale
Jan 5/76
IMSS M1957.364, Regulations as to the Training of Hospital Nurses under the Nightingale Fund, printed form

signed card, M1957.361, pen

- Christmas holly
- 6 Christmas mince pies
- a little book by
  F.N.’s sister, Ly Verney

Mrs. Truelove
256 Holborn

with Florence Nightingale’s
affectionate remembrances - And may the best
Christmas blessings be showered on you & yours
Christmas Day 1877

IMSS signed note & envelope, M1957.360. 1-2, pen {postmarked: LONDON I MR 14 78}

360.1

35 South St
Park Lane W.
March 13/78

Dear Mrs. Truelove

When you were so good as to write to me,
you mentioned some action or trial which
was going to take place as regards Mr. Truelove’s work.
I cannot help feeling very anxious for
your sake to know the result of this:
Pray believe me always with
depth sympathy yours
Florence Nightingale

360.2 [envelope]

Mrs. Truelove
256 Holborn

14/3/78

initialed card, M1957.359, pencil

with a book
& 6 mince pies
& a brace of snipe

Mrs. Truelove
256 Holborn
with F.N.'s
best New Year’s wishes
31/12/78
IMSS unsigned card, M1957.358, pencil

1 leg Hampshire Pork
Mrs. Truelove
256 Holborn
with very best
New Year’s wishes
8/1/80

IMSS signed card, M1957.357, pencil

To enquire Christmas Evergreens
& 4 mince pies
Mrs. Truelove
256 Holborn
with Florence Nightingale’s very best & warmest good wishes for Xmas & the New Year
Xmas Eve 1881

signed card, M1957.356, pencil

To enquire with 1 Teal
Mrs. Truelove
256 Holborn
with Florence Nightingale’s very best New Year’s wishes & kindest regards
11/1/83

unsigned card, M1957.355, pencil

Please forward 1 pheasant
Mrs. Truelove
256 Holborn
13/1/85
IMSS signed note with envelope, M1957.353. 1-2, pencil

353.1

1 hare
Xmas Greenery
6 mince pies

Mrs. Truelove
256 Holborn

with
Florence Nightingale’s
best Christmas greetings
& affectionate
remembrances

Xmas 1885

353.2

hare
holly
6 mince pies

Mrs. Truelove
256 Holborn

24/12/85

unsigned envelope, M1957.350, pencil

a few Christmas Evergreens
& mince pies

Mrs. Truelove
256 Holborn

in remembrance
Xmas Eve

unsigned card, M1957.351, pen

with a hare
a pheasant
American apples
& a few green ferns

signed card, M1957.352, pen

Mrs. Truelove
256 Holborn
Mrs. Truelove 240 Strand
1 Hare 1 Pheasant 1 Rabbit
2 Plants & Evergreens
with F. Nightingale’s best wishes for the New Year

IMSS signed letter, M1957.347.1-2, pen

347.1
General Hospital
Balaclava
June 18/56
My dear Sir

A Newfoundland dog, of huge size, now residing in my hut, is very desirous of a passage home - He would like to go by the “Lion” on Saturday - NB He is not my dog.

A sailor=patient of mine, who goes home by the “Lion”, would take care of him.

His master, (one of those many Medical Officers, who have persecuted my work & maligned my name,) was ordered home in charge of sick, & left his dog in charge of me, who am the “Refuge for the Orphans & the Asylum for the Widdy”, charging me to send him the dog -

The dog cannot write - Is there a Quarter
Master General for dogs?
I remain, dear Sir
  Yours faithfully
  F. Nightingale
I have a good many
bales ready packed
for the “Lion”, if not
too late -
  I shall be very glad
to put the dog on
board wages if any
expence is incurred by
his passage. [end]

{in another hand} To Col Pross
  93 Highlanders

IMSS signed letter, M1957.349, pen, black-edged
{printed address:} 32, South street,
  Grosvenor Square. W.
  Dec 19/63
Dear Madam
  I am sorry to trouble
you about this -
  But your kindness
encourages me -
  The directions to
Printer are on the
title page - And the
200 copies may be sent here
with the account.
  Yours very faithfully
  Florence Nightingale
Miss Craig
389.1
Chicago       March 20/93
            10, South Street, {printed address:}
            Park Lane. W.
Sir
The Baroness Burdett Coutts
      kindly instructed me
to send my M.S. to you
to forward to Sampson
& Low.
      She desired me to
send any special
directions with it
which you will find
pinned inside. But
of course those which
may happen to clash

389.2 [envelope]

wait
a verbal answer, please
or one on a card
The Baroness Burdett Coutts
1 Stratton Street
Florence Nightingale
20/3/93
390.1
Chicago March 20/93
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.
Dear Lady Burdett Coutts
The faithful Private of my
Commanding Officer I have
obeyed in making ready
for to day my M.S. on the
subject of Sick Nursing &
Health Nursing undertaken
at your kind desire
[It has two appendices.]
Time would be saved
if, instead of having it
type-written as I had
arranged to have done
to-day, I might send it
direct to your Printer, and
he might send me direct
a Proof.

390.2.
But, should you desire
to see all papers before
they are decided upon,
shall I send it now at
once to the Type-writers
whom I have engaged to
let me have it finished
at 6 o’clock this afternoon,
if I let them have the M.S.
by 10 o’cl this morning?
If on the other hand you
desire that it should go
straight to the Printer’s,
may I have his name &
address? and may I ask
for the Proof to be sent to me?
You have probably ordered the type you wish, so that I must not ask for a very clear one.
I am afraid that my M.S. is rather longer than you desired. But it can be still further cut down.
Pray believe me dear Baroness ever your faithful servant Florence Nightingale
I have not received the paper on Military Nursing which you wished me to see. But my paper is not Statistical
The 3 papers you kindly sent me I will return to look at
F.N.

390.5 {same as 389.2}

wait a verbal answer, please or one on a card
The Baroness Burdett Coutts
1 Stratton Street
Florence Nightingale
20/3/93
My dearest Home Sister

Thank you a thousand times for your beautiful palm & the dear Daffs - & for (a long while ago) some lovely lilies of the Valley - & for your note & Easter card -

I hope the flowering plants brought love to you & yours in every petal

I am glad you are going on your little holiday - & hope this splendid weather will last & you be refreshed.

I have longed & expected to be able to ask you to come & see me - but I have been 3 months ill now & I don’t seem to get any better - Doctors won’t let me speak now.

May every Easter blessing be showered upon you & may you find joy in all the great things you do for God & women - & may love be with all our people -

the love of God is the earnest prayer of yours ever

F. Nightingale
388.2 [envelope]
Miss Crossland
Nightingale House
S. Thomas’ Hospital
4/4/93 S.E.
IMSS signed letter, M1957.387, pen black-edged

Sept 15/93
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.
Dear Sir Alfred Croft
I cannot thank you
enough for your most
kind letter of 25/30/August
VIII
I shall be in London
at the above address
from Monday 18 to
Monday 25 Sept.
You kindly say that you
will be in London “about
the 20 or 25 Sept. for a
“few days”. If not till the
25th, I could still stay
till the 26th or 27th, for the
pleasure of seeing you
on the afternoon of the

26th, if your kindness
could let me know -
beforehand. I am a
great Invalid.
Pray believe me
most faithfully yours

Florence Nightingale

IMSS incomplete letter, M1957.397, pen [black-edged]

{archivist: May 12, 1869}
that is possible to me, alas.
in mentioning your name
in connection with your
great success & ability
in planning Sanitary
Hospital constructions -
so rare in an Architect.
I beg to remain
my dear Sir
ever your faithful servt
Florence Nightingale
Alex. Graham Esq
London Nov 28/70

Sir

I am extremely glad to hear that Mr. Ernest Hart is to read a paper on “Medical organization in time of War” - more especially as Colonel Loyd Lindsay is to be in the Chair - Col. Lindsay’s recent experience being so very great.

The subject is one in which I take the greatest interest now; & for the last 15 years I have made it a study. Pray present my thanks to the Committee for their kind invitation & desire that I should be present.

But as I am a prisoner to my room from incurable illness & have been so for years, I am afraid that not even my interest could carry me there.

With regard to the second part of the Committee’s invitation, namely that I should send a “communication”, - pray be so good as also to present my thanks to the Committee.
The experience of the present awful war will afford & has afforded indeed materials & information, - of which I hope, if time & strength be spared me, to make some use in turning them to practical account. But, before the end of the War, this would be impossible, - as, under present pressure, I have no power for literary work. And any imperfect conclusions which would be all I could now send you are quite unworthy of your purpose - for no conclusions at which I may now have arrived would be universally applicable. I shall hope to read Mr. Ernest Hart’s paper in print - as he, from having been over the ground, will I am sure supply facts of interest & importance.

Pray believe me
Sir
ever your faithful servt
Florence Nightingale
Edwin Pearce Esq
General Secretary
Lea Hurst Sept 16/70
My dear Fanny

I send you according to your kind invitation, marked on a List the Articles for which we have been most urgently asked in the course of the last day or two.

In a day or two more, we shall probably issue new papers NOT very different from these, which I shall send, as you are so good as to care.

ever yours

Florence Nightingale

{facing this letter, in very faint pencil, not in FN’s hand}
{top half illeg}
X Flannel 5 {illeg illeg}
{illeg} with 3 string tapes
at each end, & at the {illeg} of 6 {illeg}
one such very much needed

IMSS signed note, M1957.394, pencil

2/4/81
10, South Street, {printed address:} Park Lane. W.

Dear Sir

I shall be greatly pleased to see you on Tuesday next (one of the days you kindly offer) at 5 o’clock.

pray believe me your faithful servt

Florence Nightingale

Geo. J.H. Evatt Esq M.D.
395.1

Feb 8/81

10, South Street, {printed address:}

Park Lane. W.

Sir

I am greatly indebted to you for your note of Feb 2., & its enclosure; - your “Notes on a Native Army Hospital Corps for India.”

Your first note of Dec 15 spoke of your wish to “give” me “some particulars as to the actual condition” of the “nursing” “for the European soldier when sick”

And I own that I was in hopes that your communication would be on the actual facts of the present state Surgeon Major Evatt &c &c &c

of the Nursing
From Par. 18 to end your valuable paper appears to be all recommendations And even the Section II on “The existing condition” gives no facts, as to the Patients - what they want & don’t have - what you have observed as to actual neglects, & the sufferings, slow recoveries, or no recoveries, & death caused by such total absence of Nursing.

You will pardon me for
observing that it would be quite impossible to arouse the interest necessary to get anything done without making out a detailed case of (which I know to be a very strong one,) of the evils the Patients suffer, first, - with ‘chapter & verse’ of some type cases: their names & dates.

In all the enquiries we have made as to the Sanitary state of the Army &c &c and they have been many, we have made out our case first And then & not till then

395.1

have followed our recommendations. I know no other way to secure attention.

If you could kindly send me some of the numerous facts which must have fallen under your experience observation about sick & wounded men in Hospital I would go over these, & then claim your kind offer of a visit.

It is difficult enough to arouse attention at anytime: but without such facts it is impossible. I feel as if I could
sarcely undertake any thing more without doing injustice to the two pressing duties I have undertaken already. For I am always overworked, & I am entirely a prisoner to my room from illness.

But if you could kindly ‘start’ me with some facts in writing, I would then try to appoint some afternoon that would be convenient to you to hear more.

ever your & the sick’s faithful servt

Florence Nightingale

IMSS signed letter, M1957.392.1-2, pen

Private April 14/81 & Confidential
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir

I cannot thank you enough for all your invaluable information, both by word of mouth & by letter & book post. It will all be most important to me. And I hope to write to you further questions upon it: or to ask you these questions by word of mouth.

One of them will be: is Purveying now under the Doctors? in India?
at home?
And what form does it take?
is the Purveyor, e.g., a subordinate Commissariat Officer, under the Doctors, in India?
At home are the Purveyors members of the Army Hospital corps under the Medical Officers?
Another question would be: would you, when you have seen more of Military Hospitals at home, tell me whether you consider that the Army Hosp Corps requires any further training?

These are two of the questions which occur to me at once. But all your three papers & above all your viva voce information are immensely interesting.
I have been unhappily obliged to delay thanking you. But I have written the letter to India we proposed.

I enclose the paper you asked for: on the three last pages, p.p. 13, 16, 17, are the particulars concerning our training at St. Thomas’ Hospital you wished to see.
[With your views about authority you will, I am sure, concur with me as to the nature of the authority which should be over the Nurses in a Civil Hospital where there are no men-Nurses.]

My brother-in-law, Sir Harry Verney, M.P. 4 South St, is very anxious to have the pleasure of making your acquaintance.

in haste

pray believe me ever your faithful servt

Florence Nightingale

Geo. Evatt Esq M.D. &c &c

IMSS signed letter, M1957.393, pen

14/4/81

10, South Street, {printed address:}

Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir

In reference to our conversation you told me that, as we know in India it is often a matter of life or death if a man can be attended within an hour of his first seizure. That the “subordinate Medl Dept” (who are Eurasians) are supposed to be always there at the Hospls for this purpose. but that a man may go to the Hospl sick, & knock, & there be no one to open to him, & a life be lost in consequence that such is the lack of regular organization that the Hospital may be shut up
with none but Patients in it.
But do/are these Medical “subordinates”
not to be depended upon
to attend at the Hospitals
to receive the Patients? any
that may come?
And do they not exercise
any supervision or care
over the Ward coolies (Nurses)
or Patients? I mean, in
the matter of training, &
overlooking the Nursing?

Another question in connection
with my asking you, after
you have seen the Hospitals,
to say whether you think any
further training necessary
for the Orderlies - is:
do the Medical Officers
teach & look after the
Orderlies, in the sense of
the current supervision
which exists in the best
Civil Hospitals & Civil
Training Schools for their
female Nurses & Probationers?

Pray forgive my great
interest these questions, &
believe me ever your faithful servt
Dr. Evatt   Florence Nightingale
Private June 24/81

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

My dear Sir

I am much obliged to you for your note & its enclosures. I think I will send you Lord Ripon’s Order in Council (Native Army Hospital Corps) Please return it to me with your criticisms. It relates to the material not the moral arrangement of the Force. No systematic training is & hardly can be compatible. The promotion seems to be intended to be made according to the districts: & each Deputy Geo: Evatt Esq M.D.

Surgeon General of District is to promote on recommendation of Medical Officer of Hospital in which the man is. The system will not be uniform. Nor could it be with District promotion. Training is nowhere suggested. “Female sweepers” are mentioned at p. 8. Are “female sweepers” employed in Military Hospitals in India?
I shall hope to be able to avail myself of your kind offer to come & see me in about a fortnight: would Friday July 8 or Monday July 11 at 5 p.m. suit you? At present I am so overwhelmed with work. We are undertaking the Nursing of the new St. Marylebone Workhouse Infirmary (760 beds) with trained Nurses. This is an immense step in advance; the recognition by Boards of Guardians of the necessity of trained Nursing for pauper patients.

Shall the Army remain behind? You are quite right about Lady Strangford’s prize-giving to Soldiers’ Wives. It is ludicrous, were it not deplorable. These poor women are taught by lectures!! and 2 hours a week! keep up their training!!! And General Officers fall into this! You are engaged to tell me what you think of Orderly training at home Perhaps I might be able to contribute some information in haste

ever your faithful servt
Florence Nightingale
My dear Sir

I have been in such a press of business that I have been unable to answer your kind & interesting letter.

I rejoice to see that you concur on the whole “as to the question of the efficiency of the A.H.C.”, & especially in the view “how essential it is” that “the Army Doctors watch their Hospitals.”

All else is of small importance but as a matter of fact

1. The papers which the “Netley Professor” saw solely concerned Hospitals AT HOME
2. the information “about the A.H.C. men at the Cape, (which was not on paper,) received from various sources, is substantially true, altho’ there may have been on one side or another some slight exaggerations.
3. there is not the slightest doubt that “some capital work has been done by the Doctors out there” - as little as of the NON “capital” work done by the Orderlies out there
4. how the whole thing bears out what you have so often said - e.g. the “Professor’s” illeg the “wonder why if these evils “were going on, immediate “notice was not called to “them on the spot.” [This refers to the paper on the Hospitals at home.] “notice” was “called”, & nothing came of it, as you will have anticipated

5. Medical officers are afraid to speak: they say “I can’t speak for it would stop my promotion”, as you say. Alas! I need not tell you these things. If one could have wanted proof of what you say, it is in the present matter, above cited.

Let us go on.

But [to “convert the converted” is never necessary.]
I note that you think the way to promote “the efficiency of the A.H.C.” would be to link it with the A.M.D. [what “common title” would you propose?]

6. the abolition of Regimental Surgeons has altered the relative position of Doctors & C.O.s of Regiments.

7. the Staff Surgeon liable to frequent removal from the Regiments no longer occupies the position of confidential adviser of the C.O. formerly occupied by the Regimental Surgeon:
It is a logical sequence of the separation that the Doctor should be responsible for his Hospital to his own superior - not to the C.O. of the Regiment.

and that he should have the full control of the subordinates required to carry on the work of the Hospital.

This view would justify the assumption that the soldier when sick or non-effective should pass from the jurisdiction of the C.O. to that of the Medical Officer whilst under treatment, & that all discipline should be administered in Hospitals by the Medical Dept.

But if the Doctor is made thus independent of the C.O. of a Regiment, what position can he occupy in regard to the Sanitary state of the Regiment? You cannot have an Officer independent as it were of the C.O., yet acting as his confidential adviser & suggesting measures for the daily Sanitary welfare of the men.

How would you meet this?
There are other questions of amazing importance: how would you restore the superior ranks to being first in their own profession, Medical Treatment; as intended by Sidney Herbert - & not first in store keeping & list keeping - so that promotion should mean promotion in the noble Medical & Sanitary art, & not promotion to making Lists &c?

This always seems the great question.

And how would you inspire these Staff Doctors with zeal, knowledge & training for training

384.2
“fathering”
& governing their Orderlies of the A.H.C., instead of, as you say, the “Doctors “thinking little of these men.”

I fully enter into every point in your letter. I can now only ask you to inform me of your opinion on those points which strike me (excuse my putting them so briefly & bluntly) & believe me in some haste ever your faithful servt Florence Nightingale

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

G. Evatt Esq M.D. &c &c &c

IMSS from a letter to International Museum of Surgical Science, 347.1
A Newfoundland dog, of huge size, now residing in my hut, is very desirous of a passage home. He would like to go by the Lion on Saturday. N.B. He is not my dog.

A sailor patient of mine, who goes home by the Lion, would take care of him. His master (one of those many medical officers who have persecuted my work & maligned my name) was ordered home in charge of sick, & left his dog in charge of me, who am the “Refuge for the Orphans & the Asylum for the Widdy,” charging me to send him the dog.

The dog cannot write. Is there a quartermaster general for dogs?

I remain, dear Sir
yours faithfully
F. Nightingale

I have a good many bales ready packed for the Lion, if not too late. I shall be very glad to put the dog on board wages if any expense is incurred by his passage.
1 Upper Harley St
5 May 1854
Dear Madam
    Pray do not
trouble yourself to
take a lodging
for poor Mrs.
Tugwood. We will
certainly keep her
till Friday, if she
goes to the Convales-

cent Institution on
that day.
    I will consult
our Medical Men
to day about her
going there & will
tell them that you
have kindly procured her an
order. I trust that the

Advertisement will
produce something.
Believe me
very truly yours
Florence Nightingale

black-edged env

Miss Hildyard
8 St Katharine’s
Regent’s Park
F. Nightingale
1 Upper Harley St  
1 May 1854

Dear Madam

The enclosed form of Advertisement which is all that I can elicit from Mrs. Tugwood’s genius (& opinion of herself,) I have promised to submit to you -

Do you think that a very short abridgement of this might be put into the Times?
It is useless to put in all this fine flourish.

We cannot retain Mrs. Tugwood longer than Monday next & therefore it is desirable that something should be done at once -

I am not aware who is to pay for this Advertisement & I hope that Mrs. Tugwood is not inflicting this upon you -

Will the Governess’ Aid Society at 66 Harley St do this for her? And would you kindly correct & abridge the Advertisement, ? if you think it desirable - I remain, dear Madam,

Yours truly

Florence Nightingale [end 12:90]

Wayne Folder: 2 signed note, 1f, pen letter 33 black-edged paper

Scutari [14:204]

Aug 6/55

Dear Lady Alicia

The Bearer of this has just lost her husband of Cholera at Sevastopol - She seems (unwont edly) to grieve - Do you supply the Widows with black? I should be very glad to do anything for her - Yours ever

F. Nightingale [end]
This letter was written in 1872 by Florence Nightingale to Dr. W. Gill Wylie, then a house surgeon at Bellevue who went to England to study the Nightingale method of nursing and to report on the same to the committee who were organizing the Bellevue Training School for Nurses. It is a gift from Mrs. Wylie who presented it after Dr. Wylie’s death in 1923 on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the school.

Wyane, [black-edged paper]

London Sept. 18/72 [8:57-60]

Sir

First let me explain that your letter from Paris of August 26 was most unfortunately not forwarded to me till the day after that on which you proposed to leave England -

When it reached me, I was overwhelmed with business & illness - (I should perhaps add that my Medical advisers have warned me that if I have business interviews of more than half an hour, it is at the risk of my life) Add to this at the moment of receiving your letter, my niece who was to me like

W. Gill Wylie Esq MD
my own child, Sir Harry Verney
only daughter - had been
but two hours dead - [She would
have done a great work in
God’s service, had she lived.]
But I have been so little used to
regarding my own life or the lives
of those dearest to me as preventing
God’s business that I would have
seen you as you desired, had
it not, as I have explained,
been alas! too late.
Excuse me for giving these personal
details. I wish to shew that
there is no indifference on my
part. that if I could have
been of service, I would.
I wish your Association God speed
with all my heart & soul in
their task of reform - & will
gladly, if I can answer any
questions you may think it
worth while to ask.

You say: “the great difficulty
“will be to define the instructions,
“the duties & the position of the
“Nurses in distinction from those
“of Medical Men” – and you
are “anxious to get” my “views”, “in
“relation to this subject.”
Is this a difficulty?
A Nurse is not a “Medical man
Nor is she a Medical woman.
[Most carefully do we in our
training avoid the confusion,
both practically & theoretically,
of letting women suppose that
Nursing duties & Medical duties
run into or overlap each other
- so much so that though we
have often been asked to
allow ladies intending to be
“Doctors” to come in as Nurses
Miscellaneous small colls 527

to St. Thomas’ Hospital, in order
to “pick up,” - so they phrased it -
professional Medical knowledge
we have never consented even
to admit such applicants - in
order to avoid even the semblance
of encouraging such gross
ignorance & dabbling in
matters of life & death as
this implies.

You who are a “Medical man”,
who know the difference between
the professional studies of the
Medical Student, even the idlest,
& of the Nurse, will readily
see this.] Nurses are not “Medical men.”

On the contrary -
The Nurses are there, & solely there,
to carry out the orders of the
Medical & Surgical Staff including
of course the whole practice of cleanliness, fresh air, diet, &c
The whole organization of discipline
to which the Nurses must be
subjected is for the sole

purpose of enabling the Nurses
to carry out intelligently &
faithfully such orders - & such
duties as constitute the whole practice of Nursing.
They are in no sense the Medical Men.
Their duties can never clash with
the Medical duties.
Their whole training is to enable
them to understand how best
to carry out Medical & Surgical
orders – including (as above) the Whole Art of cleanliness, ventilation food &c &c & the reason
it is to be done this way & not that way

And for this very purpose; – that is, in order that they may be competent to execute Medical directions – to be Nurses & not Doctors; - they must be, for discipline & internal management, entirely under a woman, a Trained Superintendent whose whole business it is to see that the Nursing duties are performed according to this standard

-3-

For this purpose, may I say:

1. that the Nursing of Hospitals, including the carrying out of Medical Officers’ orders, must be done to the satisfaction of the Medical Officers whose orders regarding the sick are to be carried out - [And we may depend upon it that the highly-trained intelligent Nurse & cultivated moral woman will do this better than the ignorant stupid woman. For ignorance is always head-strong.

2. that all desired changes, reprimand &c &c in the Nursing & for the Nurses should be concerted between/referred by Medical Officers &/to Superintendents that rules which make the Matron (Superintendt) & Nurses responsible to the House Surgeons or Medical & Surgical Staff,
except in the sense of carrying out {illeg} Medical orders above insisted on, are always found fatal to Nursing discipline that, if the Medical Officers have fault to find it is bad policy for them to reprimand the Nurses themselves. The Medical Staff must carry all considerable complaints to the Matron - the current complaints, as, for instance, if a Patient has been neglected or an order mistaken, to the Ward “Sister” or Head Nurse who must always accompany the Medical officer in his visits, receive his orders & be responsible for their being carried out. (all considerable complaints against a Head Nurse or “Sister” to go of course to the Matron)

3. All discipline must be of course

-4-
under the Matron (Superintendent) and Ward “Sisters.” Otherwise Nursing is impossible. And here I should add that, unless there is, so to speak, a hierarchy of women, as thus: – Matron or Superintendent Sisters or Head Nurses Assistant & Night Nurses Ward-maids or Scrubbers (or whatever other steps/grades are, locally, considered more appropriate) discipline becomes impossible.

In this hierarchy the higher grade ought always to know the duties of the lower better than the lower grade does itself - And so on to the head: Otherwise, how will they be able to train? – “Moral influence”
Miscellaneous small colls  531

alone will not make a good trainer.
Any special questions which you may like to address to me, I will do my very best to answer - as well as I am able.

But I am afraid that, without knowing your special case, I shall be only confusing, if I add much more now.

I will therefore only now mention as an instance that the very day I received your first message (thro’ Mrs. Wardroper) I received a letter from a well-known German physician strikingly exemplifying what we have been saying as to the necessity of Hospital Nurses being in no way under the Medical Staff as to discipline but under a Matron or “Lady Superintendent” of their own, who is responsible for their carrying out of Medical orders.

You are doubtless aware that this is by no means the custom in Germany - (in France the system much more nearly approaches to our own.) In Germany, generally, the Ward Nurse is immediately - & for every thing – under the Ward Doctor - And this led to consequences so disastrous that, going to the opposite extreme, Kaiserswerth and other German Protestant Deaconesses’ Institutions were formed – where the Chaplain & the “Vorsteherinn” (Female Supt) were virtually masters of the Hospital, which is of course absurd.

My friend then who has been for 40 years Medical Officer of one of the largest German Hospitals in Germany wrote to me that he had succeeded in
placing a Matron over his Nurses
– then: – that after 1½ years she
had been so persecuted that she had
been compelled to resign -
then:– that he had remained another year trying to have her replaced -
lastly that, failing, he had himself resigned his post of 40 years -
believing that he could better work for his reform outside the Hospital than in it.
It seems extraordinary that this first essential - viz. that women should be, in matters of discipline under a woman - should need to be advocated at all.
But so it is.
And I can add my testimony - as regards another vast Hospital in Germany - to of the abominable effects of Nurses being directly responsible not to a Matron but to the Economic Staff & Medical Staff of their Hospital. And I am told on the highest authority that, since my time, things have only got worse.
But I will not take up your
time & my own with more
general remarks which may
not prove, after all,
applicable to your special case
But I think I will venture to
send you a copy of a paper -
the only one I have left [The original
was written by order of the (then)
Poor Law Board for their new
Workhouse Infirmaries & printed
in their Reports. So many Hospitals
then wrote to me to give them
a similar sketch for their
special use, & it was so utterly
impossible for me to write to
all that I abridged & altered my original
paper for their use. And this,
(I fear dirty) copy is the last
I have left. Pray excuse it.]
Again begging you to command
me, if I can be of any use,

for your great purpose, to which
I wish every success & ever increasing progress
pray believe me
Sir
ever your faithful servt
Florence Nightingale
W. Gill Wylie Esq MD
N Y. State Woman’s Hospital

You will find in an Appendix
to the printed paper all the steps
of our Training at St. Thomas’ Hospital
under our admirable Matron, Mrs.
Wardroper. But as she may probably
see this letter, I must abstain from
praising her as it were ‘to her face’,
which all noble natures dislike.
F.N.
June 16/79

10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir,

I cannot thank you enough for your 3 letters: the first written in answer to my questions about the effect of the threatened discontinuance of Public Works:

then the two Articles in the ‘Times of India’: & still more your commentary on these with regard to whether a Water Cess were desirable or not.

Have you yet the Revenue Report for 1877/78?

The ‘one half per cant’ on all the new works in the Dekkan taken together ‘for 76-77' tells terribly against us. I fear
‘retracement’ will fall most
heavily on Public Works, because,
you see, these chiefly affect
the poor people of India
who cannot complain, & not
the British servant of
Government: as the Civil power [end 9:841]

Your last note tells me
that you are going to leave
London at the end of the month.
I have been so ill, because
so overworked, that I have
not been able to claim your
kind promise to come & see
me. But I should be so
very sorry, if you were to go
out of London without my
seeing you. Could you

fix some afternoon about
5 o’clock that it would
be convenient to you to see
me? I would put
off anything that I could
put off if you would give
me a day or two’s notice.
I am very sorry that the
‘Nineteenth Century’ has not
had room for your valuable
paper. But I am rejoiced
that it is to be printed. And
I shall hope to distribute many
copies, if it is published.
I have only the same poor
excuse to give, illness & over
work, for not having written
before -
I had 3 letters on Irrigation & Water Transit chiefly in Madras in the ‘Illustrated News’ of May 10, 24 and 31. If you did not see them & would like to see them, I would send them you. Pray believe me with kind regards to Mrs. Fife ever most truly yours Florence Nightingale Lt. General Fife R.E.

Alas poor India!

Is the Bill for the “relief of indebted agriculturists in the Deccan” said, in the ‘Times’ Telegram of to-day, to be “introduced” by Mr. Hope, the same as that of which you have kindly sent me news from time to time? F.N. How we have broken our promises to these poor people!

Lt. General Fife R.E.

7 Collingham Road
South Kensington
S.W.

16/6/79 {archivist: June 23 79
“ 25 79}
June 23/79

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

My dear Sir

I am afraid that it is going against our Irrigation Public Works in the Report of the P. W. Committee (at which you were examined last year) which is now under consideration.

They say that none but old works improved by us, are remunerative. And they reckon the Sind Works as old works. (& said this, when I reminded them that the Sind Canal returned 5 p.c.)

This is not the case, is it? that the Sind Canals are, like the Canvery, old works improved.

Any day after Tuesday that you could appoint I would gladly seen you at 5: provided I had a day or two’s notice.

most faithfully yours
F. Nightingale
Lt. Gen. Fife R.E.
June 25/79
{printed address:} 10, South Street,
   Park Lane. W.
My dear Sir

Thank you very much for [9:842] your most important information about Sind Canals.

I am appalled by the tide which is running against Public Works now:

P.W. are sure to be cut down first in the present necessity for retrenchment, because that only presses on the natives of India who have no voice

‘Hit him hard: he’s no friends!’ [end 9:842]

I am very sorry to say that my “Friday” & “Saturday” are already taken up: Friday by a lady from Vienna who has come to London on purpose to study our Training Schools for Nurses, (with a view of instituting one at Vienna) & retur leaves England on Saturday -

Saturday with one of our own Training School mistresses (who resumes her post on Saturday night.)

Could you kindly – I am so afraid of missing you - come to me on MONDAY at 5, or any subsequent day.

Or if you are leaving London, on Thursday (tomorrow) at 5? Please let me know:
Nothing but the circumstance that these ladies, as you see, could not put off their visits, would prevent me from putting one of them off: to see you

Pray believe me ever yrs ffully

F. Nightingale
Lt. Genl Fife RE

Lt. Genl Fife RE
7 Collingham Road
Cromwell Road
South Kensington
25/6/79 S.W.

Wayne folder: 21 signed letter, 7ff, pen & pencil black-edged paper

Nov 29/79
{printed address:} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.
My dear Sir

I am very much obliged to your for your kind note & for the copy of the Revenue Report. tho’, as you say, the “comfort” we must derive from it is more future than present.

God speed the Irrigation works [9:842-43]
There is no darker cloud hangs over one than the dread that all these retrenchments that are to take place will be death
to the Public Works as to
the very things upon which
the wealth & welfare of the cultivators
most depends. And so poverty
will come out of economy.
I should be anxious to know
what you think about
the retrenchments in the
P. W., upon which all
the economy seems to
fall.
Are you aware that Mr.
Prinsep is again in
London for a few days –
(so very few that I am

Private
& Confidential
going to see him tomorrow
(Sunday). There is
some scheme afloat about
Punjab Irrigation by a
combined system of numerous
cheap cuts from Rivers,
supplemented by wells
irrigation, and on the
principle of lift as
against flow -
It is now proposed to
work this out, as an
auxiliary to a scheme of
Purchase & Colonization
of Waste Lands - the trial sphere of operation to be in the Punjab - colonization
to be not European but
indigenous - in the form of
encouraging emigration
from over-peopled tracts
to these improvable wastes.
Have you been consulted
about this? or has Mr.
Prinsep seen you?
The scheme does not
originate with him, but
he has been consulted about
it.
I only heard of it last
night.
I am so sorry that
my time is so filled up
to-day that I cannot ask
to see you, even if you had
time to come at such short
notice.
[And I have been very much
reduced in strength by
hard work in the country -
(you kindly ask)
But would you be so
very good as to write me
a few lines giving your
opinion of the Irrigation
scheme by lift &c &c in the
Punjab? [I remember
you did not think Mr.
Prinsep’s ideas feasible-]
& let me have them by
tonight.
And please not to say
anything bout this scheme
(which I have no right
to mention) until you
hear of it publicly.
Something must be done in the way of POPULARIZING Irrigation, if only they rightly know their way in the Engineering point of view.

With kind regards to Mrs. Fife, believe me ever most faithfully yours

Florence Nightingale
Lt General Fife & &

Immediate Ask if there is an answer

Private

{numbers written in pencil on both sides of envelope, vertically}
600 1430 at 140
150 100: 140: 14300
  28600
  2002
  100 200
  400

{illeg}
Lt. General Fife  R.E.
7 Collingham Road
South Kensington

28/11/79 {in another hand: re Mr. Princeps scheme of “loft” instead of “flow” in irrigation}
Miscellaneous small colls

7670: 313 : 10
      5 - 10
      125  10

767) 3130 (4  96
       3060 150 - 10

       12
      56 - 10
      38 - 10
      104 - 10
      106
      28

67) 3530 \46  80
   3068  26
    4620 360

56 1210
  64
  175
  50

(upside down 156 1499
      313 }
\{sideways 350 2364
    175 }

2244
Wayne folder: 22 signed letter, 3ff, pen, black-edged paper

3/1/80
{printed address:} 10, South Street, Park Lane. W.
My dear Sir
  I gladly send back the Bombay Irrigation Revenue Report, which you were so kind as to lend me, because I am always so glad to hear of your having “something to say” (write) on these, your own, subjects.
  I should like very much to know what you thought of Mr. Prinsep’s last (Punjab) Irrigation scheme & your interview with him.
  The Famine Commission is reporting: & I understand Lt. Genl. Fife R.E.

{archivist: Genl Fife 1 man 80} that their verdict is very much more favourable in the matter of Irrigation Returns (saving poor Bombay & Madras Irrigation Co.) than that of the House of Commons ‘Public Works’ Committee.
  I pray for a happy New Year & many of them to you & yours. and oh how I pray, because it seems almost past praying for, for a happy New Year for poor India.
What do you think of the Deccan Ryots Relief Act?
O how she suffers -
And what do you think, in the other direction, of the stoppage of Public Works?
And what do you think of Affghan affairs? And are steps, making in your sense to employ natives? [end 9:843]
I have so wished to see you to talk over all these things & hear what you have to tell me: but it is the last straw that breaks the camel’s back, you know: & mine is a good big straw.
And the camel’s back is all but broken
ever faithfully yrs
F. Nightingale

{in a circle 11} with a book
Lt. General Fife R.E.
7 Collingham Road
South Kensington
3/1/80 {written on the side in pencil: Miss Nightingale}
11/12/83
Dearest Maude

Thank you very much -
It was to ask Mrs. Green for
Sir Louis Mallet’s address on
the Riviera - & if I may write
to him on Indian affairs -
& tell her that I am
always thinking of her - & cannot
help wishing her joy in the
midst of sorrow -
& I hope she will some
say fulfil her kind
promise of making an
appointment to see her/me -
but tell her how I am
{archivist: At 20}

placed just now - & how
    driven -
but I am always thinking
    of her plans -
And say that, about
Indian affairs, we don’t
apologize - we think
it the grandest triumph
of the time - for the
first time in our rule
250 millions of people
are satisfied with our
rule - quite contented
Go we might disband
the army - Russia’s invasion

is an impossibility now
    God speed the right -
    ever your loving
        Aunt Florence
My dear Sir

I am not bad but should be glad to see you it if were possible to-day: if I am not too late but probably I am

faithfully yours

Dr. Ord F. Nightingale

To Dr. Ord 1890

Nightingale (F)

Wayne folder 25 signed letter, 1f, pen [letter 57] black-edged paper

March 18/92

Dear Sir Lintorn Simmons

I beg to thank you for your kind note -

If it is quite convenient to you to come to see me on Monday 21st, one of the days you kindly propose, at 5.15 p.m., I shall be grateful.

Pray believe me yours faithfully

Florence Nightingale

Wayne folder 24 signed letter, 2ff, pencil [letter 56] black-edged paper

10 South St March 5/90

My dear Sir

I am not bad but should be glad to see you it if were possible to-day: if I am not too late but probably I am

faithfully yours

Dr. Ord F. Nightingale
March 7/1901
{printed address:} 10, South Street, Park Lane. W.

My dear Miss Allsop,

How can I thank you enough for the beautiful moss, ivy & snow drops. We can buy nothing half nor one quarter so beautiful in London - It made my room look fresh & beautiful like Embley.

I am so deeply grieved to hear of the Allsops having to leave Warner’s Farm after having been there so many years. I feel as if Wellow will not be Wellow without them - And I am afraid when it comes it will be a great wrench for your Mother at her great age - It was so nice to think that she was so bright & active at 86.

Please give her my kindest regards. I cannot tell her how sorry I am.

Would you convey my kind regards to poor old
Mrs. Humby whom I can remember almost ever since I was a child. It seems a cruel pity that she has to leave.

We are afraid that the War is not near its end. It is an anxious time for every one - but especially for those who have friends in it. But I have seen enough of War to see how it brings out the good in every one on the right side & makes gallant men of them. I pray God that they may come back safe.

With kind regards to all believe me ever yours sincerely

Florence Nightingale

env:

Miss Allsop
Warner’s Farm
Wellow
Romsey

7/3/1901 Hants
Wayne unsigned diet list, 1f, pen [letter 32]  [14:281-82]

{archivist: 189 Florence Nightingale b: 1820}

Average Daily Issue of Extra Diets
supplied from F. Nightingale’s kitchens
to the Extra Diet Rolls of the Medical Officers
Barrack Hospital
Scutari
from 15th January, 1855 to 15th February

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Supplied</th>
<th>Public Stores</th>
<th>Private Stores</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25 Gallons Beef Tea</td>
<td>80 lbs Beef</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 “ Chicken Broth “</td>
<td>28 Chickens</td>
<td>12 Chickens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40 “ Arrow Root “</td>
<td>Arrow Root</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 “ Sago “</td>
<td>Sago</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>240 Quarts Barley Water</td>
<td>Barley</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0 “ Rice Water Rice</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 “ Lemonade Lemons</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 “ Milk Milk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>275 portions Rice Puddings</td>
<td>Rice</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 bottles Port Wine</td>
<td>Port Wine</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 “ Marsala Marsala</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 “ Brandy Brandy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 lbs Jelly Isinglass</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 doz Eggs Eggs Eggs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40 Chickens 28 Chickens 12 Chickens</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Wayne folder 29 signed letter, 1f, pencil black-edged paper

{printed address:} 35 South Street,  
Park Lane,  
W.  

Dear Mr. Rawlinson  

I am very much  
obliged to you for your full & prompt  
letter - I will re-write  
my scrap, & hope to  
illuminate the Office in  
question - out of your fullness -  

Pray remember me  
kindly to Mrs. Rawlinson  
I say “remember”, tho’ I have  
ever seen her - alas! -  
ever yours sincerely  
F. Nightingale  

Wayne folder 30 signed letter fragment, 1f, pen black-edged paper

require it.  
I have been & am  
very ill. With kind  
regards to Peter,  
believe me  
Sincerely yours  
F. Nightingale
Two blue bundles are for two prisoners, [\textcolor{red}{14:431-32}]
Invalids, whom I was requested to provide
with clothes - a man of the R. Artillery &
one, I believe, of the 89th.

Sir

Should you have no objection to
the distribution, I venture to request
that you will be good enough to
allow those \textit{P} Invalids who have not
received their “bundles”, especially those
upon the enclosed List, to receive the
bundles I send.

Also, I send a few prs slippers
which will be useful to some - &
some newspapers &c for the Invalids.

Begging to apologize to you,
Sir, for the trouble I am giving

I remain, Sir
Your obedt servt

15/7/56 Florence Nightingale
Dr. McPherson
in Medical Charge
1 Upper Harley St
5 May 1854

Dear Madam

Pray do not trouble yourself to take a lodging for poor Mrs. Tugwood. We will certainly keep her till Friday, if she goes to the Convalescent Institution on that day.

I will consult our Medical Men to day about her going there & will tell them that you have kindly procured her an order -

I trust that the Advertisement will produce something. Believe me very truly yours

Florence Nightingale

with a cat 
B servant {illeg praises?}

Miss Hildyard
8 St. Katharine’s
Regent’s Park
F. Nightingale
30 Old Burlington St.

W. 22/11/58

[14:986]

Dear Mr. Dean [Henry Hart Milman]

In remembrance of your old protection of me, and not by any means as a literary work, will you allow me to send you a copy of my Report to the War Office?

It is an old story now - Many of the reforms recommended in it have already been carried out - many are being done – and many have still to be done –

I hope you will therefore not tell me, as so many have, that my task is done & that I must rest -

I must ask you to remember that my Report is really “confidential” & in no sense a public document - Altho’ prepared at Lord Panmure’s desire & at the special personal command of the Queen, it was not printed by Government (but only by myself at my own expense for
the sake of easier correction,) & has never been laid on the table of the House - It must not therefore lie on your table either, please - And, tho’ I don’t expect you to read it, I do that you will not let any body else read it.

With kind regards to Mrs. Milman, believe me

Yours sincerely obliged
Florence Nightingale

(5) signed letter, 8 ff, pen black-edged paper

30 Old Burlington St.
W.
Dec 20/58

My dear friend & protector

I cannot thank you enough for your letter – so few people give me that kind of sympathy, (which is the only kind I care for) - so very few -

We have not neglected a hold upon the press & reviews - (NOT à la
Louis Napoleon, however)
Please read an Article
in the forthcoming
Westminster Rev. for
Jany/59 on the Sanitary
state of the Army –
Poor Howell, who is
dead, “did” us in the
Edinburgh - by no
means a masterly
but a sound Article -
[We were obliged to take
what we could - Mr.
Henry Reeve of the Edin.

being a troublesome
toady -]

Chadwick wrote
an Article for us
for the Quarterly –
masterly but not
sound - But Mr. Elwin
refused to take it
in - Indeed I hardly
wonder - it- as it
was written in a
language which no
Philologist would
have recognised for
any known tongue,
living or dead -
And, besides, Chadwick put, as is his wont, dragon’s tails & dog’s heads to all his Statistics -

[When the Austrian ecclesiastical authorities wish to deter people from marrying within the prohibited degree, they say that the offspring of such marriages have (not scrofulous constitutions but) dog’s heads, cat’s tails &c. So does Chadwick in HIS denunciations) -

-2-

However, it is evident that Mr. Elwin knows nothing at all about our subject & cares less – & is afraid, above all, of compromising his Review either way –

Now, if you would undertake it, which indeed I hardly dare to ask, all these objections would be done away with - And the “Quarterly” would come round to our side directly.
I am afraid you will say that you have not time – & that (not the Physical but) the Philosophical view of history is yours -

If it be really so, could you not recommend somebody who would do the thing, as you suggest, viz. as one of the public, – not going into the quarrels & the recriminations of the past; but making use of the past only as a warning for the future; - without saying who was to blame for that past; but shewing how entirely our future holding of India must depend upon our being able to maintain 100,000 white troops there, - in such a sanitary state as will {illeg} diminish the frightful sickness & death which would otherwise prevent this country from being able to supply such a drain upon its population –
This view is all untouched at present by the Government -
You will remember what La Rochefoucauld says of the Fronde - something to the effect that there never was so much design without action, so much action without design, so many fine words & so little good sense, so much enterprise & so little effect -
That is our Horse Guards & War Office – altho’ we have four working Commissions at work upon them now, on this subject.

-3-
If you would grant our request, which I almost fear to hope, I would not give you the trouble of reading anything more than my "Report" - It is not necessary to mention it - or me - And Mr. Sidney Herbert’s Blue Book on the Army would do quite well for the heading of the Article - I would send you this Blue Book, with just a few
passages marked to
save you trouble & we
could also tell you what the Govt has
not done & what it has, up to the
present time.

Do please think
of us & you will for
ever oblige your always
grateful & faithful
beggar

Florence Nightingale

I send you a “Sanitary
Contribution” of mine,
(not at all confidential
but only anonymous,)
which gives our Army

Sanitary history up
to the latest date -
at p.p. 11, 12.

F.N.

(6) signed letter, 3 ff, pen black-edged paper

April 4/70

Sir

I feel sorry to have given
you trouble - But my original
disinclination to have a
private letter circulated is
increased by seeing it in
print.

If it is circulated at all
I think it must be corrected
thus: – after “skill”

“One of the most distinguished
Soldiers & Commanders, whose
authority every man in the
Corps would value (perhaps
more than that of any other
officer) who takes a great
interest in our Volunteers,
as he does in every thing which bears in itself the spirit of Christian independence and moral discipline, - lately said to me, among other results of his experience, that the men can do so much for each other - If the junior men feel that their Seniors never speak a word that does not encourage & promote the honourable efficiency of the Corps, - that they keep up to the mark in skill, in discipline, in self-command, striving to further their manliness & their moral & physical character, - they, the "juniors, naturally & inevitably fall into the same tone. And I can wish no body of men a better wish than to render themselves or to keep themselves worthy of the praise of this great Commander who has done more for the high efficiency, for the moral & sanitary good of the Soldier, than any man since Sidney Herbert"

I am sure that you will kindly understand that, tho’ reluctant to cause you inconvenience, I scarcely think it right to use any man’s name or
Lord Napier of Magdala’s name without his leave, which he is too far off for me to obtain, in any other than a quite private letter -
I beg to remain
Sir
ever your faithful servt
Florence Nightingale
C.L. Lordan Esq
Hony Secy
IIld Hants Rifle Volunteers

(8) signed letter, 2 ff, pen black-edged paper [8:332]

35 South Street, Xmas Day/71
Park Lane, {printed address:}
W.

Dear Mr. Rawlinson
I must thank you for all your kind hints & suggestions & valuable papers on the subject of my “Lying-in Institutions” -
All will be carefully considered when I came to my second Edition, please God. [end 8:332]
A thousand & a thousand good wishes for the best Christmas & New Year’s blessings on you & Mrs.

Rawlinson & all you care for! & believe me ever
most truly yours
Florence Nightingale
35 South St W.
June 7/73
Dear Lady Augusta Stanley

It seems to myself quite impertinent of me to suggest (what I am sure will have occurred to you, if desirable) that M. Mohl would be of use here with his Persian on the Shah’s Visitation.
I have not had the least communication with M. or Mme Mohl on the subject - & have not the least idea whether he would come if asked -

Don’t trouble yourself to answer on this point your impertinent but ever faithful servt
Florence Nightingale

35 South St
Park Lane W
To Dec 31/74
Dr. Reinhold Rost

Sir
I do not like to let pass the Old Year [10:400-01] without at least thanking you for your very kind note of Oct 5, offering, on the recommendation of Sir Bartle Frere, to send me books out of your Library to consult, I have not
sooner availed myself of so good an offer, because I found that the books I needed (Administration Reports & the like) were only to be had from the Departments and I would not trouble you with the “negotiation.” But I am now going to venture upon your kindness: & to ask whether I may have

1. Dictionary of Indian Terms
   by Horace Hayman Wilson

2.a Report of the Indigo Commission
   1860
   and, if possible,

3. some sketches or drawings
   of miserable Bengali huts
   by Chinnery

I am working at a report on the social relations of Zemindar & Ryot, & Land Tenure in India: & these things would be very useful to me -

Also:

could you send me any Vol: in which I could find

4. Lord Cornwallis’ “Permanent Settlement” itself? [I have the “Bengal Regulations” Vol. I.]

I shall be greatly your debtor [end 10:400]

& beg to remain

Sir
ever your faithful servt

Florence Nightingale
35 South St  
  Park Lane W.  
  Feb 22/77

Sir

I trust that you will forgive the impertinence of a stranger applying to you for information on the subject of Irrigation in Bombay or Sind, with which your name is so justly connected.

I am not however guilty: It is Sir Bartle Frere who urges me: to “indicate” to you “what I want.”

For several years I have been intensely interested in the Irrigation subject: tho’

principally as concerns Bengal & Madras -

I will not trouble you further until I know whether you would consider me unwarrantably troublesome in asking for some information

Pray believe me, Sir,  
ever your faithful servt  
  Florence Nightingale

Col. Fife

I venture to send a very insignificant pamphlet as an earnest of my interest in the matter.  

F.N.

Lt. Col J.G. Fife R.E.
&c &c &c
3 Byng Place  
Gordon Square
22/2/77
35 South St
Park Lane W.
June 20/78

My dear Sir

I am so very much indebted to you for all your kindness - & especially for sending me that beautiful Amendment of my Irrigation Map - that I know not how to thank you.

I showed it, as also the Sind Irrigation Map, to the new Under Secretary for India here yesterday: & shall show both to Mr. Caird, who is going out as Famine (Agricultural) Commissioner to India, to-day -

Mr. Stanford can put in all your corrections upon the stone:

& he will lithograph the lovely Sind Map
[It cannot be photographed because of the colours.]
The colours will be put in by hand -

Thank you too very much for the Statement from the 'Administration Report' of 1876-77 & for the Statement of ‘Works in progress,’ which I have studied with the utmost pleasure -

as also for the Extract/Govt Resolution about the preparation of detailed projects for the Easter Deccan &c - with so true an acknowledgment, (tho’ scarcely any acknowledgment can be worthy,) of your immense work.

To have done such a work for Sind & the poor Deccan is greater than to be a Bismarck or even a Cavour. It is creating life -

& will go on extending its benefits. Your ‘works will follow’ you.

– In the ‘Deccan Riots Commission’ Report there is a curious tribute to your Lakh Canal. It attributes the poor people not using the water to their indebtedness & utter slavery to money-lenders -

[That is an awful Report.]
Sir Arthur Cotton was to be examined to-day
for the first time. I feel so very anxious
to know how he proceeds. Your evidence will have been very useful to him. Mr. Stanhope
told me he would have several days.
They will not ‘report’ this Session.

I shall certainly avail myself of your
great kindness to ask for further information.
I am writing now against time but shall
write more at length & hope to see your
‘List’ Pray believe me

ever yours faithfully & gratefully
Florence Nightingale

Col Fife R.E.

{envelope}

Col Fife R.E.
Wark on Tyne
Hexham
21/6/78

(14) signed letter, 9 ff, pen black-edged paper

{printed address:} 10, South Street,
Park Lane, W.
Dec 20/78
My dear Sir
I am very glad to hear from you again & to know you so near.

1. I send the Revise of the Irrigation Map of India with the two Proofs from which it was corrected.

Please go over it & say whether it is now exactly as it should be: before I have some copies made for distribution. Sir Arthur Cotton wishes to have six:

How many will you have?

It is to you we are indebted for this:
2. Thank you very, very much for the Gujerat & Deccan List of Irrigation Works proposed for the next 10 years.

It warms & cheers one’s heart. O if they could be carried out!

I had just been reading a private official Report (from Simla) of the latest date dwelling on the money famine among the people - following in the steps of the grain famine, - & no way of meeting it but by carrying out Public Works, advancing ‘Takavi’ for wells &c – [these after consequences of famine, so terrible to think of for the half starved & ruined survivors - & which are in England scarcely thought of -]

And now there comes a Telegram – misery twice told from Bombay saying that no new works are to be undertaken - all public works in progress to be suspended – no applications to be sent in - all expenditure to be retrenched &c &c.

Do you believe this will be carried out? It is ruin to the people. 

[end 9:840]
3.
I was deeply grateful to you for the notice of the new Bill for the ‘relief of indebted agriculturists in a part of Bombay Presy’ –
It is almost too good to pass:
Can you tell me whether the native members of the Legisle Council waived their opposition & what has been the fate of the Bill?

4. {archivist: Dec 20/78}
But my principal question is: are you going to stay some little time in London?
If so, may I hope to see you: and when?
If you are going away almost immediately, might I see you tomorrow (Saturday) at 5. or even to-day (Friday) at 5?
Please send word by Bearer:
ever yours sincerely
Florence Nightingale
I ought to congratulate you on your promotion as Major General: but I am so very
sorry to hear that there is any difficulty about “compensation”

N.B.

5. I want to ask you to be so very good as to revise some thing I have written about what you told me as to preparing land for Irrigation &c in the Deccan & Sind: [end 9:840]

F.N.

6. It seems almost too grievous now to recur to the Famine: But completed Reports are now coming in giving the Mortality at actually higher than the estimate I gave and as over 6 millions.

Do you remember the papers moved for & presented to Parliament, just before it rose in August?

These gave the Famine Deaths at 1,300,000. Now those Deaths were the Registered Deaths. - I asked at the time what was the estimated proportion of registered Famine Deaths to total actual Famine Deaths: but received no answer.

Shortly after I received from Simla a bundle containing the same papers as those presented
to Parlt: but it contained
one more in which the
registered Deaths were
estimated as 22 percent of
the total Deaths from Famine.

And the Reports now coming
in & closely entering into all
the Deaths, figure by figure,
give the total ascertained
Mortality very much the same
as the estimated mortality is
given in that Simla paper,
not presented to Parlt.

These Reports are not yet
published.

The Famine is forgotten -
People’s minds are so taken up
with this Affghan War on one
side or the other that they
forget the far deeper tragedy
than any that can be acted
there which took place but

-3- {archivist: Dec 20/78}

one short year ago here in
Southern India: - an interest
of immeasurably greater
magnitude.

I have made no use, public
or private, of these facts.

I was too heart-sick [end 9:818]
F.N.

Major General Fife R.E.
&c &c
My dear Sir

Thank you very much for your note about “Culturable Land” &c in Sind. What you kindly told me & what you wrote is very valuable to us.

I shall hope to see you again next week:

But it would hasten & improve our operations very much, if you would be so very good as to see Mr. Edwd Prinsep, – so many years ‘Settlement Commissioner’ in the Punjab, – brother to the Statistical Mr. Prinsep in the India Office, who, I believe, filled up the forms which Mr. E. Prinsep
prepared, - of which I showed you some figures when I had the pleasure of seeing you last week.

Mr. Ed. Prinsep is only in England for a fortnight. He would call upon you any day this week at any hour you would be so good at to appoint: either at your own house or at any place you would fix to meet him,

He is at
12 Bottom Row
Piccadilly
for the next few days -

We are anxious to make the most, as you will see, of your invaluable knowledge of the P. W. which are in fact your creation of Sind & Bombay.

Have you seen Col Merriman’s Bill? It is in the “Times of India”? [end 10:147]

Pray believe me yours most faithfully
Florence Nightingale
Genl Fife RE

{envelope}
ask if you shall wait for an answer
M. Genl Fife RE
7 Collingham Road
South Kensington

12/2/79
March 4/79
{printed address:} 10, South Street,
   Park Lane. W.
My dear Sir
   I am extremely obliged
to you for your kind letter.
I am so very much interested
in all your objects.
   The Civil Engineering paper will do immense real
good for the native particularly at this
time; and I long to
see it in print. Of course
nothing real ever does
sudden good.
2. You no doubt saw, some time ago, Sir R. Temple’s
   ‘Minute on the Famine’
of Dec 1877, acknowledging
the immense value of your plans of works for
   Famine Relief Works.
Mr. Hewlett, the Acting Sanitary Commr for Bombay Presy,
who did duty in the Famine,
told me of a pupil of yours Burke?, who had been
of the greatest service by
“following the water” in
procuring a pure water-supply. I looked in vain in the Reports
for the meaning of his
“following the water.” No doubt you can kindly tell me.
When I received your note, I
sent to Mr. Prinsep’s to learn if he had left England. he had not: & I have reminded him of his promise to you. This is entirely with an interested motive: I want to know your opinion of his wells & low level canals views I hope very much that you will kindly spare me an afternoon then in order to give me your instruction upon that & some other things.

5. I send 2 Copies of the final Revise of the Irrigation Map for your acceptance. The Sind contribution is a noble addition to the life-giving water power of India. May God bless you for it. I have had but few copies made, because I hope that every year we shall have to be making additions to this Map: & that every year it will required ‘correction’.

Sir Arthur Cotton has written me an unhappy letter: but I think the Sight of the Map will cheer him up.

Pray believe me ever yours most sincerely Florence Nightingale Genl Fife R.E.

Why did not Mr. Caird visit Godavery, Kistna, Tanjore & Sind? & the Bombay Presy Tanks? F.N.
April 3/79
{printed address:} 10, South Street,
   Park Lane. W.
My dear Sir
   I am so very glad that your paper “The Civil Engineering Profession in India” is finished. It is of very great importance particularly at the present time when every thing seems to be seething up & brought under discussion in our Government of India - & when it would seem that we must admit natives much more into public & professional life, & govern less by Departments, as you say, if we Genl Fife R.E. are to go on at all.
   I was rejoiced to hear such an eminent Engineer say that there was so much talent for engineering among the natives.
   [Mr. Caird, the Famine Commissioner, is enchanted with the results of Lake Fife which he has just seen.] [end 10:679] I am rather tried by business beyond my strength now: & I am afraid I am a very poor judge of your paper. But it interests me exceedingly. If you would be so kind as to send it me, as you
proposed: Or if you had
time to bring it me on
Saturday at 5 or Monday
at 5, if either day would
suit you & you could let me know, & I could see
you for a few minutes – I
should be very glad.

Have you heard again of
Mr. Prinsep? And has he
sent you a copy of the
“Irrigation Statistical” figures
for Bombay & Sind for which
your better knowledge to/ was to
correct?

Pray believe me
ever sincerely yours
Florence Nightingale

Genl Fife RE
7 Collingham Road
Cromwell Road
S. W.

3/3/79
Embley Dec 29  [7:759-60]

My dear Sir  Your book has just arrived, resplendent in beauty within & without - and promises me & mine many a pleasant hour, for which I thank you ‘d’avance’ most kindly. I am truly obliged to you for thinking of us - many of the poems are new to me, many almost as beautiful as the Voices of the Night. I cannot but sigh a regret entre nous, that such a born Poet should waste his time in Translations - Difficult as it is to give, as he does, the translation of the idea, not the words, creditable as it is, to be thus the “Poet of the Poet” - yet I had rather give Mr. Longfellow a Library of Grammars & Dictionaries, to distribute to such of his friends as ask him to make them acquainted with this or that poetry, provided he would spend the time in giving us some of his original music - and surely their time it would be better spent among the irregular Verbs, than his genius wasted in the Translation - D’Israeli, who is a condensed edition of Presumption, says, that life is too short for him
to read, there is only time to write -
he might have said it with some
truth of Mr. Longfellow - The Goblet
of Life especially, which was new to
me, I could not leave till I had
learnt it by heart - it is so unlike
the dawdling poetry of the day, whose
spirit is sweet, but it is the spirit of
the evening, of the long shadows on the
grass, & of the repose which has been
earned & may be yielded to. It is
not the spirit of the morning - now, in
Mr. Longfellow, the light even on the
face of death, is that of the dawn,
so different from the setting light of
the day which is done - he always
reminds me of the “Veit” of the two
Maries at the sepulchre, which
speaks of all sorts of dawns. I think
Titian himself makes our Saviour
too much of the resigned ascetic,
too little of the overcomer. Is not the
English idea of Christian poetry likewise
too Titianesque? Mr. Longfellow’s
great thoughts carry one upwards,
Wordsworth’s only make one “cool
grots” to dwell in.
I will not occupy your time any
longer, as, to give an American
news, who has it before the time
the event takes place in England,
would be absurd - Our friend
Mrs. Bracebridge is in Paris, where
I hope she is recovering her spirits,
shaken by her cousin Mr. Mill’s
dreadful calamity, whose accident you
may have heard of - shooting his cousin
Sir John Mor{illeg}
{from the first page}
Mrs. Mackintosh has just disappointed us by refusing to
visit us this Christmas but I hope she has only put us off
With all our
kindest
remembrances
believe me
yrs every truly
Florence Nightingale
U Iowa signed letter prob to Harriet Martineau, University of Iowa

39 Old Burlington St
London W
Feb 28/59
I cannot help writing
one line to acknowledge
the receipt of the
precious M.S., to say
that it has been sent on by hand to
Mr. Smith & that
he took it himself
from the Messenger-
   I will write tomorrow.  [end 14:1022]
   Yours very gratefully
   F. Nightingale

U Iowa initialed note to unnamed recipient

March 9/82
I am so very sorry--for you & for myself.  [1:763]
I had 5 Persian kittens-
And now I have not one.
   There are four little graves in the garden
      2 black kittens
      2 tabby  "
The fifth was a most beautiful white kitten.
   It is dead too.  All thorough-bred
beauties.
3 or 4 of them were promised.
   F.N.
10 South St., W.
July 20/84 [1:816]

Dear Sir [Mr Turner]

May I trouble you to be so very kind as to give me information or to tell me where I can get information about a poor woman giving her name as Mrs Keith
11 Beaun St.
Park St.
[I know nothing of her] who called here last night after 10 o’clock asking for assistance?

She told a rather confused story of her mother having been "discharged incurable" from St Thomas’ Hospital (disease: cancer) & having got an order for Eastbourne, whither she must go tomorrow (Monday) morning or lose her turn.
And to get her mother there she asked for help.

In your thoroughly looked-after district, probably all is known about this poor woman. And I will gladly contribute to this kind of help, if it is thought well to give it her. But it is quite impossible for me from increase of illness a
& over work to enquire
into or look after the
case myself.
   Again asking your
pardon for troubling
you & trusting in
your kindness, believe me
yours faithfully
Florence Nightingale
Excuse pencil which
I am obliged to use.
Mr Turner
10 South St. June 28/87
Thank you, dear Sister Sibbald,
for send to enquire after me.
I am becoming worse than usual,
but that is to be expected -
& I am thankful that
God still gives me power
to work.
And how are you?
And how is your work?
All which interests me more
than ever.
    God bless you.
    ever yours affly
    F. Nightingale

ev, no stamp: Miss Peddie
(Sister Sibbald)
King’s College Hospital
Dear Miss Johnson,

I am sorry to say that before I received your note, to the Cottage Hospital which I mentioned to Miss Hincks a Matron had been appointed. We have been offered another at Leicester. I doubt it suits you: if you wish to hear more about it, would you write to Mr Bonham Carter?

Yes surely I would gladly see you, if you wish it, tho’ overwhelmed with business interviews. Would January 17 at 5 o’clock suit you? Or if not Jan. 16? Please say: your faithful servt

F. Nightingale
London June 11 1870

Sir

In reply to yours of June 7, I beg to say that, being entirely a prisoner to my room from illness, I have not been able to see your Porcelain Baths & Porcelain Sinks in use but that, from the careful reports which I have received of them, I have advised their adoption as the best Baths & Sinks for hospital use. Pray excuse the delay of my answer, caused by business and illness.

typed
35 South Street
4 January 1878

Medical University of South Carolina, College of Nursing, Historical Collection. I letter with envelope, pen

Oct 21/87
[printed address] 10, South Street
Park Lane, W.
To the Head Policeman
in charge: Grosvenor Gate

Sir

Might I be allowed to send a little Tea & Coffee this afternoon to your 10 or 12 men, if they cannot otherwise obtain it while on duty?

We beg to thank the police for their unfailing services—
yours faithfully

Florence Nightingale
If you accede, please say at what hour?
& for how many?
Envelope:
To the
Head Policeman
In charge
Grosvenor Gate
Florence Nightingale
21/10/87
Dear Sir [Mr Turner]

May I trouble you to be so very kind as to give me information or to tell me where I can get information about a poor woman giving her name as Mrs Keith 11 Beaun St. Park St. [I know nothing of her] who called here last night after 10 o’clock asking for assistance?

She told a rather confused story of her mother having been "discharged incurable" from St Thomas’ Hospital (disease: cancer) & having got an order for Eastbourne, whither she must go tomorrow (Monday) morning or lose her turn. And to get her mother there she asked for help.

In your thoroughly looked-after district, probably all is known about this poor woman. And I will gladly contribute to this kind of help, if it is thought well to give it her. But it is quite impossible for me from increase of illness a
& over work to enquire into or look after the case myself.
  Again asking your
pardon for troubling
you & trusting in
your kindness, believe me
yours faithfully
Florence Nightingale
Excuse pencil which
I am obliged to use.
Mr Turner

Private collection, Albuquerque NM

10 South St. June 28/87
Thank you, dear Sister Sibbald,
for send to enquire after me.
I am becoming worse than usual,
but that is to be expected -
& I am thankful that
God still gives me power
to work.
And how are you?
And how is your work?
All which interests me more
than ever.
      God bless you.
      ever yours affly
      F. Nightingale

env, no stamp: Miss Peddie
(Sister Sibbald)
King’s College Hospital
Hawaii Nurses’ Association. black-edged card

MR HOWE
  Please send 3 blotting books 2/ or 2/6
      another ink-stand like the
      6/6 one
      the Magnum Bonum pons 263
      Medium
Please charge me for the paste board sent with
the Photographs. I will return the Board (wood)
1/9/77 Florence Nightingale
Dear Sir [Mr Turner],

May I trouble you to be so very kind as to give me information or to tell me where I can get information about a poor woman giving her name as Mrs Keith 11 Beaun St. Park St.

[I know nothing of her] who called here last night after 10 o’clock asking for assistance?

She told a rather confused story of her mother having been "discharged incurable" from St Thomas’ Hospital (disease: cancer) & having got an order for Eastbourne, whither she must go tomorrow (Monday) morning or lose her turn. And to get her mother there she asked for help.

In your thoroughly looked-after district, probably all is known about this poor woman. And I will gladly contribute to this kind of help, if it is thought well to give it her. But it is quite impossible for me from increase of illness a
& over work to enquire
into or look after the
case myself.
   Again asking your
pardon for troubling
you & trusting in
your kindness, believe me
    yours faithfully
    Florence Nightingale
Excuse pencil which
I am obliged to use. [end]
Mr Turner
Dearest

I am afraid it would be quite impossible to me either to get Dr. Sutherland down here today – or to see you myself, which indeed without him would be of little use - And tomorrow we are so busy at the W. O. that I cannot promise either.

Dr. Sutherland professes to be ill. What I would suggest is that either you should send up to him to try your influence (41 Finchley New Road)

N.W.
to get him to come
to you at the time
you name – Or
better still, if
you could spare
time to drive up
to him, sending
word to him
first, in order
that you may be
quite sure of
finding him.

1000 thanks for
the glorious flowers
ever yours
F.N.

Northwestern University signed letter, 2ff, pen black-edged paper

Hampstead N W. [15:599-600]
Sept 12/63

Madam
I am extremely
obliged to Dr. Mott
Francis for sending
me his book on
Hospital Hygiene.
& to you for your
kindness in taking
the trouble to bring
it.

As I see that he
expresses regret at
not having my “Notes
on Hospitals”, & as
I am now preparing a third Edition for the press, I shall venture to send you a copy of it, when ready; in case you should have the opportunity of forwarding it to Dr. Mott Francis, at New York.

I had the honour, many years ago in England, of knowing & of reverencing Dr. Howe, of Boston -

I take the liberty of sending a few books of mine on Army Hygiene, one with Diagrams on the former state & high Death rate of our Army - one on how Sidney Herbert halved the Death rate of the Army at home – one on the present bad Sanitary State of our Army in India — thinking that, if you have the kindness to forward them to
Dr. Francis at New York, they may, (alas! in the present struggle) excite his interest in a similar subject that of Army Hygiene among the Federals - There is also a paper on Aboriginal health -

I have the honor to be, Madam,
Your faithful servt
Florence Nightingale
Miss Gibson
I regret that my health is now so bad as to prevent me from having the pleasure altogether of any personal intercourse, & almost of writing.

Northwestern University signed letter, 2ff, pen

12/2/81
10, South Street, Park Lane. W. {printed address:}

My dear Sir
I ventured to take the liberty last night of writing to ask you to do me the very great favour of ordering a Dresser’s case for Mrs Fellowes, who is going to nurse the wounded in the Transvaal War. – also, for hints as to lint, linen &c - whether these will be properly supplied by the Cape Town people or how?

I want now to trouble you yet further - You could give the best advice
as to outfit, if you would kindly favour me with it, or her:

Pray believe me in haste ever your faithful servt

Florence Nightingale
T. MacKellar Esq

{facing added on slip with closing}

I am, Sir,
Your faithful servt.
Florence Nightingale

Northwestern University signed letter, 2ff, pen [8:61]

London May 18 1881

Sir

I am truly sorry to be compelled to decline the honour that you do me, by asking me to write my name on the papers you enclose for your most desirable Chelsea “Hospital for Women,” that I am fain to explain how I am always under the severe & ever increasing pressure of overwork & illness - how I am beset, like others, with
similar applications from all parts of the world - but how unlike others it would be impossible for me to carry on the duties I have undertaken, were I to answer them/s applications – & how in order not to give offence I have been unwillingly forced to take notice of none - If I were to make exceptions, I should of course receive applications which I could not decline - 

Pray accept my regret, which is greater than yours can be: & allow me nevertheless to wish God Speed to your Hospital & to be ever your faithful servt Florence Nightingale

I have been interrupted over & over again, even while writing this short note - F.N.

J.S. Wood, Esq
Miscellaneous small colls 604

Florence Nightingale
21/10/87  Florence Nightingale
Scutari
Barrack Hospital
Jan 7/56

Sir
I beg to acknowledge & to thank you for your letter of Jan. 4, acquainting me that a package to my address is about to arrive per ship “Ossian” at Balaklava.
May I request that you will take the trouble to direct that it be sent to me here, by the first steamer, as a part of its contents, which are chiefly maps, books & prints, some gifts from the Queen, are destined for this place, where they will be more practically utilized than in the field.
I have the honor to be,
   Sir,
   Your obedt servt
   Florence Nightingale

To
Major Willis
D.A. Quarter Master Genl
June 28/87
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.
My dear Sir

How could I dely a single
day answering your most
kind note & your wish to
do me the honour of
dedicating to me those
invaluable Lessons which
you gave to Miss Pringle’s
Nurses & which are
unrivalled?

I am deeply ashamed
of myself.

I have been obliged to
decline or make it a
rule to decline all
dedications. But you
& your immense benefits
to the Edinburgh Infirmary
Nursing Staff are an
exception to all rules.
And if you wish to do
me this favour in
publishing these Lessons
which will be such an
advantage to the Nursing
world, I can only
thankfully accept.

Do not think that it was
carelessness, which would have
been wanton, that
prevented my answering.
Your kindness will know
that it was unusual
pressure of business &
ilness -

We are going to rob you
of Miss Pringle - No one
feels this more than I.
But we hope that
another, her second self,
will take her place.
    Wishing you every success

in your beneficent career,
    & rejoicing in your works
for the Nursing cause
    pray believe me
    ever yours gratefully
    Florence Nightingale

Dr. Bell

BYU, signed letter, 9ff, pen

Queen Victoria’s District Nurses’ Institute
in Scotland: Edinburgh Committee
    London Sept 5 1888
My dear Sir
    I am always glad to hear
from you, & will do my poor
best in answering your
questions:
1. “Should we aim at having
    “all our Nurses ladies?”
The whole Staff should, I think,
to begin with, be “ladies”
certainly. Possibly a second
Home may follow with ordinary
Nurses. The whole of the
first set should be well
established in their work
before Probationers are taken on;
Joseph Bell Esq
    &
And it seem very desirable that the Pioneers should be ladies

[This will also be referred to in a few words I shall have to say farther on on the important “Relief” question]

2. Should they live near their work or in fresher air to be reached by rail or car”?

Decidedly to be as central for their work as is possible to obtain a healthy house—not only to be near the Poor but handy for calls of the Doctors who visit the Poor [the District Nurses always to work under the Doctors] and of other workers among the Poor

also enabling Nurses to come home to meals - If the Nurses have to “reach” their house “by rail or car,” there will always be a difficulty both as to having their meals properly, and as to coming in for the evening work, so important- in the dark evenings of half the year - & in rain & sleet - Snow is comparatively nothing.

The Nurses ought to have 3 Districts; & not to be sent about to scattered cases - [not necessary to keep a Nurse always in same District]
3. “Should the Lady Supt have the power of selection?”
   Supt to select & dismiss consulting when in doubt with Hony Secy or Chairman -reporting regularly to Committee.
   This power of selection is must, not may. Responsibility in this respect must be vested as a principle in the Supt.
   The difficulty of selection is greater than appears at first sight. Pit-falls are many. And the female head, the responsible person for the Nurses, must have the power & the duty fixed on her.

-2-

[There is no “agreement” or “document” with rules for “Supt,” I am sorry to say, printed for the London “M. & N.N. Asscn”]

4. “Affiliation of existing Nurses”
   This is a very difficult question. It is understood that in Edinbro’ there is no Association for nursing the Poor, & only a few parish Nurses.
   Affiliation with illeg Associations nursing the well-to-do NOT desirable - possibly by way of conciliation some members of Committee might be taken on -
   It is hoped that the parish Nurses will be given up;
-if really competent, taken in & trained by the Association as part of the Home Staff -

It is difficult to see the way to attempting affiliation as has been done in some places & failed - but nevertheless it cannot be said that any affiliation could never be; but at any rate not at first. Will you not begin by avoiding interference with parishes where there is a Nurse at work? there ought to be no difficulty in inducing private individuals after a time to give up their separate Nurses -nor, one would think, judging by experience, in so inducing the clergy.

These remarks will not of course apply to Glasgow where there is an established “Glasgow Sick Poor & Private Nursing Assocn” the first object of which is to attend the poor gratuitously & working classes at a moderate fee.

It is to be hoped that your Committee will not be in a hurry to affiliate any such Association, but wait until they have established their first Home and learned something of the work by practical experience.

The work of this Glasgow Association is organised on a considerable scale & may be well done -

This question of Affiliation will be a difficult one, especially coupled as it is
with the Badge question

-3-

But the spirit of the Q. Victoria District Nurses is after all the important thing - not the letter of their rules. Is it to be a new Relief Association? or is it to be a Nursing Association, teaching the poor how to put their homes into a state which makes health possible? (a). is it to be a Relieving agency? or a strictly Nursing agency? for all experience that, once admit the mutton-chop & beauty & blanket business, true Nursing flies out of the window. the sick poor & the ordinary Nurse so much prefer the former business.

But the District Nurse or at least their Lady supt must know well where to apply, - to what existing Relief agencies to apply - for relief where this is necessary for the poor Patients. whether for some things to the clergy & ministers, for others to the parish, or to Dorcas & other societies &c &c &c - In London these are more than enough - And in Scotland there are probably more still. (b) The District Nurse has also to nurse the poor sick person’s room, the first time with her own hands, - to get rid of all the abominations - so as to make recovery possible - to admit fresh air -
and to show the family how to keep it clean, and in good order once put in good order & prevent any more foul accumulations of nuisances. This is an essential part of her duties.

She or at least her lady Supt must also know well where to apply - to what Sanitary officials - to do that which can only be done by the public Sanitary authority - in water-supply, sewerage or privy work, removal of nuisances, ventilation &c &c.

I knew an Officer of health in India - the Health Officer of her largest city - who was a Sanitarily engineered city in himself - And while he was there directing his scavengering staff, the Death-rate fell enormously - to rise again alas! when he was gone.

The District Nurse must be as it were a Sanitarily organized house in herself - at first with her own hands - and capable of setting the family hands a-going. And the Sickness rate must not rise again when her attendance is over; for the Patient & family, if properly taught, will never allow the place to get into the same foul state again.

She will exercise the same mothering influence against drinking – & the family will be
ashamed of over letting them
her see them drunk again
She will have to report to the
Doctor & keep notes for him.
While often preventing the home
from being broken up by
nursing the breadwinner or the
mother back into health, she
will know when to persuade
the Patient to go into Infirmary,
Hospital or Poor house
But her primary duty, after
Nursing herself – for a Nurse is
a Nurse is to teach the
family nursing & healthy ways
by her own work. And this must be
done by “ladies” -
The ordinary Nurse won’t do it.
But/And it is still the superstition
that ordinary Nurses will &
“ladies” won’t

If what I have written can be
of the least bit of use to you,
(“mais s’il y a de l’esprit
c’est vous qui l’y aurez mis”) it will be a real pleasure
to
yours ever faithfully
Florence Nightingale
The London Assocn attempted affiliation, or rather this was forced upon it, by an older & tolerably well established organisation on a different basis, (a large element in which was relief), & which could not be expected to give way. It failed, of course; tho’ even that might have been brought about with patience & temper.

This is an illustration

Is not the Glasgow Assocn a well established Assocn, tho’ perhaps the Vice Prest is not as thorough as was to be desired?

Badge question - This is hanging over us, as you know; tho’ its omission was obtained from the “condition of affiliation” as well as to country Nurses. But a print of the original letter or address is sent, as you know, to all the members of Edinburgh & Dublin Committee -

It is a dreadful lion or rather ass in the path - “Sectarianism”: “proselytizing”

Provided there is common sense is this question practically so very difficult either in schools (Bible teaching) or Institutions for the sick? Ought not every ‘Sister’ & Nurse with common sense to be able to put in the word in season of religious, not theological meaning to the Patients. She is
not fit to be a Nurse if she can’t without entangling herself in dogma -
The difficulty is with the R. Catholics; because here it is a duty of the R.C.s to “proselytize”.
You can’t make a rule against admitting R. Catholics as Nurses any more than you can make a rule for the Nurses not to speak. But you can manage it without rules.

But you must be wary - Two Assocns founded on strictly “unsectarian” principles have lately fallen into the trap of refusing R. C. candidates as Nurses - on the ground of their being R.C.s, & have been extricated with difficulty by their Chairmen

“Affiliation” To one of your experience need hardly be said the tendency, alas! is for the lower to pull down the higher - not for the higher to raise up the lower -

This is the danger of all these “affiliations”
July 23rd [1861]

My dear Sir Joshua

I thank you very much for your letters official & non official. I shall talk over the whole subject with Mr Clough when he returns & meanwhile what I write to you is only private & for your own consideration. I so entirely agree with you that one "certificated nurse"

sent out to a "large hospital establishment" will do little to leaven the lump that I have always impressed upon Mr Whitfield & Mrs Wardroper that what they should seek to do is to send out a whole staff or part of one to any provincial hospital which makes such an application [Several in fact have done so]. This could
not of course be done the first year.
2. It would be impossible to recommend a head-nurse under two years' training - but, as the experiment goes on, I think the Committee will be able to learn from Mr Whitfield & Mrs Wardroper - who can be recommended as head-nurse - and make their own terms for her with the Provincial Hospital -

[Provincial Hospitals generally have but one head-nurse]. She would then be in a position to train in her turn, as you point out.

[With regard to their taking the position of Matron, these vacancies can occur but seldom].

With regard to the position of head-nurse in Workhouse Infirmaries, if better terms could be offered, plenty of these places could be found wh. would offer the very best opportunities for training others.

[I do not think, whi...
that the "large London Hospitals" will take our nurses for several of them are going to imitate the example of St. Thomas's and have written to me for information - a result which I think is even more satisfactory than if they had taken "certificated nurses" from us]

While I quite agree that our nurses will not be so useful

[2]

if placed "in a subordinate position" in other hospitals, the question is whether any of our first year's batch were capable of being "placed in a more commanding position"

Anything which can be done "to bring into the field a higher class of persons" is most desirable we must consider about this. You are aware
that several ladies were among the first year's probationers and I do not think that any discomfort (unnecessary) there is to be removed which would deter a "higher class".

I hope very shortly to submit to you (but this is still private) a proposal from King's College Hospital, to utilise the remaining part of the N. Fund income in training nurses there who shall also have a midwifery education.

Believe me
dear Sir Joshua
ever sincerely & gratefully yours,

Florence Nightingale

P.S. In spite of so high an authority as Mr Marjoribanks, I cannot but think that 7 per cent charge on outlay would have been quite high enough, especially as the Hospital
itself has taken the lion's share of the trained nurses. With regard to the charge for the maintenance, where you justly say that "economy is not the only question", Miss Jones, the Superintendent of King's Coll: Hospital & I both found that our mode of dieting the women, which included meat twice a day, puddings every day, a choice of vegetables, fruit & other varieties, was both more healthy & much better liked by the women (altho' involving much more trouble to us), than the St. Thomas's mode of everlasting joint, potatoes, & no pudding, altho' St Thomas' charges 10s a week without tea sugar & washing - & Miss Jones & I both did our mode for 8s a week including tea sugar & washing.
I have far from answered your letter. I hope to enter into its subject much more fully. This is only by way of conversation. I quite think that the result of the first years trial has been satisfactory. I have no doubt you know that, if we could get a "higher class" of women, we should have no difficulty in securing such situations & salaries for them, as she would be even for them a suitable "provision" [end 13:44]

F.N.
Hampstead NW
Aug 21/61
My dear Sir J. Jebb

I am sorry to have come upon you at such an inopportune time & glad that you approve the scheme.

H. Bonham Carter tells me that it is impossible to have a meeting of Committee or of Council for a month as every body is out of town - So you will not be troubled for that time. And I think we may still begin at King’s Coll. Hosp. in October.

I have an answer from Mr. Marjoribanks about the financial part of it. And he
has no difficulty in allowing the K.C. Hosp £500 for 2 years, if the committee approve. He will postpone purchasing £800 stock to add to the capital in order to have the £500 to pay down at once to St John’s House, if such is the decision of the Committee, when it meets.

About another subject, as to which you were so good as to write to me, viz: the making these Nurses (of St Thomas’) training centres themselves.

I have received the enclosed

The Bath Hospital has, you see, [13:197-98] Nurse Spectrum 46-47 taken two of the Nurses (second class certificates- one of them, Medhurst, of doubtful character, by Mrs. Wardroper’s own showing) and advertise them as trainers. Our training will thus fall into discredit, I fear, and our Committee be blamed.

Would it not be well that the Committee should propose that all appointments for special service, such as training others, should be submitted to the Committee, so that persons engaging Nurses for such an object, might have the advice of the Committee? Otherwise the Comme should take no responsibility in the matter -

Would you be so kind as to bring this before them the next time you meet?
I have marked on our Annual Sheet the two places, Pp 2 & 4 where these Nurses are mentioned.

Mrs. Wardroper is herself very much alarmed at this occurrence, which is evidently a mere job on the part of the Bath Hospital people. She wrote to me about it as soon as ever she had seen the enclosed Advertisement - but too late to prevent it. She says she warned the Bath Hospital Managers what sort of woman Medhurst was “not so trustworthy” she said “as the others” - & that they did not say a word to her about putting them in such a position as that of training others.

Farther, would it not be well EVENTUALLY to certificate no Nurse, not fit to be Head Nurse which certainly should not be done under 2 years’ training? And still there would be many good Head Nurses, not suitable as trainers of others.

[It certainly never came into my head that any Hospl would take our “second-class certificates” as “Superintendents” - (vide printed paper) These are things we could only learn by experience - And I am very anxious that the Committee should consider this matter.]

At the same time, you will be glad to hear that Mrs. Wardroper gives a very good account of the 6 Nurses retained at St. Thomas’ for a second year- She says they will be quite equal for taking places as Head Nurses, if they choose
to leave the Hospital after the second year - & that they already do & know more than many Head Nurses-

It is only for future consideration that I trouble you with this subject now.

I trust that Lady Amelia is better - & that she will quite recover at Brighton.

Believe me

sincerely & gratefully yours

F. Nightingale

Please let me repeat that I attach no blame to Mrs Wardroper & Mr Whitfield - I believe that Stone, & even Medhurst, are far better than the run of Provincial Hospital Head Nurses. I also believe that, four or five years hence, Mrs Wardroper & Mr. Whitfield themselves will not recommend for a certificate women like Stone, far less like Medhurst.

I think it important the Committee should bear in mind to raise the standard year by year - At the same time, I think more has been done the first year than we were at all entitled to expect.

F.N.
Note or postscript

2
[Could you calculate for me, without much trouble, the weekly cost of the Probationers at St Thomas’s, exclusive of dress & wages.]

3. You will see that we have altered the no. of Probationers at one time from 10 to 6: but Miss Jones tells me that she thought that more than 6 could not be efficiently trained at one time - while as long as the period is limited to 6 months. I hope that if the experiment continues both period & number will be extended.

The other alterations speak for themselves.

Miss Jones herself would be glad if the last clause between Brackets of (11) (in her own copy) could be put more civilly:- She has written in pencil, as you will see, “or some clause to this effect.”

14. (in your copy) They earnestly wish to be expunged
Mr. Platt
  Please send
4 (3/) Tins Cocoatine
  & send me your Acct.
  & oblige yr obedient
  F. Nightingale
Lea Hurst
17/10/77

Lea Hurst
17/7/77

Please
  a Mackintosh sheet
  for a Patient soiling the bed:
- obtain one if you have not one:
– but send something immediately
  F. Nightingale

Univ Maryland signed letter, 1f, pen

Lea Hurst
  Cromford
  Oct 5/81
Mr. Platts
  Sir
Please be so good as to
  send immediately
1 lb Strutt’s Absorbent
  Cotton Wool
(with your Acct)
  & very much oblige
  your obed servt
  Florence Nightingale
Private -2-

“Creation” of Women-Lecturers to the
UNEDUCATED on Sanitation in COUNTRY

II. Classes Claydon House, {printed address:}

Winslow,
Bucks.

1. How are we to get
the women who will do to be
trained?

Would that Miss Catherine
Murray you mentioned do?
For the country?

I believe I could get two
from Miss Calder at Liverpool.
But I cannot help with
our Nurses, we are agreed.

Where, how, are we to get
the pupils to be trained?

2. In this no-London-season
time, we could probably
get a drawing-room lent
us for the classes -

Would that do?

Must it be near Prof
cornfield, if we have him?
[Is Prof. C. Of University College Hospital?

It is a very unsanitarily kept,
However, that is not his fault.

3. I suppose most of the pupils will have to be housed & fed in London? I mean that they cannot be expected to ‘fend’ for themselves.

What should be the fee charged upon each pupil for the course? It must not be free -

4. We must be most cautious, prudent & “confidential” -

I mean, not for the ordinary reasons only, & also that we are the servants of the county Council, & must not go a step openly before our/their orders are issued, tho’ we are expected to be ready -

but also

2. There has been a not undeserved outcry, because at least one County Council has expended £1500, entirely wasted, on the advice of & upon with the lecturers recommended at 5 gs a week apiece (they asked 10 gs) by the London Socy you mentioned [I recognised the ladies’ names at once - One was Miss S. One Miss B.] The ladies were entire failures.

The idea is now to give £100 a year to the lady/ladies hospitality & travelling expences - to require from her/them 2 lectures of one hour each a day - & to settle their rounds. The position would not be a
disagreeable one - the good
done would be immense
-Might change the health
of the poor - & many a
lady would like it.

But then as you say,
the ladies must be of the
right sort.

Your generous offers to
help us you see I am
taking full advantage, undue
advantage of - I never can
thank you enough -
I am asking for a
Telegram tomorrow (Thursday)
    afternoon
Short letter by Friday morning
Longer " at your kind time
& more questions from me!!
     by & bye -
ever yours most gratefully
    Florence Nightingale

incomplete letter, 2ff, pen & pencil

-2-
2. I am steering clear of the
Societies we two have been discussing;
but in regard to their
publications, may I ask
you the following question;
    **most** energetic ladies
who have established
the most efficient Girls’
(Working girls) clubs in
large factory & colliery
places out of London
are happily desirous of
teaching in them the most
elementary Domestic
Sanitation viva voce,
such as the cleanliness
of person, house, clothes, which
we have been speaking of
&c &c &c not distributing
tracts, but talking the
tracts - And they have asked me to send them the best tracts on these subjects [Now I was asked to do this for India (to be translated) And I thought did it. But I thought the Indian Sanitary tracts better than ours!] Could you be so very kind as to mark on the Ladies’ Sany Asson List or any other List that you prefer we - with the simplest most elementary tracts or books fit for such an useful purpose? Perhaps you have some List already which I could copy & return to you.

I am appalled at the trouble I am giving you -

but none of it shall be wasted. The questions are:
a. what subjects should you kindly recommend for such talking?
B. What tracts?
   Your speedy success with Miss Dunn in Ireland is quite splendid.

Yours gratefully & most sincerely
Oct 21/87
[printed address] 10, South Street
   Park Lane, W.
To the Head Policeman
in charge: Grosvenor Gate
   Sir
Might I be allowed to send a
little Tea & Coffee this afternoon
to your 10 or 12 men, if they
cannot otherwise obtain it
While on duty?
   We beg to thank the police
for their unfailing services-
   yours faithfully
   Florence Nightingale
If you accede, please say
   at what hour?
   & for how many?

Envelope:
   To the
   Head Policeman
   In charge
   Grosvenor Gate
Dear Sir
I send according to your kind directions
my Cook, Annie Richards.
She took the Tonic, the prescription of which
I enclose, up to yesterday: being the ‘fortnight,’
according to your orders.
I also enclose the prescription of her Aperient
& of her ‘antiseptic’ powder: which she is still taking.
She also has 2 glasses of Burgundy a day: &
oberves the rules of Diet you were so kind as
to give her.
Would you be so very good as to write me
your orders & your opinion respecting her?

And would you also kindly return me
the Prescriptions
& oblige
your faithful servt.
Florence Nightingale
Dr. Armitage
March 9/68 [8:698]
Indeed I did know, dear
Mrs Chermside, that our
dear friend Mr Chermside
was gone - Indeed I have
thought of you continually in
your overwhelming loss- I sent
a long written message to
you of my poor sympathy
(by Lady Herbert which
apparently she forgot to give
you,) such as it was -
But indeed she was sincerely
attached to him & to you,
notwithstanding her terrible
“change of views”
You may well say that “he and
Lord Herbert” are “happy” -
Every day of my life I think
so Every day of my life I
miss Sidney Herbert more &
more -
I am a woman overdone with
cares & business- at this
time with double grief &
trouble- for I have lost my
dear friend and pupil, the
Lady Supt- of the Liverpool
Workhouse Infirmary, & know
not how to replace her -
I am entirely a prisoner to bed
- & never know what it is
to have 10 minutes leisure -
How much has passed since
you & I last met - We must
both look forward to our
rest - tho’ both have many
duties still to God -
Remember that he said to you,
Be brave I think
that must be a very inspiring
and
comforting remembrance to you
    I hope you will do me the
favour of sending me 2 copies
of his Sermons - which you
mention to me - & for which
I enclose the 10/- -
Pray believe me
dear Mrs. Chermside
ever yours sorrowfully
    Florence Nightingale
My darling, of the Liverpool
Workhouse, died of typhus.
She was pretty & rich &
young & witty - & the hardest
worker in God’s service
I ever knew - And she is
gone before me -
    F.N.
My dear Sir John McNeill,

I can’t tell you how glad I was to see your date in London again. I have just received your kind note.

Yes, surely I will see you—tho’ I were overwhelmed with business & illness.

To day I am afraid is quite impossible for me.

But would tomorrow, Saturday, at 3 or at 4 p.m. Suit you? --

Or Sunday at 11 a.m. or at 12 or at 3 or at 4 p.m.?

A verbal answer, please.

It is 6 years to day since Sidney Herbert died.

ever yours most truly

& gratefully

Florence Nightingale