

LMA (FNM)

1

UKLMA1 and roll 2, 1000 pages

London Metropolitan Archives, Florence Nightingale Museum, St Thomas's Hospital 1, microfilm

H1/ST/NC1/54/1 etc. {archivist's notes:

I 1

54/1 [see 3rd folder F.N. to Madame -- , 5 Aug. 1854]

55/1 CHEQUE

55/2 F.N. to Mrs. Grundy 17 July 1855

(with account for salary in another hand)}

{cheque and account for salary follow, very brief}

LMA H1/ST/NC1/54/1

1 Upper Harley St.

[12:96-97]

5 August 1854

Chère Madame

Je n'ai que des  
bonnes nouvelles  
à vous donner  
de votre fils.  
M. Bowman pense  
que la "*mauvaise*  
*herbe*" décroît  
tous les jours &  
que bientôt il  
n'y paraîtra plus.

Il me semblait  
qu'il avait l'air  
un peu pâle -  
je l'ai donc  
envoyé aujourd'hui  
avec ma nièce  
à son beaufrère  
à une campagne  
qu'ils possèdent  
à trois lieues  
d'ici, d'où il  
reviendra lundi et tous les

deux jours pour  
voir M Bowman  
J'espère que sa  
guérison sera  
tout à fait  
terminée en huit  
jours d'ici- Je  
vous écrirai de  
nouveau, chère  
Madame, pour  
vous dire le jour

où il pourra quitter  
tout à fait- Si M  
Bowman a besoin de  
le voir plus souvent,  
il restera 3 ou 4  
jours seulement à  
la campagne, et il  
reviendra ici pendant  
le reste du temps  
qu'il doit passer ici-  
Comptez sur nous  
Agréez, chère Madame,  
l'assurance de mes  
sentimens affectueux  
Florence Nightingale

[end 12:96]

{archivist's notes:

I 2

55/3

F.N. to Mrs. Gretton 6 Sept 1855

55/4 F.N. to Mrs. Hunt 6 Sept 1855}

Letter, LMA pen H1/ST/NC1/55/3

**f55/3.1** {archivist's note: FN: her MS. telling a soldier's friend that he is provided with necessaries written by Mrs. Smith, signed by Miss Nightingale} A X 8

Barrack Hospital  
Scutari  
Septber 6th  
1855

Mrs. Gretton,

I am sorry to  
say the things mentioned  
in your letter of the  
20th of Augst. have never  
been received, but before  
that letter reached me  
I had sent to Private  
Robert Dutton a parcel  
containing things which

**f55/3v**

I hope, would be  
even more valuable  
to him - so that, though  
I regret that what you  
sent did not reach  
him, I am glad to be  
able to tell you that  
he has not been a  
loser on that account.  
I have heard from him  
acknowledging the receipt  
of the things I sent.

yours truly

Florence Nightingale

Letter, LMA f55/4.1-f55/4.2, pen A X 9

**f55/4.1** {archivist's note: FN for M.S. announcing a soldier's death,  
Written by Miss Nightingale's aunt Mrs. Smith, signed by Miss  
Nightingale

Barrack Hospital  
Scutari  
Septbr. 6th  
1855

Mrs. Hunt,

I grieve to be  
obliged to inform you  
that your son died in  
this Hospital on Sunday  
last, Septbr. 2d. His com  
plaint was Chronic  
Dysentery - he sunk  
gradually from

**f55/4.1v**

weakness, without much suffering. Every thing was done that was possible to keep up his strength. He was fed every half hour with the most nourishing things he could take, & when there was any thing he had a fancy for, it was taken to him immediately. He sometimes asked for oranges & grapes, which quenched his thirst, & which he had, whenever he wished for them -

**f55/4.2**

He spoke much of his Mother & gave us the direction to you in his last moments - He was very desirous that you should be written to about him. His great anxiety was that his Mother should receive the pay due to him, & should know that he had not received any pay since he had been out, which he wished his friends to be told that they might apply to the War Office for the whole of the pay due to him. He was very

**f55/4.2v**

grateful for whatever was  
done for him, & very patient.  
You may have the satisfaction  
of knowing that he had the  
most constant & careful atten-  
dance from the Doctors & the  
Nurses of the Hospital. The  
chaplain & myself saw him  
every day. He died very peace-  
fully, & sorrowful as this  
news is for his bereaved  
Mother may she find comfort  
in thinking that his earthly  
sufferings are over, & in the  
hope that our Almighty Father  
will receive him into a [blotch]  
better world through the  
blessed promises of our Lord.  
With sincere sympathy I am  
yours truly  
Florence Nightingale.

55/3 an addressed envelope here

{archivist's note:

I 3  
54/1 F.N. to Madame --, 5 Aug. 1854  
55/5 F.N. to Lord -- 3 Oct. 1855  
55/6 F.N. to [James Heywood] 10 Nov 1855}

Incomplete, unsigned letter/draft/copy, LMA 1 f54/1.1-f54/1.2, pen  
f54/1.1 C VI 3

1 Upper Harley St  
5 August 1854

Chere Madame

Je n'ai que des  
bonnes nouvelles  
a vous donnees [donner?]  
de votre fils -  
M. Bowman peute [see]  
que la "*mauvaise*  
*herbe*"

Letter, LMA f55/5.1-f55/5.2, pen, copy roll 5, to Stratford de Redcliffe  
(in Bridgeman), copy 8995/44

f55/5.1 F3

Barrack Hospital **[14:238-39]**

Scutari

October 3/55

My Lord,

I have the honor to submit to  
your Excellency an Extract of a Dispatch  
155656 which I received from the War Office,  
193 dated September 6/55

Nos 2 & 3) also Copies of two Letters from Dr. Hall,  
Inspector General of Hospitals in the Crimea  
No 4) & a Copy of a Letter from Mrs. Bridgeman,  
Superior of the R. Catholic Nuns at Koulali  
Hospital.

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

By my original Instructions  
from the War Office, the "distribution", "selection",  
"power of discharge or dismissal" of all  
those who came out, addressed to me, -  
"to serve in the Hospitals of the East," -  
was "placed solely under my control"-

The Dispatch, of which I enclose  
an Extract, appears to place a  
farther responsibility upon me.

**f55/5.1v**

But the R.C. Sisters, who had engaged themselves to me personally for the work of the Hospitals under my direct charge, are offered, accepted & ordered elsewhere with only an ex. post. facto communication to me "that they are going" when the arrangements for making their departure in less than a week are made.

Your Excellency will see -

(1) that it would be impossible to me to obey the instructions of the War Office under these circumstances

(2) that it would be impossible to conduct any Institution or maintain any order whatever with these conditions.

I await your Excellency's commands as to the course I should pursue.

If Mrs. Bridgeman has a separate commission from the War Office, it has not been communicated to me. I have delayed answering her letter till I receive your Excellency's directions.

It appears as though the most satisfactory proceeding would be for

**f55/5.2**

Your Excellency to communicate the Instructions under which I act to Dr. Hall & to Mrs. Bridgeman.

My intended departure for the Crimea has been delayed by these surprising communications - It must take place this week - I postpone it only till I receive your Excellency's directions.

I shall forward a copy of these letters to the War Office by tomorrow's mail - **[end 14:239]**

I beg to remain, my Lord,  
your Excellency's obliged & obedt servt  
Florence Nightingale

Letter, LMA f55/6.1-f55/6.2, pen [Heywood arch], typed copy 43401 f131

**f55/6.1** F 35

Castle Hospital  
Balaclava  
Nov 10/55

**[14:265]**

Sir,

Your letter of the 4th October was forwarded to me at this place where my Hospital duties at present require me.

Morris Jones, 13th Light Infantry died at the Barrack Hospital, Scutari, Ward 8, Corridor F, of Fever, August 20/55

He was only in Hospital three days. He had an abcess in his neck - & spoke very little. At 10 P.M. the night he died, he was sufficiently conscious to express pleasure at having the Nurse there - tho' he always called her "Mother." He would take no food from any one else. He appeared to rest satisfied

**f55/6.1v**

in this delusion which comforted him - He was far too little conscious to send any message to his family -

He was very cold & had hot ~~tins~~ water tins put round him - which annoyed him - & he insisted upon pushing them away.

He was too ill when he entered Hospital for any questions to be asked him.

The Nurse called him her "old man" - & when it was ascertained that he was only 32 years of age, would not believe it. But our men are old at 32.

I regret that the anxiety of his family should have been not sooner ended -

But I am myself confined

**f55/6.2**

to my bed by illness & here I have no one to write for me

I remain, Sir,  
your obedt servt

Florence Nightingale

If it is any consolation to his family to know that he was not neglected, but had every care that Medical skill & female nursing could give him, they may be certain of this.

**[end]**

{archivist's note:

I 4

56/1 [In Riddel House Showcase

F.N. to [ - ] 28 May 1856]

56/2 F.N. to [ -- ] 22 June 1856

56/3 [See next folder

F.N. to [ -- ] re Anne Clarke [Aug. 1856]

57/1 F.N. to Miss Anderson, [13 Mar. 1857]}

Letter, LMA f56/2.1, pen f56/2.1 B XIII 12

General Hospital **[14:424]**

Balaclava

June 22/56

My dear Sir

I find that I cannot fill  
more than six passages by the "Spartan."

I shall leave behind me, therefore,

3 Nuns

1 Lady

3 Nurses

-----

7

for you to provide against their being  
left in the hands of the Russians -  
for which there is no hurry, as  
their work in the Hospitals is not  
done.

If you will have the goodness  
to communicate with Mrs. Shaw Stewart,  
Left Wing Hospital, Land Transport Corps,  
she will make every arrangement.

Should passages offer by the  
"Robert Lowe", or any vessel conveying  
Land Transport, where the proportion

**f56/2.1v**

of Officers to men is small, it would  
still be preferable to send the  
"Spartan" ladies home by her, instead  
of disembarking them at Scutari.

Two passages to Scutari would be,  
then, all that I should require -

Believe me, dear Sir,

faithfully yours

F Nightingale

**[end 14:424]**

Letter, LMA f57/1, pen  
f57/1.1 {archivist's note: after Mar.13 A VI 19

[March 11? 1857]}

My dear Miss Anderson

I sent Mrs. Keatley the Money because I considered her\* as ~~a case~~ undoubtedly entitled to it.

I must have {illeg.misimpressed?} myself ~~very much~~ in ~~troubling~~ for

~~you have misunderstood~~

1. to suppose me

~~Now if you conceded that~~

{illeg.mostly?} ~~I was considering~~

~~I supposed~~ that "it

"could {illeg.had?} in" me "for any

"one to know that an

"omission of one name

"has been made which

"~~you~~ (illeg.I?) "immediately

offered to make up for"

There has been no

**f57/1.1v**

omission on my part

~~nor to~~ neither can there be any "making up" on my part.

The War Office required, of course, the periods of service of every Nurse as well as her name, in order to determine the proportion to be paid her - These could only be given by the respective Superintendents under whom they served -

**f57/1.2**

I gave the names & periods of service of all those Nurses & Ladies who came from Koulali to me at a subsequent period - And I presume that the Koulali Super. intendant did the same for the Nurses who came to them - Mrs. Keatley would not have been entitled to anything for the ~~short time~~ period

**f57/1.2v**

that she was at Scutari, little more, I think, than 3 weeks - ~~as those who were in the East for a~~ the period ~~less than~~ of three months ~~were excluded~~ ~~being~~ having been fixed by the War Department as the minimum for which they should receive the Sultan's gifts - I did not know & could not state the time she was at Koulali.

{archivist's note:

I 5

LMA 56/3 Draft Letter, (Prepared for F.N. by Dr. Sutherland?)  
 Re Miss Anne Clarke & The Sultan's Gift  
 n.d. [Aug. 1856]}

Letter, LMA f56/3, pen to Hawes, original in PRO WO  
**f56/3.1** [not in F.N.'s handwriting]

Sir, I beg to enclose a letter which I  
 have recd from the Sister of Miss  
 Anne Clarke, one of the paid ~~Sisters~~Ladies  
 employed with me at the Barrack  
 Hospital. Having made no direct  
 suggestion as to the mode of dis-  
 tribution of the Sultan's Gift, so far  
 as these Ladies were concerned  
 I do not feel at liberty now to  
 ask you to alter whatever mode  
 of appropriation you have determined  
 upon - & must try to refer

[14:475]

**f56/3.1v**

Miss Jane Clarke for an answer to  
 her letter to ~~the~~ your decision ~~already~~  
 determined upon by the W.O. [?] only  
 it is your opinion that this decision  
 should be altered at Miss Clarke's  
 desire, which might be open to the  
 objection that, the same alteration  
 might be {illeg word crossed out} {illeg-as tried, asked?} for in  
 other cases, which might occasion  
 considerable perplexity to the W.O.

{archivist's note: I 6 LMA 57/2 Draft Letter prepared for F.N. A VI 77  
ii

To Miss Macleod n.d. [June 1857]} [14:488]  
Letter, f57/2.1-f57/2.2, pen

**f57/2.1** {not in F.N.'s handwriting}

My dear Miss Macleod - Your letter should  
have been sooner answered but  
that it has been following me on  
a journey of business from which I  
only returned to town last night.  
I fear with the most sincere interest  
that you are inquiring for a situation  
which you think would be satisfactory  
to you - I heartily wish to forward your  
views, & wish that I may do so by  
saying as I can most truly say, that  
I parted from you with feelings of respect  
& regard which will always make me  
rejoice to hear of your well doing.

I thank you for your kind enquiries  
after my health - I believe it is as good  
as I can expect it to be - I hope Mrs.  
Macleod has quite recovered her health  
Pray remember me affectionately to her  
& believe me, my dear Miss Macleod

**f57/2.1v A 77**

I wish to add, my dear Miss Macleod to what I have said, that I would gladly have written something more specific in regard to the particular situation you have in view but I think you will see that it is in general terms only that I am able to speak - for though I would gladly believe you well fitted for a situation requiring "good management great activity, prudence, good sense & dignity in the intercourse with the inmates", I had not, at the time you joined us, any situation to offer, which afforded scope for such qualities, for which therefore from personal experience I am unable to vouch, for numbers were, at that time, lessened & lessening. I should not have asked you to come out from England to undertake what I had then to offer - what I offered because you were in the country & enquiring for such employment as I could propose - I think therefore that others who may have known you {illeg.unlike?} which called for {bottom of page torn, making sentence illeg.} such qualities

**f57/2.2**

may do you more justice & render you more assistance in regard to the situation you have in view than is possible to me - you have my best wishes. I wish I could express them more effectively than by words. The desire without the power to forward the wishes of those who {word crossed out and illeg.} have been engaged in working with me has been, in very many instances one of the most painful circumstances of my life.

**[end 14:488]**

{archivist's note:

I 7  
 58/1 F.N. to R.G. Whitfield, Esq., 23 Feb. 1858  
 58/2 " " " 9 May 1858}

Unsigned letter/draft, LMA f58/1.1-f58/1.4, pen  
 f58/1.1 B XVI 1

30 Old Burln St. [16:261-62]

W. Feb 23/58

My dear Sir

Your kindness  
 encourages me to ask  
 you what offices you  
 think a ward in a  
 Military Hospital  
 after the pattern of  
 Lariboisière should  
 have -

I believe three  
 super=imposed wards  
 of 24 sick each have

**f58/1.1v**

been decided on for  
 each Pavilion -

At the further end  
 of the ward

{small sketch of layout:

W.C. Lobby Urinal  
 Lavatory Lobby Sink  
 Bath

Ward }

Do you think this a  
 bad place for the Sink  
 in a Man's Ward,  
 where the Head Nurse  
 is the only woman?

**f58/1.2**

At the near end of the  
ward  
{small sketch of layout:  
}

This is not drawn to a  
scale - And it is rather  
about the disposition  
than the size of the  
Offices that I want  
to consult you -

**f58/1.2v**

[I suppose all cooking,  
whether for Sick, Nurse  
or Orderly to be done  
out of the W Pavilion.]

1. The scullery is for  
warming food & for  
poultices &c., for Sick.  
Do you think it in an inconvenient place?  
Or do you consider it  
better that all these  
things should be done  
IN the ward? 2. The store  
is merely for the pots  
& pans - I suppose it  
is better for all dressings,

**f58/1.3**

stimulants for the day  
&c to be kept IN the  
ward.

3. Do you think it better  
to compel the Orderly  
to be in the ward - or  
to let him have a day=  
room?

[Our allowance is 1  
Orderly to 10 Patients -  
But this is often  
exceeded] -

4. I suppose it is not  
desirable to have the  
Scullery & Store room

{written vertically up left margin:} faithfully  
& gratefully yours F. Nightingale

**f58/1.3v**

*through* the Nurse's  
room - as the Orderlies  
must help her in these.

[These trifling  
arrangements will  
make a very large  
item in the success  
or failure of a new  
plan - And, therefore,  
I make no apology  
for soliciting your kind  
assistance]

5. On the ground floor,

**f58/1.4**

instead of the ward for  
2 sick, will be the  
Ward Master's day=room &  
the Medical Officer=  
on=duty's day=room.

Since I wrote this, I  
have received your  
kind packet, and  
glanced over your  
notes, which will be  
very useful. I do  
not know how to  
thank you for your  
magnificent offer of

**f58/1.4v**

visiting Vincennes for  
us - But it is one  
I feel too much  
scruple in accepting -  
We had just sent  
over a Govt Commissn,  
consisting of Dr. Sutherland,  
Dr. Burrell & Capt.  
Galton, R.E. & though  
they have not brought  
back all the information  
I wanted - & if I were  
able to move I would  
go myself, - yet I have  
no excuse to ask you -  
Believe me, my dear Sir, ever

**[end 16:272]**

Letter, LMA f58/2, pen with an envelope addressed to G. Whitfield

**f58/2.** B XVI 2

Dear Mr. Whitfield

**[14:559]**

I send you the reply of Sir John Hall to the statement, with which you have been already made acquainted -

Are there any points in the parts relating to the case of the frost-bitten patient, McDonald, & to Mrs. Roberts's attendance, which you think require answering?

I am very sorry to trouble you thus again -

**[end 14:559]**

yours very faithfully & gratefully

May 9/58 F. Nightingale

{archivist's note:

I 8

58/3 [F.N. to M. le Marechal [Pelissier] [June 1858] draft sheet of questions re "Enfant Jesus", Paris [n.d.]

58/4 F.N. to [R.G. Whitfield, Esq.] 17 July 1858

58/5 " " " 19 July 1858}

Letter, LMA {Letter in French, two folios} H1/ST/NC1/58/3

Monsieur le Maréchal

Je ne sais en vérité  
comment m'excuser  
auprès de votre Excellence  
de la témérité avec  
laquelle je viens  
encore une fois  
l'importuner  
la lettre du de illeg qu'Elle  
a bien voulu m'adresser  
m'assourait de la  
protection de Votre Exc.  
auprès de L.L. Ex.Ex.

Les ministres de l'Intérieur et de la Guerre pour  
obtenir la permission  
que Mme Shaw Stewart  
étudiat pendant un  
an le service des  
~~Soeurs~~ femmes dans  
les Hôpitaux Hotel Dieu  
Lariboisière, La Maternité  
le Val de Grâce et  
Vincennes, ~~Cette grâce~~  
~~était demandée pour~~  
~~le 25 de ce mois~~  
~~Elle désire commencer~~  
~~par l'Hotel Dieu~~

Je conçois qu'au  
milieu de préoccupations  
bien graves un tel  
sujet  
ait échappé à la  
considération de V.  
E.

~~—Cependant le jour  
approche—~~

~~—Mme Shaw Stewart,  
qui revient de Vienne,~~  
C'est cependant important pour  
cette dame qui revient de Vienne  
de Berlin & de savoir si elle  
doit se diriger vers Paris.  
J'avais compté qu'elle y arriverait  
la semaine prochaine, dans l'espoir  
q'une réponse favorable illeg  
aura illeg d'etre admise  
en arrivant à l'Hotel Dieu.  
Etant en peine pour

Note, pen [hosp] LMA H1/ST/NC1/58/3

**f58/3.3**

Particulars requested **[16:520-21]**  
as to the "Enfant  
Jésus" at Paris.

-----

1. No. of beds &  
cubic space per child
2. size of wards
3. best number of  
beds per ward
4. Ages at which  
separate wards  
for different sexes  
are required

**f58/3.3v**

5. No. of operations  
& whether performed  
in ward or in a  
Theatre.
6. approximate No.  
of Surgical/Medical cases
7. Best Bath =  
W.C. =  
Kitchen =  
Arrangements

**f58/3.4**

8. No. of children  
per "Soeur"  
Personnel under  
the "Soeur"  
as to ward=maids  
"frotteurs"  
&c  
Whether it is  
considered that  
any re=arrangement  
of this would  
work better?
9. A slight sketch  
of what is considered  
necessary as to Play =  
grounds & Play = halls,  
Gymnastics, Exercise &c

**f58/3.4v**

10. Generally, with  
~~9.~~ regard to *frottage*,  
is a portion done  
before the "visite",  
& a portion after?  
or all at once?  
This last question  
refers to Paris  
Hospitals in general.

**[end 16:521]**

Letter, LMA f58/4.1-f58/4.2, pen to Whitfield

**f58/4.1**

My dear Sir

I send you

1. {Netley} (which is  
I think about  
as disgraceful a  
production as  
I have ever seen)
2. another Proof of  
our "Remarks"  
upon it (of which  
the Note at P.3  
is the only addition  
to the one you  
have)

**f58/4.1v**

3. the organization  
of an Army  
Medical School,  
in which I hope  
you will think  
we have steered  
as clear as we  
could of the rock  
you mentioned.  
[Pathology  
Hygiene &  
Chemistry  
are to be Civilians.  
And Pathology will  
do all the  
dissections].

**f58/4.2**

4. Mr. Robertson's  
last pamphlet  
but which  
doubtless he has  
sent you himself

5. An idea about  
King's College  
Hospital -  
[This is the  
only thing which  
I will ask you  
to return me by  
post immediately  
- as I mean to do  
something about  
it]

The Medical Times

**f58/4.2v**

you will see, is  
wrong, the Lancet  
right about Netley

Yours sincerely

F Nightingale

July 17/58

Letter, LMA f58/5, pen Whitfield

**f58/5.1** B XVI 4

30 Old Burlington St.

W.

July 19/58

My dear Sir

I agree with every  
word of your plan  
for King's College Hospl.

May I ask you to  
send me back the  
Army Medical School  
scheme immediately,  
as Director-General  
Alexander applied to  
me for a copy & I  
have no other -

I will send it

**f58/5.1v**

you back when you  
are less busy -  
And, as for Netley,  
I FEAR I shall  
have no  
cause to  
ask you for it  
back at all -  
in haste  
sincerely yours  
F. Nightingale

{archivist's note:

I 9

58/6 F.N. to [R.G. Whitfield, Esq.] 8 Nov. 1858  
59/1 " " " 21 Feb. 1859  
59/2 " " " 25 Mar. 1859}

Letter, LMA H1/ST/NC1/58/6

30 Old Burlington St  
8/11/58

[16:811]

My dear Sir

Thank you very  
much for your kind  
offer of doing any  
thing for me at  
Edinburgh - Do you know  
the Infirmary? I think, if you  
would go over the  
wards, especially the  
new Surgical & the  
High School wards,  
with the particular  
view of comparing  
their *construction*

**f58/6.1v**

~~them~~ with what  
we think ought  
to be the requirements  
(in Sanitary respects)  
of the construction  
of wards, it would  
do much good -

I went over them  
at the beginning of  
last year with  
this view. And I  
shall be curious to  
know how far your  
views & mine agree.

**f58/6.2**

It would be very desirable, if they would let us have ground plans -

I think there are "R." Infirmary" & "High School", & "Fever Hospital" to examine. But I have not a very distinct recollection of the local names, tho' of the wards I have much too distinct - (& painful an one.. as regards some) -

**f58/6.2v**

If you could get from them any Statistics of the Mortality of Nurses, such as you were kind enough to send me from St. Thomas's, nothing gives such a really good criterion of the Sanitary (or non=Sanitary) construction of Hospitals as this -  
I have got all the Nurse Statistics

**f58/6.3**

of all the London  
Hospitals now -  
And into your  
ear I will privately  
whisper this fact,  
which I have  
deduced from them  
in figures - viz.  
that 54 per cent.  
of all the Nurses =  
deaths are from  
preventable causes.  
You take in the

**f58/6.3v**

"Builder" - Did you  
notice Dr. Greenhow's  
letter on Contagion  
in last Saturday's  
but one - & my  
answer in last  
Saturday's? (Please  
however to keep  
my secret.) I hope  
you agree with  
ME.

I hope you are  
better - I write from

**f58/6.4**

my bed & therefore  
not with much distinctness -  
Believe me  
dear Sir  
ever faithfully yours  
F. Nightingale

**[end]**

Letter, LMA pen H1/ST/NC1/59/1 Whitfield

**f59/1.1** B XVI 6  
30 Old Burlington St  
W

Feb 21/59

My dear Sir

I received your  
letter with great  
pleasure on Saturday  
when I returned  
to town -

**[16:777]**

I think that you  
have the finest  
opportunity of building  
the finest Hospital  
in the world, if you  
do but take advantage  
of it.

I have no doubt

**f59/1.1v**

that we can help you  
in bringing public  
opinion to bear  
upon your authorities.

The first question  
I will ask you to  
inform me upon is,  
Has St. Thomas's any  
property in the neighbourhood of  
London & if so  
where?

**[end]**

yours ever most truly  
F. Nightingale

**f59/1.2**

P.S. You ought to receive  
a price from the Railway  
which will enable you

to rebuild the Hospital,  
say at Blackheath,  
to have Offices & a  
Ward or two & a  
House Surgeon where  
you now are - with  
a Lift, a Carriage &  
a bed to hoist  
Patients on board  
the Rail way (what  
a blessing to incipient  
fever=cases!) & to  
have an income of  
£400 or £500 per annum

**f59/1.2v**

besides. I should do  
with your London  
sick exactly what  
we do (or ought to  
do) with the wounded  
in the Field & have  
a regular Ambulance -  
~~bed~~ stretcher to list into a  
carriage & so forth -  
stretcher to be sent  
for Patient &c.

Next week would  
you come & see me,  
if I were to write  
to you?

FN.

Letter, LMA f59/2, pen

**f59/2.1** {archivist's note: 25/3/1859} B XVI 7

Dear Mr. Whitfield

I presume this visit of Sir Jas Clark, herein announced, to me is in some sense official. As he is ~~in~~ never in the habit of announcing himself to me so formally.

Could you therefore give me the information he desires (in the rough) especially

**f59/2.1v**

about the Out-Patients - & tell me also what information you would be pleased to give (of the kind he desires) at longer notice - in the *smooth*.

It is for the Prince.

yours very sincerely

F. Nightingale

March 25/59

**f59/2.2**

I would send for your answer tomorrow, before 2 o'clock, if more convenient to you -

{archivist's note:

I 10

59/3 F.N. to Col. Lefroy 13 Oct. 1859

60/1 F.N. to ---- 4 June 1860

60/2 F.N. to Miss Mary Jones 15 May 1860

60/3 " " " " 19 Sept. [1860]}

Letter, LMA f59/3.1-f59/3.2, pen  
f59/3.1

{first side of folio is faded and illegible--}

**f59/3.1v**

advise me to do to  
help it - whether &  
if so what books you  
would recommend to  
be given it - whether  
& if so what games  
or Magic Lanterns?

The Garrison is, I  
believe, 5000 strong (?)  
The Govt. ought to build  
them a Reading Room.

3. Have they any  
athletic Games? or  
place to play them in?

**f59/3.2**

The Gov't does get on  
so very slow with Day=  
rooms at home - I  
should like before I die  
to help on something  
more of this kind  
abroad -

I wish you were State  
Inspector of Army Schools  
Believe me  
yours sincerely  
F. Nightingale

Letter, LMA f60/1.1-f60/1.2, pen B XI 141

**f60/1.1** {archivist's note: June 4. 1860}

Mrs. Davis, (if the [14:1010-11]  
Nurse who came out  
in December 1854 &  
remained as cook to  
the General Hospital  
Balaclava till  
October 1855 when  
she went home at  
her own request)  
was an active, respectable,  
hard-working, kind=  
hearted old woman  
with a foul tongue

**f60/1.1v**

& a cross temper.

She did a great  
deal of good service  
in cooking for the  
Hospital. And I  
would gladly have  
kept her; notwithstanding  
her mischief-making.

She was amply  
rewarded - had a  
year's wages (over  
& above the other  
gratuities) paid  
her on leaving - as a  
gratuity.

After she returned  
home, she fell into

**f60/1.2**

bad hands, published  
a book in two Vols:,  
with a greater  
amount of lies  
than I could have  
conceived possible -  
about Lord Raglan's  
esteem for herself,  
& **against many innocent  
people. She** did much  
harm in calumniating Nurses in the  
Crimea.

The whole of  
Miss Salisbury's  
statement (in her  
own "defence") was  
incorporated without  
her name, which

**f60/1.2v**

made it very  
dangerous -

I consider that  
Mrs. Davis's  
excellent services  
were amply  
remunerated by  
the War Office  
& that she has  
less claim upon  
Mr. Sidney Herbert  
than any ordinary  
beggar -

Florence Nightingale  
London June 4 1860

[end 14:1011]

Letter, LMA f60/2.1-f60/2.2, pen

[12:148]

**f60/2.1**

30 Old Burlington St

May 15/60

My dear Miss Jones [Mary Jones]

As I hope to see  
you tomorrow at the  
hour you have been  
good enough to appoint,  
viz. 3 o'clock, I only  
mean to trouble you now  
with three questions,  
which you may  
perhaps find it  
less troublesome to  
answer at home than  
here

1. It is proposed  
that an age be fixed  
for our Probationers -  
at entrance -

**f60/2.1v**

yours are, I see, "25 to  
40." Do you approve  
this? Do you not  
find it difficult to  
teach a woman of near  
40 anything like  
Nursing, if she has  
not begun before?

2. It has been  
proposed that a form  
of testimonials, to be  
filled up by each  
Probationer, before she  
can be received, shall  
be prepared.

I think testimonials  
& proofs of character

**f60/2.2**

not worth the paper  
they are written on -  
What do you  
recommend?

3. It has been  
proposed not to  
admit *deserted* wives  
as Probationers.

I think this is hard -  
Would you, requiring  
a certificate of marriage,  
refuse a wife whose  
husband had left  
her? Half the  
respectable Nurses, certainly, I  
have ever had, have  
been deserted wives.

4. It was suggested  
by Mr. Bowman that

**f60/2.2v**

you thought the payment  
to your own Probationers  
for the first three  
months not enough -  
Is this so? As I  
understand you, it  
is £2.12.6 with  
all other expenses,  
(excepting clothing  
£5/ per month.)  
Enclosed is the sketch  
of what is offered to  
our Probationers. But  
it is still subject  
to alteration

Believe me  
gratefully & affectely. yours  
Florence Nightingale

Letter, LMA f60/3, pen

**f60/3.1**

Dear Miss Jones,

I am sure you  
will not need an  
introduction from  
me, for the Lady who  
brings this note, who  
is very anxious to  
receive some information  
from you, not for the

**f60/3.1v**

sake of idle curiosity  
but from a real de-  
sire to make it  
useful.

Believe me  
dear Miss Jones  
Yours very truly  
Florence Nightingale.  
Septbr. 19th

{archivist's note: I 11

60/4 F.N. to Mr. Whitfield. 21 Dec 1860.  
60/5 " " " 25 Dec 1860}

Letter, LMA pen LMA H1/ST/NC1/60/4

**f60/4.1** B XVI 8

Hampstead NW

Friday Dec 21/60

Dear Mr. Whitfield

I wrote by this day's post to Sir C. Phipps & Sir J. Clark in the sense we agreed upon - I think, if the Prince can be induced to write the letter we want, it is a very great point to shew Mr Baggallay that public opinion will not let the matter rest -

But the main point of the affair is a different one & rests greatly, I think, with you -

What you have to do, & what you only can do, is (if I

**f60/4.1v**

understand the matter right) to prepare as complete & irrefutable a statement as possible to shew the utter loss & damage which the Hospital will sustain by the Railway - and thereon to obtain as large a sum of money as possible. The case for injury is the one to be made out - and it should be shewn that no change nor alteration will render the place (for it will cease to be a Hospital) suitable for sick. The more strongly this is put the better, because, after the award, the same case can be used, in favor of the removal of the building. The Governors

**f60/4.2**

will hardly venture to unsay what they have said - at all events, if they do, this may be brought before the public.

If the Governor will put their case thus, viz. that the Hospital will be unfit for *sick* after the Railway is constructed, - this confession is tantamount to a removal of the Hospital.

In one sense the real battle was lost, when it was before Parliament. And I must say I think the doctors' evidence was very shilly-shally. It is no use talking of that now - You will be obliged to let the Company take simply the land they want

**f60/4.2v**

I am writing letters to such Governors as I know -

Yours sincerely

F. Nightingale

If you have any suggestions of any kind to make, please do so by Bearer - And I will attend to them.

{written upside-down: Dec. 21/60}

Letter, LMA f60/5.1-f60/5.2, pen

**f60/5.1** B XVI 9

*Confidential* Upper Terrace  
Hampstead NW  
Dec 25/60

Dear Mr. Whitfield

Could you find  
out whether any  
mention of the Prince's  
letter to Mr. Baggallay  
occurs in the Minutes?  
Because if not I  
think it would be  
almost a duty for  
me to write to Sir  
C. Phipps in order  
that he may inform

**f60/5.1v**

Mr. Baggallay that  
the Prince's letter  
was not "confidential",  
but meant to be  
laid before the  
Governors.

It was a very  
good letter - signed  
by General Gray - He  
sent me a copy  
of it, by the Prince's  
desire, which I  
will send you -

In the meantime,  
I would, if I were you,

**f60/5.2**

take every opportunity  
of mentioning the  
existence of this  
letter -

I am going to  
write to some more  
Governors - and I  
shall do the same,  
merely saying that  
the Prince has, I  
understand, expressed  
a very strong opinion,  
to the Treasurer -  
& that it ought to  
be placed upon  
record - yours sincerely  
F. Nightingale

{archivist's note:

I 12

60/6 F.N. to Richard Baggallay, Esq., 27 Dec. 1860  
60/7 F.N. to Mr. Whitfield, 31 Dec. 1860}

Letter, LMA pen LMA H1/ST/NC1/60/6; B VIII 1, compare with 47742 f120

f60/6.1

Dec 27/60

Mr. Hedworth Barclay, as a Governor of St. Thomas's Hospital, will have received a notice for a "General Court" on the 24th, to take into consideration the matter of the Charing X Railway.

He will therefore know the whole question, which is to be decided within three weeks from that day.

The Hospital will become one of the worst, if not the worst, in Great Britain, if left in its present site, with railway trains passing to & fro every

**f60/6.1v**

seven minutes, eight feet from the North wing wards.

It is tantamount to the loss of St. Thomas's Hospital, which will then be fit for nothing but a huge Dispensary.

No medical man would defend it as a place for the reception of serious cases.

Upon the construction of the Railway ought to follow immediate steps for the removal of the Hospital.

For the ground upon which the Hospital stands is so valuable that a sum might be obtained for it enough to re=build it in a healthy spot near London with every latest

**f60/6.2**

Sanitary improvement - & make  
it the finest Civil Hospital & the  
best School in England -

Two thirds of the old  
Hospital require re=building -  
And to pull down the North wing  
& place it somewhere else on  
the *same* site would only  
make matters worse -

The Prince has written  
to the Treasurer, expressing a  
very strong opinion in favor  
of the removal of the Hospital.  
Would it not be well to put  
this opinion on record in the  
Minutes of the Hospital?

The construction of the  
Railway is the ruin of the  
Hospital. As for me, I feel  
this so strongly that, if the

**f60/6.2v**

Hospital remains where it is,  
it can be no proper school  
for training Nurses, such as  
we have founded there.

F. Nightingale

Letter, LMA H1/ST/NC1/60/6 BXVI 60

Dec 31/60

Dear Mr. Whitfield

The part of Mr.  
Baggallay's letter to  
The Prince which *nails*  
him is this: -

"The Governors" x x  
"expressing their  
"conviction that the  
"Railway is incompatible  
"with the proper  
"treatment & comfort  
"of the sick poor" x x

They can hardly

**f60/7.1v**

go back from this  
Please to write  
to me in future  
at 30 Old Burlington  
St., altho' I am  
not quite sure of  
the day I shall  
be able to go there.

Yours sincerely  
F. Nightingale

{archivist's note:

I 13

61/1 F.N. to -- (physician to Sidney Herbert)

61/2 F.N. to Richard Baggallay, Esq., 7 Jan. 1861.}

Letter, LMA f61/1.1-f61/1.4, pen

**f61/1.1**

**[8:668-69]**

*Private* 30 Old Burlington St.

Jan 7/61

My dear Sir

I have seen both  
Mr. Herbert and  
Mrs. Herbert (I  
cannot bear to call  
him by his new  
name) since I  
saw you -

I know him so  
very well that I  
can see that the  
strong impression,

**f61/1.1v**

(somewhat falsely  
derived from your words)  
is upon his mind  
viz. that he is the  
subject of hopeless  
disease, that, whatever  
he does, he cannot  
expect to live a  
year - that he ought  
to have devoted  
this year to retirement  
& his children -  
altho' he has yielded  
to our prayers that  
he would retain Office.

**f61/1.2**

His wife tells me  
that her difficulty  
now is much more  
to raise his spirits  
than to make him  
take precautions -  
that both he & she  
are sufficiently  
"alarmed" to do right

I am sure that  
we must all of us  
bless you for having  
been the means of  
prolonging his life  
by *pulling* him out

**f61/1.2v**

of the Ho=of Commons  
- & that we do  
not wish one word  
unsaid which you  
did say.

But, if you would  
just say to him now  
what you did to me  
viz. that you have  
known worse cases  
recover, that, because  
a man is told to  
prop up his house,  
he need not think  
it *must* tumble down.

**f61/1.3**

I am sure that  
you would not  
make him more  
careless, but that  
you would give  
him more vitality.

Indeed, his wife  
asked me to ask  
you to do so.

For the sake of  
sparing your time,  
I have written-  
But, if you liked  
to call here, I would  
tell you the  
circumstances -

**f61/1.3v**

Common sense tells  
one never to interfere  
between a Physician  
& his Patient -

So that I hope  
& trust you will  
not think this is  
interfering

And, above all,  
that, whatever you  
may think it right  
to say to Mr. Herbert,  
you will not let  
him know that I  
have written to you.

I told him what

**f61/1.4**

you had said to me.

He is so very  
peculiar in temperament  
that I think scarcely  
any man knows him.

When I told you  
that he enuyéed  
himself without  
political life, I  
did not mean that  
it was like the ennui  
of a tiresome party  
at dinner - But it  
is a collapse -

God forbid that  
I should liken such  
a pure political life

**f61/1.4v**

as his to delirium  
tremens - But it is  
like leaving a case  
of d. t. without his  
brandy.

I should never  
in the least wonder  
to see him collapse  
& die if he were  
without political  
occupation - How  
often you see this  
in professional men  
retiring from their  
profession -.

Yours sincerely (&  
contrite)

F. Nightingale

Letter, LMA f61/2.2, pen B VIII 3

**f61/2.1**

30 Old Burlington St.

[16:784]

W

Jan 7/61

Dear Sir

I shall rest  
more than satisfied  
in the conviction  
that your judgement  
favours the removal  
of St. Thomas's, and  
that, as in the  
chief hands, so in  
the best hands

**f61/2.1v**

now lies its chance  
of success - No  
assurance could  
be more satisfactory  
than this.

I think that  
nothing which I  
have said can be  
construed to point  
at more than  
the irremediable  
damage inflicted

**f61/2.2**

by the *Railway* on  
the Hospital.

I should  
perhaps mention  
to you that three  
Governors, (knowing  
my two-fold interest  
in your noble  
Institution,) sent  
me the "Notice"  
for the "General Court"  
of the 24th ult.  
at the same time

**f61/2.2v**

as Mr. Whitfield.

I trust that  
you will be able  
to make St. Thomas's  
into the first  
Hospital & finest  
School in Europe -

**[end]**

And believe me to be  
dear Sir  
yours most faithfully  
Florence Nightingale  
Rd Baggallay Esq

{archivist's note:

I 14

61/3 F.N. to Miss Mary Jones 24 May 1861}

envelope on film

Miss Jones

Lady Supt.

King's College Hospital

Letter, LMA f61/3.1-f61/3.7, pen

**f61/3.1**

30 Old B St

May 24/61

**[15:154-55]**

My dear friend [Mary Jones]

I know so well &  
have seen so often  
what you say about  
Mrs. S.S.

I can only answer  
by telling you exactly  
the truth - as I did  
to her thro' my Uncle  
in answer to a letter  
of hers addressed to  
Mr. Clough, who is  
still ill & abroad.

The old Woolwich

**f61/3.1v**

Hospital (Artillery)  
will be ready to be  
occupied as a general  
Hospital on June 24.

Sunday appointments [sundry?]  
will follow upon this  
- a Governor - a  
Captain of Orderlies  
&c &c - *and* Female  
Nurses -

But whether the  
delay will be weeks  
or months I cannot  
tell - I am sure  
the appointments  
will not be immediate.  
I don't think they

**f61/3.2**

will be delayed  
beyond this year -

But, whether  
or no they are  
immediate, I am  
quite sure that  
great delay will  
take place on the  
part of Mrs. S.S.  
herself, whatever  
proposal is made  
to her. She has  
delayed every answer  
to every question that  
has been put to her  
about Military Hospitals  
since she has been

**f61/3.2v**

in England till it  
was too late to  
make it at all.

If we are to believe what she  
states to my Uncle  
in the letter alluded  
to by her, but which  
she states gratuitously  
for no proposal has  
been made to her,  
she will decline  
the only proposal  
which will be  
made - And then  
there will be a delay

**f61/3.3**

[2]  
in looking out for  
somebody else -  
which may last  
for years or for  
ever -

The Army Hospital  
Regulations, ~~to~~ among  
which are included  
the Regns. for Nurses,  
have been in force  
for 2 years - But  
the constitutionally  
procrastinating habits  
of the War Minister,  
immensely increased  
by serious disease,

**f61/3.3v**

make all his appointments so uncertain.

I am sincerely sorry for her & still more so for you, on account of all this uncertainty - But it is one which every body shares - Of course all the world is "agog" at Woolwich - no one knowing exactly how soon he may be changed or settled.

[I received the authority by which

**f61/3.4**

I acted in the Crimea two months *after* the Peace was signed & three months before we all returned to England!!!!]

What I sincerely advise for the good of all parties is that you keep Mrs. S.S. on, if you will be so good, *indefinitely*. The *indefiniteness* cannot last longer than this year. For if nothing

**f61/3.4v**

is done during this  
year, I am convinced  
nothing ever will be  
done (as to Female  
Nursing in Military  
Hospls.) For Mr. Herbert  
will be out of office

She has asked me  
to let her know before  
June 15. But nothing  
more will be known  
then than now in  
all human probability  
-----

In answer to what else  
you say about her; to judge  
by my own experience  
it is perfectly useless to  
explain to her - one can  
only answer her definite questions

**f61/3.5**

[3]

I know this is  
excessively inconvenient

For she goes to  
others & repeats her  
own false impressions

But I have never  
found anything I  
could say *to her*  
set them right

**[end 15:155]**

**f61/3.5v**

Dearest friend, I am  
so sorry you are so  
tired. How I wish  
I could put you  
"under an obedience"  
never to sleep in  
the Hospital. And  
how I wish you  
would put a Sister  
in night = charge  
till more Sisters  
can be found -  
ever yours  
F.N.

**f61/3.6**

Mrs. Wardroper  
came to me to day  
about other matters.  
And I asked her  
why she had refused  
Miss Moore & "her  
friend", whose name  
no one seems to know.

**[12:151]**

She said because  
they had stipulated  
that they should not  
be called upon to  
attend, the one,  
Fevers, the other,  
Operations -

I enclose you  
another note of Miss

**f61/3.6v**

Moore's to me. Please don't trouble to return it.

Somehow I have an idea that she is more sensible than the request to Mrs. Wardroper would lead one to think - I do wish she might come to you -

[end 12:151]

As I sent you one letter from Miss A. Jones, I am bound to send you

**f61/3.7**

another -

I cannot but think *want of* character is her peculiar *character*. She is always under some one's meridian. And you will see that tomorrow, if she enters St. Thomas's, which I am afraid she intends, she will write just such a preaching letter as before to our old Treasurer. And then there will be the same story all over again.

**f61/3.7v**

Yes, I saw Mr. Rathbone. And he told me of his interview with you. And I told him generally that I thought Miss A. Jones with many excellent & even endearing qualities, would never have the moral authority necessary for his purpose - & would get herself into ludicrous scrapes

{archivist's note:

I 15

61/4 F.N. to R. Baggallay, Esq. 1 June 1861  
61/5 " " " 3 June 1861}

Letter, LMA pen LMA H1/ST/NC1/61/5

**f61/4.1** 30. Old Burlington Street.

W. {printed}

June 1/61

My dear Sir

As we *hope* that you will have to build a new Hospital, (which is to be the wonder of the world & the model of Hospitals) I have thought that it might interest you to see the

R. Baggallay, Esq.

**f61/4.1v**

"Army Barrack &  
Hospital" Report,  
which is just out  
& has not yet been  
presented to Parliament

The part which  
will interest you  
the most is that  
about proposed  
Army General Hospitals,  
Pp. 190 to 200 -

And there are  
(at Pp 194-6) wood=

**f61/4.2**

cuts of the new Woolwich  
Hospital.

Would you be so  
good as to let me  
have a copy of the  
"Agreement" between  
yourself & the N. fund  
Trustees? If you  
could send it me  
by 2 o'clock on Monday  
I should be the  
more obliged.

**f61/4.2v**

I am sorry to say  
 that Mr. Clough's  
 health is hardly  
 enough restored to  
 allow him to return  
 with certainty for  
 the Meeting in June  
 Should he not be  
 able to do so, we  
 trust that Mr. H  
 Bonham Carter, (a  
 Barrister) will transact  
 the business without  
 any inconvenience to  
 yourself or delay to the  
 accounts. yours faithfully  
 Florence Nightingale

Letter, LMA f61/5, pen

**f61/5.1**

{printed} 30. Old Burlington Street.  
 W.

June 3/61 [16:401]

Dear Sir,

I agree with you  
 that Lariboisière has  
 built its Pavilions too  
 close - But what a  
 difference between it  
 & the Woolwich plan!

	<i>Lariboisière</i>	<i>Woolwich</i>
	Ft	Ft
Height	55	31
Distance between Pavilions	68	62

**f61/5.1v**

In other words, distance  
is to height (in Lariboisière)  
as 13  $\frac{3}{5}$  to 11  
as 2 to 1 (Woolwich

In both cases, I reckon  
from ground floor ward,  
i.e. from what  
affects the Patients,  
the light which  
reaches the wards -

ff The construction  
adopted for Woolwich

**f61/5.2**

was the only one of  
which the ground  
admitted.

But if you  
examine the plan,  
you will see that  
it obviates all  
your objections.

To all the  
~~ware~~ Pavilions,  
excepting the two  
right-hand double  
Pavilions, the basement

**f61/5.2v**

is a false one - Only  
in the latter is it  
used - & only in  
the small Itch  
ward for *Patients* -

The two outside  
double Pavilions at  
either end have  
outside views,  
which none of the  
Lariboisière Pavilions  
(for sick) have -  
Take the next  
double Pavilion at

**f61/5.3**

either end - And  
 one side of it has  
 a distance of (not  
 60 feet but) nearly  
 300 ft. The single  
 Pavilions on the  
 other side have also  
 a distance of about  
 150 feet owing to  
 the Short Pavilion  
 between them. In  
 short there is  
 but one side each  
 of two double Pavilions

**f61/5.3v**

which have *only*  
 the distance of 62  
 ft.

The cubic space  
 of the London Hospls.  
 was returned to us  
 by the Hospls. themselves -  
 I have now St Thomas'  
 Return before me.  
 Maximum        1600 cub. ft.  
 Min.            800    "    "  
                 I most warmly

**f61/5.4**

re=echo your hope  
that you will  
improve upon the  
Report - In fact,  
I believe every year  
brings such improve=  
ments that we  
shall be quite  
antiquated old "fogies"  
with our Report  
in 5 years -

Many thanks  
for the copy of  
agreement.

[end 16:401]

**f61/5.4v**

Pray believe me  
very faithfully yours  
Florence Nightingale

{archivist's note:

I 16

61/6 F.N. to [Mary Jones]. 7 Aug. 1861

61/7 F.N. to [Mary Jones]. n.d. [Aug. 1861?]

Letter, LMA f61/6.1-f61/6.4, pen

**f61/6.1** LMA H1/ST/NC1/61/6 and KCL KH/NL/PP16/Jones, black-edged paper in KCL

Hampstead NW

Aug 7/61 [16:756]

My dear friend [Mary Jones]

I have enquired as to different sites for your Convalescent Hospital and I find:

1. that the best places to get ground to build are Roehampton Park, near Richmond-Blackheath -Upper Norwood, near Cryst. Pal=

2. that Hampstead & Highgate are better places to find *houses* in to let at once for the purpose, but not for land to build on afterwards.

Near the upper end of Hampstead on the NW. or S. side of the hill, -at the "Spaniard public house, or near Child's Hill (between West End & Child's Hill) - also towards

**f61/6.1v**

Fragnell on Finchley.

These latter sites are however on clay - Hampstead & the ridge towards Highgate and the upper end of Highgate are on gravel.

Roehampton Park is sand - Blackheath, sand & gravel passing into clay. There would be much more difficulty in finding *houses* at these places.

The best way would be to consult an agent who knows all the districts & then to visit and inspect the houses.

It occurred to me that the house (Mr. Jackson's, Upper Terrace, Hampstead) which you saw me in last winter, would be the very place for a Conv. Hosp. with very few alterations. I would throw the Entrance & Draw= Room into a Ward for men. My

**f61/6.2**

bed=room & sitting room up=stairs  
into one for women. The exposure  
is S. of these rooms. There is  
ground to build -

But I don't know whether  
they would let or sell for such  
a purpose - and the owner & his  
wife are the most extortionate  
& hypocritical people I ever  
had to deal with.

As there is no gentleman's  
house adjacent, there would be  
no objection on that score.

I should like to be  
allowed to help you with money  
in this way, if I may.

**[end 16:757]**

I hope to hear from you what  
==== your China=merchant says.

I asked my cousin Miss  
B. Carter, to call on Mrs. Wardroper  
& ask her for a viva voce  
character of Nurse Murdoch for

**f61/6.2v**

me. I did not mention you even to my cousin.

The result seems to me quite conclusive. Mrs. Wardroper admitted at once that she would neither take Murdoch again nor have taken her at all, had she known her then. I enclose, however, what she said, written down by my cousin.

=====

Dear friends, your sympathy about my dear Master is very grateful to me.

His death was very sudden at last - rather unaccountable, except by his having been injudiciously nursed, poor fellow. The real fatal illness lasted only 3 days -

However all that matters little now - His death=bed was most happy: full of resignation

**f61/6.3**

gratitude to God, thought for others, even cheerfulness.

His last articulate words were for me -

It is 5 years today since I began working with him in England - All that is now closed.

Had he but finished his work, I could have parted with him to God, I think, not only willingly but gladly.

But he *could* have done so much & *had* done so little. I am certain that disappointment with himself hastened the end.

His was the purest ambition I ever knew. He did not care for place: worked rather against the grain, for he was indolent & fond of life. But he worked for love of his kind alone.

No one understood him

**f61/6.3v**

but me. No one loved & served him like me.

Ours was I think the soundest friendship I have ever ~~kn~~ heard of. It was founded solely on the love of mankind & of God never even on the pleasure of each other's society.

All family loves do seem to me so selfish. They always ask for so much in return. Parents must always complain because their children do not love them enough - Husbands & wives do think so much as to the measure of the affection they get in return.

I never asked him for anything in return - not even for his affection. I have lived with him, seeing him nearly every day & sometimes all day, working out for him the most

**f61/6.4**

tiresome official papers for 5 years - & we never talked either of friendship or amusement.

When he was dead, I never even thought of seeing him again, till it was suggested to me - I only thought of whom HE would like to see again, his wife & children: not me.

I am sick of myself for being alive when he is dead. Oh that he should have been taken and I left - It is as if God had cut off my two arms & thrown me back the thumbs.

But He knows best. I would not have my dear master back, not even if I could.

But our work for the Army is over - as far as the War Office is concerned. He had

**f61/6.4v**

not the strength of purpose to found it on sure foundations, so that no successor could overthrow it. And during his two years of office, this was what I was always urging upon him. It might have been done; and it was not - .

I am sweeping up my dead master's ashes - And agonizing work it is. It may be a six month's work - And so little will it "pay" -

I hope I shall see you here before I go -

ever yours

F.N.

Letter, LMA f61/7, pen

**f61/7.1**

Dearest friend I have just had  
a note from Miss Montgomery,  
the present ~~owner~~ ~~from~~ of tenant of the Clock House.

She is afraid the land is not  
much over two acres - But she will  
ask the gardener the exact amount  
tomorrow.

She says any lady who would  
like just to look at the house  
might come tomorrow morning,  
however early, & be admitted, if  
she will give my name -

Should you think the house  
worth enquiring after, she will  
then make any enquiries of Miss  
Murray, the owner, as to sale

**f61/7.1v**

or price.

As she lives very conveniently  
in the house herself, I think  
she is acting like a gentleman!!

But I am almost afraid  
the price will be too high for  
the land, as it is in such  
request for fancy builders

Letter, LMA pen LMA H1/ST/NC1/61/8, copy FN Museum

**f61/8.1**

Hampstead NW  
Oct 5/61

[13:256]

My dear Sir,

I have been intending  
for some days to answer  
your kind note.

I have seen Miss  
Jones & rejoice to  
think that you are  
likely to find a good  
Supt. in Miss Mary  
Merryweather - I have  
not the pleasure of  
her personal acquaintance.  
But everything that  
I know of her past

**f61/8.1v**

career is that of a  
wise & good &  
energetic manager of  
moral training -  
Indeed I believe she  
would have been  
mentioned to you before  
but that it was  
understood that your  
Supt. must be of the  
Ch: of England.

I hope to hear  
that she is at King's  
Coll: Hosp: for a time  
under Miss Jones. But

**f61/8.2**

when I saw Miss J.  
this week, she had not heard of any  
such arrangement  
having been definitely  
fixed.

I need hardly say  
that, if at St. Thomas'  
we can help, by showing  
either of the Miss  
Merryweathers the  
practical working of  
a very large Hospital,  
without the benefits  
or the checks of a  
religious order, which  
we could not have -

**f61/8.2v**

we shall be glad to  
be of the least service.

In a few days, I  
hope to send you the  
Regulations of a joint  
plan, by Miss Jones &  
myself, for training  
Country Midwifery Nurses  
*under her*  
(at King's Coll: Hosp:)  
which begins this month.

[8:163]

[end 8:163]

====

I was grieved to  
hear from your letter  
that ~~they were~~ Manchester was adding  
to & enlarging the  
already overgrown  
Manchester Infirmary.

[16:626-27]

**f61/8.3**

[2]

It is built on the worst of Hospital plans: Gangrene is never out of its wards. One of the most eminent Surgeons, who is also Surgeon to the Railway, never sends his accidents to the Infirmary, but prefers, at immense personal labour & loss of time, to attend them at their own homes. Because they are sure to incur Erysipelas or other Hospital disease at

**f61/8.3v**

the ill=placed, ill=constructed, ill=ventilated Infirmary. This is the evidence of a brave man, and what few even brave men would venture to give

Two years ago, I was employed by some rich & benevolent Manchester men to give a verdict upon the plans of the present Manchester Infirmary, which were sent me - & to construct plans for an Infirmary out

**f61/8.4**

of Manchester, where first Convalescents & it was hoped subsequently cases which could not recover in Manchester, would be sent.

I was then convinced - And others too were convinced (men important in Manchester) that no improvement in the present Infirmary could make it a place where Patients would have a good chance - that to

**f61/8.4v**

*enlarge* it would be fatal - And the plans for the *Convalescent* Hospl out of town were entirely finished and in the hands of the principal mover of the whole (a Manchester man) when he died almost suddenly.

Nothing has since been done. And the peccant Hospital is actually being enlarged.

The reason why I tell you this long story is that, as you

**f61/8.5**

[3]

may possibly become  
connected with the  
Manchester Infirmary,  
(by training a Supt. for  
it) - you might be  
able to avert a  
great evil & spread  
a sounder knowledge  
there -

I am actually  
engaged at this moment  
~~in~~ on the plans of  
four Provincial Hospitals  
or branches of London Hospitals - where the  
principle of sound  
construction in country

**f61/8.5v**

air is to be observed.

It would be hard,  
if Manchester with  
her high civilization,  
& generous public spirit,  
should not recognize  
this principle

[end 16:627]

=====

*Private*

As for my dear  
Master, Sidney Herbert,  
what can be said?

[15:322]

He died as he had  
lived, with his thought  
engaged (to the last)  
on the welfare of the  
private soldiers, whom  
he was the first War  
Minister to recognize

**f61/8.6**

as his fellow=creature.  
Five years, had he  
lived another week,  
he & I had been  
engaged together,  
working every day &  
sometimes all day  
at this.

Now all is lost -  
I have never known  
the Horse Guards so  
rampant as they  
are now - And I have  
known them 7 years -

The Commander  
in Chief is a "*Snob*" -  
And the present War  
Secretary is a "*muff.*"

**f61/8.6v**

The reign of intelligence  
at the War Office is  
over.

The present man  
(thro' ignorance) is a  
mere tool in the  
hands of the Commr-in  
Chief - who himself  
had been a mere  
tool in the hands of  
my dear master.

Their only rule of  
action seems to be  
to try to upset his  
every decision, his  
judgment - or (if they  
can do nothing else)  
his words.

Their only rule of  
action seems to be  
to try to upset his  
every decision, his  
judgement- or (if they  
can do nothing else)  
his words.

**f61/8.7**

[4]

I could tell you of  
many fatal instances of this.  
But I cannot write  
them.

Even the naming  
the new Woolwich Hospl=  
the "Herbert Hospl=" was  
forced upon them -  
altho' they afterwards  
took the credit of it -  
And the Commr= in Chief  
actually tried to prevent  
the Hospl. being built  
at all - after the tenders  
were out & accepted.

There are however  
much worse things than that.

The dogs have

**f61/8.7v**

trampled on the dead body.

[end 15:322]

Mr. Gladstone, who  
pretended to be a  
friend, will pledge  
himself to nothing,  
not even to friendship  
with *him*.

*His* last words  
were, "Poor Florence  
& our unfinished work."  
Indeed he died broken  
hearted at not  
having accomplished  
it. Could we have  
said "It is finished,"  
how light would be

**f61/8.8**

the trial now! Without the  
intermission of one single waking hour,  
~~have~~ seven years this  
very month, I have  
fought the good fight  
for the Army, in &  
out of the War Office,  
and lost it.

Of course all this  
*is private* - You have  
taken so deep an  
interest, ~~all~~ you [illeg]  
Liverpool, about the  
Army, dating from  
the Crimea - and  
so just a view of  
the relation between  
the Horse Guards & War

**f61/8.8v**

Office - at the affair  
of the Chelsea Board  
that I could not but  
write it to you. But  
its meaning is *not*  
private. I wish  
people to know how  
much more my dear  
Master thought of  
what he had not  
done than of what  
he had done - how  
penetrated (& bitterly  
so) he was with the conviction that  
he had *not* re-organized  
the War Office - how

**f61/8.9**

[5]

he struggled with  
fatal organic disease  
*of years' standing* to  
work to the last (till the  
very day fortnight before  
his death) - & how  
the Horse Guards &  
the Commr. in Chief,  
who positively cringed  
to him while alive,  
are treacherously &  
basely profiting by  
this hand of death  
having ~~deprived~~ relieved them  
of *their* Masters, before  
his work was done.

**f61/8.9v**

yours ever sincerely

F. Nightingale

I do not wish to vilify  
the Comm. in Chief. He  
is a good=natured  
man - a good man  
of business - an  
intense-coward - &  
will cringe to any  
Master=hand -  
But now ours is gone,  
he does nothing but  
mischief-

{archivist's note: I 18 1/9 F.N. to [Mr. Rathbone] 19 Oct. 1861}

Letter, LMA f61/9.1-f61/9.5, pen **f61/9.1**

Hampstead NW

Oct 19/61

My dear Sir

1. I enclose the Regulations for our plan at King's College Hospl= which, thanks to Miss Jones, begins this month. I am sure you will be glad to hear of it.

2. I am very glad to hear that Miss Merryweather goes to Miss Jones next month. I hope

**f61/9.1v**

she will not be too much hurried in her time there. As it is impossible to learn even Hospital routine in a month.

3. I return Mr. Gladstone's letter with many thanks. But you will see that his opinion as to the Infirmary at Manchester being very much improved (or improveable) is not shared by  
the best

[16:628-29]

**f61/9.2**

Manchester Medical  
authorities. Please  
return to me Mr.  
Roberton's letter -  
I have also another  
*nearly similar* from  
another Manchester  
man, with which  
I do not trouble you.  
But as you may  
have some future  
influence in this  
line, I should be  
glad if you would  
glance at Mr. Roberton,  
who has written two  
of the best Tracts on  
Hospital construction

**f61/9.2v**

extant.

I must add  
that there is yet a  
third authority (a  
Manchester Surgeon)  
who told me that  
he *never* sent his  
accidents into the  
Infirmary, altho'  
at the greatest loss  
of time & money  
to himself, if it  
were possible to help  
it - as they were  
almost sure to do  
badly.

**f61/9.3**

[2]

I understand that  
an old Mr. Harker  
(qy is that the name?)  
is the main hindrance  
to removing the Infirmary.

100 years hence I  
expect it will be  
considered as  
impossible to put  
sick down in the  
middle of a crowded  
city - as it is now  
to leave Gaols in the  
state these were in  
100 years ago - or  
to chain lunatics  
to rings in the wall.

**[end 16:629]****f61/9.3v**

4. I agree with Sir  
John McNeill that  
there is nothing to be  
done at present, to  
resist the H. Guards.  
Therefore I would not  
trouble you to come  
up on purpose. Besides  
this, the facts I have  
to tell are just those  
which I could not  
make public.

**[15:328]**

But I hope that  
you will not be  
taken in, as poor  
Lady Herbert is, by  
the Commander in Chief,

**f61/9.4**

who offers, in answer  
to her request, to hold a Meeting in  
honor of Sidney Herbert,  
but who, in the War  
Office, does everything  
to *dishonor* Sidney  
Herbert - by overthrowing  
his plans, his Soldier's  
Day Rooms, his Soldiers  
Wives Hospitals &c &c  
&c - his Barrack  
Inspections - & by  
trying to prevent even  
the Hosptl. called by  
his name being built  
at all -

Lord de Grey is entirely

**f61/9.4v**

to be depended upon  
for doing his best  
to carry out Sidney  
Herbert's plans -  
Were he Minister,  
he would immediately  
re=organize the War  
Office. But he has  
small weight  
either in Parliament,  
Cabinet or Court  
or Horse Guards -  
Of course however he  
cannot attack his  
government -

As for Mr. Gladstone  
& Lord Granville, they

**f61/9.5**

enrage me more than  
 any. Because they  
 were his friends -  
 Of course they would  
 not, where Sidney  
 Herbert's popularity  
 strengthened Ministers,  
 allow that his plans  
 were to be reversed.  
 But Gladstone, for  
 one, has desired  
 "not to be bothered"  
 with "supporting" them.  
 And Ld. Granville  
 is a Courtier & will  
 always court every  
 body. It is not his

**f61/9.5v**

fault. Some men  
 are made so, I  
 suppose.

[end]

Yours sincerely,  
 F. Nightingale

{archivist's note:

I 19

62/1 F.N. to [MARY JONES] 12 May 1862

62/2 F.N. to [MR. RATHBONE] 11 July 1862}

Letter, LMA pen LMA H1/ST/NC1/62/1

**f62/1**

9 Chesterfield St.

W May 12/62

My dear friend [Mary Jones]

I can scarcely hope  
to find you disengaged  
at so short a notice.

But, if you could  
come to me conveniently  
for an hour between  
3 and 4 today, I  
shall be so glad to  
see you. Do not,  
however, if it is in  
the least inconvenient,  
as I am sure to find  
another day -

ever yours

F. Nightingale

Letter, LMA pen LMA H1/ST/NC1/62/2

**f62/2.1**

9 Chesterfield St.

[13:258]

London W

July 11/62

My dear Sir [William Rathbone]

I see nothing but  
what is very good in  
your "Regulations" about  
which however you are  
a much better  
judge than I am -

I wish you & Miss  
Merryweather Godspeed  
with all my heart  
in your undertaking,  
which begins, I trust,  
under the most  
favourable auspices.

If you see Miss

**f62/2.1v**

Merryweather, will you thank her from me for a kind letter she wrote me when she left St Thomas', but which I was then unable to answer -

Mr. Howson was so good as to send me his "Deaconesses" some time ago through Miss Jones - Perhaps you would some day perform for me the same kind task of thanking him.

**[8:103****f62/2.2**

I read it with the deepest interest. On the spiritual side I see nothing wanting. But I could not but regret that he did not enter a little more into the practical side, as, if this were done, it might almost become a Guidebook to this important subject. I mean ~~that~~, if he would point out, e.g. the respective merits & demerits of having a religious Training

**f62/2.2v**

School for Nurses in  
a *secular* Hospital  
& again in a Hospital  
*of its own* - In the  
latter, you avoid, I  
had almost said  
shirk, a whole class  
of difficulties - While,  
if you bravely confront  
the rubs & wears &  
tears of the former, you  
secure an infinitely  
higher object, and,  
I may ~~aim~~ without  
contradiction assert,  
an infinitely better  
& more thorough  
practical education

**f62/2.3**

for your Nurses -

Thus I would not  
hesitate to say that  
Miss Jones & Miss  
Merryweather, tho'  
the work develops  
itself much more  
slowly, are laying a  
much safer corner=  
stone than the many  
German & English  
Protestant & R. Catholic  
Societies, who train  
their Nurses "at home,"  
& who, if they have a  
Hospital, manage it  
themselves.

So the Augustinians  
at Paris, who train

**f62/2.3v**

at the Hotel Dieu.

And generally, both  
French & English, from  
their act of common  
sense, train much  
better than the Germans.

**[end 8:103]**

[eleven lines crossed out and illeg and top of next page cut off,  
presumably on same, re Herbert Memorial]

**f62/2.4**

Believe me,  
ever yours faithfully  
F. Nightingale

f62/2.5 [this is an undated partial letter, after M. Jones's death]

Workhouse Infirmary Act.

I was greatly relieved to **[13:608]**  
hear your account of  
poor Mrs. Kidd, which was  
confirmed this morning  
by Miss G. Smyth.  
I felt quite afraid lest  
it would be necessary  
to send Miss Freeman  
to Lpool at once to  
help - Miss Smyth however  
does not think so. I see  
Miss Freeman on Monday.  
On Tuesday she enters at  
St. Thomas'. I feel anxious  
not to hurry her too much.  
I return Miss Frodeham's  
(under another Envelope)

**f62/2.5v**

testimonials. I seemed to  
 know her name, & now  
 I recall what I knew  
 about her. I have  
 written to a person who  
 I think will give me a  
 confidential opinion - &  
 will let you know. I  
 shall not write to the Dr.  
 {illeg.Burlem?} of Bournemouth,  
 as you know him -  
     in great haste  
 pray, dear Mr. Rathbone  
 believe me ever yours  
 sincerely & gratefully  
     Florence Nightingale

{archivist's note:

I 20

63/1 F.N. to RD. BAGGALLAY 13 JAN. 1863

63/2 " " " 17 JAN. 1863

63/3 " " [MARY JONES] 17 JAN. 1863}

Letter, LMA f63/1, pen

**f63/1.1**

32 South St. Park Lane W

Jan 13/63

My dear Sir

The only way out of your  
 difficulty as to the *site*, would  
 be to refer all the sites to  
 persons who have not committed  
 themselves on either side the  
 controversy, as I suggested some  
 time since to Mrs. Wardroper.

Dr. Leeson's pamphlet is  
 good & certainly negatives all  
 idea of placing the Hospital  
 at the South end of Westminster  
 Bridge, as I was very sorry to  
 hear had been proposed.

The position is the worst  
 about London, only 2 feet above

**f63/1.1v**

water mark.

Dr. Leeson's proposal to warm by hot water should not be entertained. Open fire places only are permissible.

I shall be very glad to see your Report, as you kindly propose

Believe me dear Sir

very faithfully yours

Florence Nightingale

Rd Baggallay Esq

Letter, LMA f63/2.1-f63/2.2, pen

**f63/2.1**

32 South St

Park Lane W

Jan 17/63

My dear Sir

I have to thank you for the copy of your Report.

I wish I could help poor St. Thomas' out of his difficulties which, for aught I see, increase rather than diminish.

But it is impossible of course

**f63/2.1v**

for me to ask  
any Governor to  
propose a selection of sites.  
Neither should I  
choose to do so.

Under your  
present difficulty,  
by far the best,  
indeed the only  
way would be to  
call in the aid  
of persons independent  
& competent to  
advise in these  
matters. And

**f63/2.2**

in that case I  
would gladly give  
all the assistance  
in my power.

I must add  
that the most  
painful surprise  
I have had for  
years is to see,  
after all that has  
been written & {illeg.proved?}  
as to the choice  
of sites for Hospitals,  
a site so much  
as mentioned as

**f63/2.2v**

that by the Thames  
Embankment - a  
place totally unfit  
for sick.

Believe me  
very faithfully yours  
Florence Nightingale

Letter, LMA pen H1/ST/NC1/63/3

**f63/3.1**

Dearest friend [Mary Jones]

1. I send you a  
facsimile of the  
Cottage Plan you  
asked for which  
you will perhaps  
like better than a  
tracing

2. My finished  
Operation Tables  
with nomenclature  
of fatal complications  
printed at the back

**f63/3.1v**

will be ready in a  
day or two, when  
I will send you  
copies. Mr. Fergusson,  
should he use these  
at all, will probably  
like to see the  
finished copies,  
before he makes  
any arrangements  
3. I return that  
woman's letter:  
Its folly & egotism  
are aggravating beyond

**f63/3.2**

description. I could  
hardly have believed  
it, but that I know,  
when I had a  
person living with  
me, my routine  
work was tripled.  
And professional men  
continually returned  
me her letters. The  
only way for you  
if you had thought  
it right to get well  
would have been  
to ignore her work  
at St John's altogether

**f63/3.2v**

for a time. But it  
 seems that now you  
 are in for it. And  
 I only hope you will  
 go away in February.  
 I do think that,  
 from your state of  
 health, it worries  
 you more than it  
 should. How I wish  
 I could help you.

ever yours

F.N

Jan 17/63

envelope addressed by FN to Miss Jones

{archivist's note:

I 21

63/4 F.N. TO --- ("MADAM"), 12 MAR. 1863

63/5 F.N. TO [MARY JONES], 15 JUNE 1863

63/6 " " " 23 JUNE 1863}

Letter, LMA f63/4, pen

**f63/4.1 A XXX 6**

4 Cleveland Row  
 St James' SW  
 March 12/63

Madam

I regret that you  
 should have had the  
 trouble of asking for  
 my name at your  
 Bazar, when Mr.  
 Frederic Andrew had  
 performed that  
 office already.

I also regret to  
 have to repeat to you  
 my answer to him,

**f63/4.1v**

viz. that, deeply as  
 I am interested  
 in the success of  
 your good work, I  
 am compelled to  
 make it a rule  
 not to give my  
 name to Bazars -  
 & above all, never  
 to give my name,  
 where my health  
 prevents my giving  
 my working help -

Believe me

faithfully yours  
 Florence Nightingale

Letter, LMA f63/5.1-f63/5.4, pen

**f63/5.1**

4. Cleveland Row.  
 S.W.

June 15/63

Dearest friend [Mary Jones]

I am so pressed, as  
 I fear you know too well  
 what it is to be, that  
 I cannot write a  
 proper letter about  
 these out=standing  
 things:

1. as to Mrs. Clark.  
 She has marked every  
 step of her intercourse  
 with me with a  
 blunder, topping up

**f63/5.1v**

with insisting on  
Cleveland Row, S.W.,  
being in Hampstead,  
wherefore the enclosed  
has been 3 days on  
its road - I always  
feel as if this kind  
carried its blundering  
into every department  
of life. But as you  
know her, & if you  
don't think so, I will  
do as you tell me.

I am quite sure that  
our Committee won't  
"pay her fees" - nor  
is it reasonable to  
ask them. I feel it

**f63/5.2**

hard to be called upon  
myself, seeing that all  
the money I have to  
spend on Charities  
is earned by the books  
I write to sell, that is to say,  
I have exactly the  
same means as  
Mrs. Clark herself, =  
nevertheless you  
shall tell me what  
to do -

2. I enclose the Bath  
letter. I dare say  
you have had a  
similar one - Bath  
sticks in my heart.

**f63/5.2v**

I am afraid it is  
only the appearance  
of good.

3. The result of my  
communications about  
~~the~~ Calcutta with  
Sir C. Wood & Lady  
Cranworth is that  
London influence  
"brings forth no fruit"  
in Calcutta - but  
"should the Training  
Institution be ever  
really started," they  
(at Calcutta) would  
be too glad of "my

**f63/5.3**

lady as Supt." [I was  
obliged not to give her  
name] The document  
is such a mysterious  
one, that I hesitate  
to send it you; all  
I can make out from  
it is that there is  
some sort of quarrel  
between the London  
& Calcutta people

ever yours

FN.

Dearest, I hope you  
are not getting to  
have "scruples." All  
I meant about the

**f63/5.3v**

poor little £100, is,  
do with it exactly  
as you think best,  
(& if that is the  
Convalescents, so much  
the better,) without  
accounting to any  
one.

-----  
I almost hope  
Mrs. J. may stay  
with you. Unless  
she is veritably  
drawn towards  
Calcutta - especially  
since I heard many  
things & now know

**f63/5.4**

I think at these  
busy times the wear  
of being 3 miles  
off & having to  
get ready for a  
Messenger &c is  
even worse than  
being on the spot.  
It is 10 years this  
month since I went  
to Harley St -  
7 years yesterday  
since I came back  
from the Crimea -  
6 years yesterday  
since I have been

**f63/5.4v**

confined to my room  
- 2 years this last  
Sunday since I lost  
Sidney Herbert.

I am so hurried  
that I can scarcely  
write. But I would  
not have you think  
that I am enjoying  
myself down here  
in idleness, & not  
thinking of you or  
of my wish to see  
you always -

ever yours  
F.N.

Letter, LMA pen LMA H1/ST/NC1/63/6

**f63/6.1**

4 C Row SW  
June 23/63

Dearest friend

I return these, as  
desired. I was very  
glad to see the printed  
paper & would have  
kept it, if you had  
had another copy.

A propos of By Law  
25, could we not have  
something like it?  
It has happened to  
me so often,  
particularly in the  
East, to wish to protect

**f63/6.1v**

the Govt. against sending out Nurses at great expense, merely to marry or take private service directly. And I have always been told it could not be done -

But this Society does it.

I should like to ask Hy Bonham Carter, who is a lawyer, whether in the case of your Mrs. Hart, or in order to secure

**f63/6.2**

our St. Thomas' probationers ~~from~~ remaining in Hospital service for at least 5 years after leaving us, we could not require such an engagement.

I don't think it would be a bad thing to make the prospective husband refund the money, like Jacob, of the training of his wife. Only I suppose it

**f63/6.2v**

never is refunded,  
 for all the engagements.  
     ever dearest friend  
     Yours  
     F.N.

{archivist's note: I 22  
 63/7 F.N. TO [MARY JONES]      26 JULY 1863  
 64/1 F.N. TO DR. PATTISON WALKER   11 JAN. 1864  
 64/2 F.N. TO [MARY JONES].   11 FEB. 1864.  
 64/3 F.N. TO DR. ACLAND.   13 FEB. 1864  
 64/4 F.N. TO [MARY JONES]   25   FEB. 1864}

Letter, LMA pen LMA H1/ST/NC1/63/7      **[8:169]**

**f63/7.1**

    July 26/63  
 Dearest friend [Mary Jones]  
     I cannot remember  
 ever in all my life  
 having been so driven  
 as in the last 3  
 months.

    I have never been  
 up since I saw you  
 except to see one of  
 my masters & to go  
 to Hampstead.

    Since Wednesday  
 fortnight when the  
 India Sanitary Report's

**[9:230]**

**f63/7.1v**

first copy saw the  
light, I have had  
every moment taken  
up with pressing it  
& distributing it,  
for the sake of  
getting our home  
& Presidency Commissions  
appointed before  
the session is over.

I have had the  
most dis  
couraging  
contradictions &  
disappointments.  
such as one must

**f63/7.2**

expect, working as  
I do, without a  
Chairman & without  
a Secretary. Sometimes  
I think I must  
be mad to attempt  
such a work as this  
alone from my bed. But  
they say I am not.

After the first  
week in August this  
great press will  
be over. And I  
hope we shall then  
see each other very  
often at Hampstead & talk over [end 9:230]  
many things Ever yours [end 8:169]

FN

Letter, LMA pen H1/ST/NC1/64/1

**f64/1.1**

32, South Street

Grosvenor Square, W. {printed address}

Jan. 11/64

Dear Sir

I am annoyed more  
than I can say that,  
in consequence of the  
inexplicable delays of  
the Lithographers,  
the Report on the  
Mediterranean Stations,  
which has been quite  
& completely finished  
some time, is not  
ready so that I  
cannot get even a  
single copy which

[15:397]

**f64/1.1v**

I should otherwise  
have so gladly put  
into your hands before  
you start. Because  
it is a really useful  
work, full of wood=  
cuts & descriptions  
of Barrack conveniences,  
sewerage & drainage  
plans, hitherto  
thought ~~unsuitable~~ impossible in  
~~for~~ dry seasons of hot climates,  
but which have  
now been successfully  
applied at hot=climate  
Stations with drier  
seasons than India has.

**f64/1.2**

I shall send you a copy to India as soon as I can lay my hands on one - I think I have your address there.

As you are so kind as to offer it, I send a copy of the last Edition of my "Notes on Hospitals," just out, for Sir. C. Trevelyan, the Finance Member of Council at Calcutta. If it will amuse you to cut it open on the voyage, pray do - But, (except the recommendations

**f64/1.2v**

at the end of the Section on Indian Hospitals,) its principles of construction are adapted only for temperate climates.

I send you half a dozen of my India paper, read at Edinburgh, if you can make any use of them in India. But pray remember not to take them, unless convenient - nor the book for Sir C. Trevelyan, which can be sent by post, if returned to me.

**f64/1.3**

I wish you God speed  
on your voyage to India.  
I look upon the  
Sanitary work there  
now, as the true  
Missionary work, as  
you see -

**[end 15:397]**

yours most faithfully  
Florence Nightingale

Letter, LMA pen H1/ST/NC1/64/2

**[6:627-28]****f64/2.1**

115 Park St. W  
Feb 11/ 64  
Dearest friend [Mary Jones]

Could you take in  
a Patient from Weybridge,  
said to be too ill to  
come without certainty  
of admission.

Maria Briggs  
age 42  
disease by medical  
certificate,  
Neglected Bronchitis  
& general debility of  
the system -  
same medical man

**f64/2.1v**

(who is attending her)  
says she is dangerously  
ill, but sees no  
danger in moving her,  
if they wait for a  
fair dry day.

his name: Harcourt  
Maria Briggs is a  
cook - came to my  
cousin, Shore Smith's,  
but a month ago -  
which month the  
poor creature has  
spent in the only  
children's bedroom  
they have in their  
tiny house, they paying

**f64/2.2**

a nurse to attend  
upon her - & the  
children sleeping  
in the sitting room.

They are now  
*obliged* to leave their  
house - cannot  
renew their tenancy -  
and the sick woman  
must be moved any  
how -

If you can take  
her in, would you  
specify day & hour  
of admission, subject  
of course to the  
Doctor's & the weather's  
authorizing her to be

**f64/2.2v**

moved.

If it is not  
convenient or desirable  
to take her in,  
please only say No.

I can go farther  
(& fare worse)

[end 6:628]

Ever yours  
in haste

F.N.

Dr. Anderson, Principal  
Medical Officer of Netley,  
says "Mrs. Shaw Stewart  
"does the nursing admirably  
" - & has EXCELLENT Nurses  
"under her - & that he  
"never has any difference  
"with her."

Letter, LMA pen H1/ST/NC1/64/3

**f64/3.1**

{Private}

115 Park St W  
Feb 13/64

My dear Sir

Immediately after  
receiving news of the  
untoward behaviour  
of the "Quarterly" from  
Sir Harry Verney, I  
communicated with  
Lord Stanley; & again  
upon his arrival in  
London - with a view  
of inserting your  
Article on the Sanitary  
State of the Indian

[9:275]

**f64/3.1v**

Army in the "Westminster"

I have only this day  
received the final  
answer.

Lord Stanley says =  
"I have settled for  
its insertion - though  
I suppose Dr. Chapman  
(the Editor) will  
claim the usual  
editorial right of  
revision."

He farther asks  
you kindly to send  
your Article as soon

**64/3.2**

as possible to the  
Editor of the Westminster

Dr. Chapman [end 9:275]  
25 Somerset Street  
W

I am afraid you [9:276]  
will be less glad to  
hear this than we are.  
Still I trust you  
will not deserve us;  
and that the Article  
will come forth  
triumphant -  
The enemy has

**f64/3.2v**

not yet appeared in  
any public way.

I wish he would! [end 9:276]

Editorial  
I am afraid the \* delay  
will unduly hurry  
you now - Editors  
are such great men

I may say such  
immense men - that  
they do not abide by  
ordinary customs of  
answer by return of  
post -

your faithful servt.  
Florence Nightingale  
Dr. Acland

Letter, LMA pen H1/ST/NC1/64/4

**f64/4.1**

115 Park St.W {printed address}

Feb 25/64

Dearest friend [Mary Jones]

I am enraged about  
your coming back -*But* -  
it's no use.

I am much to blame  
for not having returned  
this letter sooner. In the  
correspondence to which  
it alludes & which I  
think you saw, I promised  
Mr. Sabin (one of the best  
of our Army Chaplains)  
that the £10 should be  
remitted - not at all  
on the ground of its  
being a "Sister," which

**f64/4.1v**

I did not know, & which  
I am very sorry for, for  
your sake -

I suppose I must  
stick to paying the £10.  
But I need not ask  
my Committee about it.  
I shall pay it myself -  
shall I send it you  
now?

I am quite mad  
with that Col = Wilbraham.  
He has actually addressed  
a "confidential" letter  
to the War Office, since  
you & I saw him,  
against Mrs. Shaw Stewart,

**f64/4.2**

- it seems to me the most extravagant thing for a Governor to "correspond confidentially" with a War Office about a matter (nursing) which he knows nothing at all about - & this in the teeth of his Principal Medical Officer, who calls the Nursing "admirable," & does know all about it.

He says Mrs. S.S. is "excited" which we know is true. But, if she is "excited," he is ten times more so -

He has committed

**f64/4.2v**

himself to three, at least, of what I can shew to be false statements.

ever yours

F.N.

{archivist's note: I 23  
 64/5 F.N. TO [MARY JONES] 11 MAY 1864  
 64/6 F.N. TO CHAS. WILLIAMS, ESQ. 21 MAY 1864  
 64/7 F.N. TO DR. PATTISON WALKER 3 JUNE 1864

Letter, LMA pen H1/ST/NC1/64/4

**f64/5.1**

{printed} 115 Park Street. W.

May 11/64

Dearest friend

I send you Mrs. Mosely's  
note. Please destroy it.

I suppose she was too  
old to begin this new  
life. But what I am  
chiefly sorry for, is  
that you should have  
had this trouble for  
nothing.

I send an Incurables  
polling paper, signed -  
Please fill it up as you  
like. The truth is=  
that I now only subscribe

**f64/5.1v**

to Institutions *on condition*  
of my not having my  
name put down: because  
I am utterly incapable  
of considering or even  
of reading the application  
for Votes. In short,  
I subscribe only with  
stipulation of not having  
to vote.

The Incurable, (of  
which the Institution  
is far *the most*  
"incurable" of its own  
Patients - & which  
has worried me for  
years for

**f64/5.2**

plans & advice, which  
it never meant to use,)  
- alone flatly refused to  
take ~~awa~~ my name off,  
because it said it  
would be an injury to it.  
It only took off my  
address - as if that was  
any good. And you see  
I do not put my address.

It wrings one's heart  
to see the incalculable  
amount of human  
suffering these Lists  
betray, more from  
what they do *not* tell  
than from what they  
do - And what

**f64/5.2v**

enrages me most of all  
is to receive applications  
from fine ladies for  
their domestic servants  
& even for their  
"governesses"!

I do conceive that  
the whole system of  
voting in England (for  
charity) wastes more  
precious time & good  
feeling than can well be  
imagined.

I am afraid, after  
all, that this Institution  
is not the one you  
refer to. I got this  
polling paper. For I do  
not receive one now -  
If so, burn it. ever yours  
F.N.

Envelope addressed to Chas. Williams, Eq

Letter, LMA pen H1/ST/NC1/64/6

**f64/6.1**

{printed} 115 Park Street. W

May 21/64

Sir [Charles Williams]

**[16:658-59]**

I have to thank  
you for annually  
sending me your  
Norwich Hospital  
Statistics.

Altho' affording  
a number of points  
of comparison, they  
are not sufficient  
for many practical  
purposes.

I venture to send

**f64/6.1v**

you a copy of St.  
Bartholomew's Hospital  
Statistics for last year,  
just out.

They are the most  
complete I know.

It is a pity that  
yours should not  
be perfect - especially  
now when the  
comparative mortality  
of different Hospitals  
& of the Hospitals of  
different countries  
is daily becoming a

**f64/6.2**

more pressing question.  
 And Norwich has  
 already done so much  
 towards its solution.

I need not point  
 out to your experience  
 the different headings  
 of interest in the  
 accompanying Report.

I am Sir

Your faithful servt.

Florence Nightingale

Chas=Williams Esq

{written across horizontal length of folio:}

I see great stress made (in the  
 Norwich Hospital manifesto) on the  
 Night Nurses having one or two  
 nights in bed "during the week."

I should lay great stress on their  
 having *eight hours* "in bed" *every*  
*day* "during the week" - which  
 allows for dressing & undressing.

Many strong women cannot  
 sleep at all by day - consequently  
 never can be Night Nurses - *all*

{written across reverse of folio}  
 require an Apprenticeship to begin  
 with - a week's night nursing at  
 first or so - But, the Apprenticeship  
 once accomplished, it is my  
 experience that it is better to make  
 Night Nurses altogether Night Nurses  
 (at least for 6 months at a time)  
 & not to endeavour to piece out  
 insufficient day=sleep with  
*occasional* nights in bed

**[end 16:659]**

F.N.

Letter, LMA pen H1/ST/NC1/64/7

**f64/7.1**

32 South Street

London W

June 3/64

Mr dear Sir [Pattison Walker]

I thank you much [9:489] [5:318-20]  
 for your kind letter  
 of April 23 - & its most  
 interesting account of  
 the proceedings of the  
 Commission. It is doing  
 its work vigorously -  
 & will be a blessing to  
 India. [end 9:489]

The establishment of  
 a chair of Hygiene is of  
 the greatest importance  
 for the future progress of  
 the cause. And the same

**f64/7.1v & f64/7.2**

{written across two folios}  
 should be done for Bombay & Madras. While teaching  
 Europeans the laws of health, do not forget the natives.  
 Could not the question of public health be brought  
 before any Institutes or Native Societies for discussion?  
 A well written little book or paper addressed to  
 natives in their own language, explaining the  
 very simplest laws of health - how it is that  
 their present habits lead to fever & cholera -  
 (if the causes of these two diseases are made head  
 against, all the rest will follow -) could not this  
 be compiled & circulated among the natives?  
 I have always felt that, if you could take the  
 heads of castes into your counsels, disarm their  
 prejudices - how much might be done? - I do  
 not pretend to say how - But you have now, at  
 the head of the Government, the man of all others,  
 who *can* do this & who *will*. Never had a Governor  
 General before such knowledge & such power. I  
 mean particularly with regard to the native races.  
 It is urgent that some enlightenment should

**f64/7.2v**

be brought to those  
districts round Calcutta  
where the remittent  
plague prevails - in order  
to lead them to improve  
their own Sanitary state  
& to allow it to be improved.

Could not hints  
showing a kindly interest  
in them by the Government,  
be put forth by the  
Government?

----

With regard to the  
very important question  
of disposing of the dead,  
would not the best  
plan be to confer with

[9:489-90]

**f64/7.3**

I have just had a communication  
from Delhi & my brother in law,  
Sir Harry Verney, has seen an  
officer in London, just arrived  
from Delhi from his son's  
Regiment there, who speaks  
to the same effect.- viz.  
that a disease called "Boils"  
is very prevalent among  
the troops there & causes  
much inefficiency. One  
officer had no less  
than 80 Boils on his body.  
The people there attribute  
the disease to bad  
water & bad site - &  
say that there is good  
water, tho' at a  
considerable distance, &  
a good site for a small

**f64/7.3v & f64/7.4**

{written across two folios}  
Barrack in Delhi. This is just one of the cases with which your Commission could effectually deal. The cause of "Boils" is very little understood. If you could {word illeg.cause?} a careful enquiry to be made to find out the cause at Delhi & remedy the evils much good might arise to the Service [of course we do not take implicitly every word we hear from ~~two~~ Military Officers, unacquainted with Sanitary things.] F.N. [end 5:321]

**f64/7.4v**

the different castes and ascertain what really constitutes religious burial. [This is what even the old Indians at the India Office here seem not exactly to know]. Then the whole question would resolve itself into the best practicable & most wholesome method of doing the work.

If cremation were adopted, suppose your Commission were to send a Minute home, desiring that the War & India Office Commission here (Barrack & Hospital Improvement Commission)

**f64/7.5 & f64/7.5v**

{written across two folios}  
should send them out the best plans of apparatus  
from this country, where the process has been  
applied to almost every purpose except burning  
dead bodies. [And even that has been considered]

I was delighted to see Mr. Strachey's Minute  
(April 5), which was sent by the India Office to the  
"Barrack & Hospital Commission" in a letter of May  
20, desiring them to send out plans &c of Sanitary  
construction to you - because we are so slow. (they talk  
of Hindoos being slow - but War Offices & India Offices  
in England are slower). These plans are however  
nearly ready. And they will be sent out almost  
immediately with general suggestions.

I wish you God speed with all my heart.  
You will have much opposition to encounter. But  
great works do not prosper without opposition.  
[Do you remember what (by a curious coincidence)  
Pope Paul III said to a predecessor of yours in  
the Missionary work in India St. Francis Xavier,  
viz. that God would always find means to carry out

**f64/7.6**

a work which was really  
 God's - that indeed he,  
 Xavier, would find much  
 to suffer - but that the  
 "affairs of God" ~~prosper~~  
 succeed only by the way  
 of crosses & difficulties.

I did not think Pope  
 Paul could have said so  
 good a thing. And I  
 suppose Xavier was half  
 a madman. But, for all  
 that, I think it is true, is it  
 not? for every work engaged in  
 for the good of men -]

[end 9:490]

Believe me

your faithful servt.

Florence Nightingale

J. Pattison Walker Esq [illeg]

I need hardly say that any papers  
 or letters from you will always be most  
 welcome to me. F.N.

{archivist's note: I 24

64/8	F.N. TO DR. PATTISON WALKER	18 JUNE 1864
64/9	F.N. TO J.J. FREDERICK, ESQ.	30 JULY 1864
64/10	" " "	1 AUG. 1864
64/11	F.N. TO DR. PATTISON WALKER	10 AUG 1864
64/12	F.N. TO J.J. FREDERICK, ESQ.	17 AUG 1864}

**[begins second part]**

Letter, LMA pen H1/ST/NC1/64/8

**f64/8.1**

*Private*

32 South Street

London W

June 18/64

My dear sir

I thank you very  
heartily for your letter  
of May 7, & for its  
enclosure of your Minutes.

**[9:871]**

The filter in the  
Mediterranean Report  
will answer your purpose.  
It is intended specially  
for filtering water *before*  
being tanked for use.

If, e.g., you had good  
tanks for Fort William,  
& if you collected all  
rain water from roofs  
for drinking & cooking,

**f64/8.1v & f64/8.2**

you would pass the whole of it through such a filter  
before allowing it to enter your tanks. [The War Office  
Commission will recommend it specially for India  
in the "Suggestions" called for by your President]

**[end 9:871]**

What

occurred to me, with regard to your proceedings,  
is that it would be advisable to make them very short,  
unless for special reasons. If everything is put in at  
length, errors in principle, backed by high names,  
may have to be recorded. There is an example of  
this in your present Minutes where Barrack rooms  
for large numbers are recommended by a General  
Officer & Medical Officer, contrary to all sound  
principle. This is a very great mistake, & even  
the record of it might lead to mischief. All forget  
that these overgrown Barrack=rooms are very  
obvious causes of disease in India. [Dr. McClelland's  
theory of Barrack building shews throughout great  
lack of Sanitary knowledge on such subjects.]

**[15:400]**

It would be better to limit the record of matter  
of instruction either to the enunciation of sound  
principles & sound practice by the Commission itself

**f64/8.2v**

or to such principles as it adopted (stated in other's words).

Plans & apparatus IV, VIII, IX, X, XII, XIII, XIV, XV, XVI, XVII, XVIII, XIX, of the Mediterranean Report, will be recommended for your consideration by the War Office Commission. I hope you will think that their forthcoming suggestions (which never would have been forthcoming but for Mr. Strachey's Minute) contain a good deal relating to general principles of drainage water supply, barrack & hospital plans, sanitary police & registration of deaths, not included in the

**f64/8.3**

Mediterranean Report, which may form the bases of great changes in India. Every thing, including the plans, is now in press, & will be hurried through as fast as possible.

**[end]**

I am, dear Sir,  
yours ever sincerely

F. Nightingale  
Dr. Pattison Walker

Letter, LMA pen H1/ST/NC1/64/9

f64/9.1

115 Park Street W

July 30/ 64

Sir [J.J. Frederick]

I trust you will  
excuse my applying to  
you directly on this  
matter.

The enclosed twenty  
copies were sent me by  
Mr. Spottiswoode, at  
my request (of the  
"Suggestions." But as  
he has no power over  
Day's, they do not

**f64/9.1v**

contain the lithographs,  
without which they  
are of no use.

If you could obtain  
an order from the  
W.O. that they should  
be filled up with  
the requisite number  
of sets of lithographs  
from Day's, I should  
be very much obliged.

If not, would you  
kindly let me have

**f64/9.2**

as many copies as  
can be spared out  
of the fifty now  
preparing for the  
W.O. complete?

I beg to remain  
your faithful servt.

Florence Nightingale  
J.J. Frederick Eq

Letter, LMA pen H1/ST/NC1/64/10

f64/10.1

115 Park St W

August 1/64

Sir,

I am very much obliged to you for the promise conveyed in your note of July 30. And so I immediately come to you for another favour.

Would you kindly send me the first final Revise, (with my corrected copy, sent to you on

**f64/10.1v**

Saturday,) which reaches you from Mr. Spottiswoode of the 8vo. ~~Edition~~ Abstract of the Report of the R. Commission on the Sanitary state of the Indian Army? And I will return it to you forthwith.

I remain Sir

yours faithfully

Florence Nightingale

J.J. Frederick Eq

Letter, LMA pen H1/ST/NC1/64/11

f64/11.1

Private 32 South Street  
Rev. 9/9/64 London W  
Aug 10/64

My dear Sir

I sent to you & to  
Mr. Strachey copies of the  
"Suggestions" (by Book Post  
a fortnight ago) drawn up  
in compliance with Mr.  
Strachey's Minutes of April  
5.

These "Suggestions" have  
now received the Sanction  
of the Military Committee,  
of the Council, & of the  
S. of S. of the India Office  
here -

And they are about  
{Jas=Pattison Walker Eq MD}

**f64/11.1v**

to be forwarded to you  
officially by the India  
Office.

But our people are  
so slow that, if I were  
not afraid of being  
profane, I should say  
that Sir John Lawrence  
is always a great deal  
more ready to hear  
than we are to pray. There=  
fore I forward you (by  
Bookpost to=day) 4  
more copies of the  
"Suggestions," in case you  
may wish to apply them  
at once.

Yours very faithfully  
Florence Nightingale

Letter, LMA pen H1/ST/NC1/64/12

**f64/12.1**

Hampstead N.W.

Aug 17/64

Dear Sir

The taste of the  
Stationery Office in  
colours is not admirable.  
But, of the two patterns  
you are good enough  
to enclose, No. 1 is  
certainly the best.

I suppose then we  
are not to have a  
cloth cover at all -  
I am sorry for this,

**f64/12.1v**

as even the little  
books of Reqs given  
to private soldiers  
are put up in grey  
cloth, lined with paper.

Yours very faithfully

Florence Nightingale  
J.J. Frederick Eq

**f64/12.2**

Would you be kind  
 enough ~~as~~ to let me  
 have my last corrected  
 proof - with the final  
 Revises of the "Abstract,"  
 when you send them  
 me?

F.N.

{archivist's note:

I 25

64/13 F.N. to [Mary Jones] 24 Aug. 1864  
 63/14 25 Aug. 1864  
 64/15 30 Aug. 1864  
 64/16 7 Sept 1864  
 64/17 F.N. to Dr. Pattison Walker 3 Oct. 1864  
 64/18 F.N. to Dr. E.A. Parkes 5 Oct. 1864}

Letter, LMA ff64/13.1-64/13.2, pen

f64/13.1

Hampstead N.W.

Aug 24/64

My dearest friend [Mary Jones]

I wish you could  
 have told me you were  
 better.

I have written to Miss  
 Agnes Jones in Ireland  
 what you kindly say  
 about your Nurse &  
 will let you hear - as  
 soon as I hear myself -  
 Or probably she will  
 write to you -

That matter has  
 all been re=opened again  
 about the Liverpool Workh=

**f64/13.1v**

- there has been another wearisome correspondence. ~~But I am~~ But I am not going to trouble you about it - the more as it is now settled.

But the pauper has been reverted to - And the plan is now as follows =

15 Head Nurses  
 15 Probationers  
 37 ex=pauper Assistants  
     at £5 pr. ann. wages  
 15 ex=pauper Scrubbers  
     at £2 pr. ann. wages  
 ever yours  
 F.N.

**f64/13.2**

I hope to tell you a few details another time

Letter, LMA f64/14, pen **f64/14.1**

**[6:245-46]**

Hampstead N.W.

Aug 25/64

Dearest friend

I mean what I say - that, if you had rather not *work* even at what I enclose, I had rather you did not.

In that case, please return them to me Instante.

If you can add any suggestions, they will be very welcome - The (3) "Ward Supts" have been changed to "Divisional Officers," in deference to

**f64/14.1v**

your suggestion -

I must ask you, in any case, to return them soon, as my answer is waited for.

We are so busy just now that I could have wished this had not come. But I am so glad it should be done at all  
ever yrs  
F.N.

Letter, LMA f64/15, pen **f64/15**

Hampstead N.W.

Dearest friend [Mary Jones]

I really would not have troubled you with this, had it not been for your kind question, *pinned on* to the very doubt which had arisen in Miss A. Jones' mind - Also, another doubt of hers which I enclose. Please return me these - if with any suggestions, they will be gratefully received  
ever yours  
Aug 30/64 F.N.

Letter, LMA pen H1/ST/NC1/64/16

**[6:246]****f64/16.1**

Hampstead NW

Sept 7/ 64

Dearest friend

I am quite unhappy at troubling you again about the Nurse for Miss Agnes Jones. I have (only this morning) received a letter from Miss A.J. - (the delay, I believe, owing to the extraordinary no= postal arrangements of a fishing village they are at, for her health) saying: -

**f64/16.1v**

that Mr. Rathbone has offered to pay wages to induce any particularly desirable Nurse to wait for the opening of the new Workhouse Nursing - (perhaps the Nurse is already engaged) But, if not, Miss A.J. would feel very grateful to you, if you would think whether the Nurse would do for a General Night Superintendent \* in the terms of the

-----  
\* The Patients are on 4 floors

**f64/16.2**

suggested office which  
in one of your kind  
letters you made to me.

I take it, tho' Miss  
A.J. is not very explicit,  
that the Nurse must  
make up her mind  
that the night watchers  
she has to superintend  
will be

Assistant Nurses (raw Probationers)  
ex=paupers (paid  
& for special cases a  
trained St. Thomas' Nurse.

Should you think fit,  
would you offer it her,  
telling her of what work

**f64/16.2v**

it involves - & that  
if she accepts, the delay  
will be made good  
to her?

I am really grieved  
to give you this additional  
trouble of thinking.

I hear from Mrs.  
Wardroper that you  
have taken a woman  
known to her, of better  
education than Walker,  
to fill Walker's place.  
If this is true, it will  
be such a relief to me.

ever yours

F.N.

Miss A. Jones intends dining with the  
Nurses.

Letter, LMA ff64/17.1-64/17.2, pen

**f64/17.1**

7/11                    32 South Street

*Private*                    London W

{Recd. 19/11}      Oct 3/ 64

My dear Sir [Pattison Walker]

It is rather for the pleasure  
of conversing with you about  
your "Proceedings" than for the  
sake of being of use that I  
add a few Remarks to those  
"for June."

---

106. Resolution

Yes: and the refuse discharged  
through a pipe below low water =  
mark in the river

---

107. President's Remarks

Yes: in new barracks we  
propose proper fire grates to  
dry the air in damp weather  
where required

---

Page 52. Tatties

Tatties &c are touched upon in  
the "Suggestions."

**f64/17.1v**

Page 52 - last line

Yes. yes.

---

\* 109. 110.

Plans for Lunatic Asylums &  
Jails must be sent out to you.

---

\* Page 53. last line but two.

"minimum allowance".

80 would be little enough

---

\* Page 54

top line but one

125 is the utmost number

---

Page 54 Third Para

"Inspector General N.W.P."

"cubic feet & square feet" -

750 and 80 if the prison be small  
& every thing right.

But 1000 would be better

The Agra Jail & others shew  
that Jail accommodation wants  
entire renewal.

---

\* Page 54 - last Para -

Could you have a reference made

**f64/17.2**

to the War Office (Sanitary) Commission here?

---

114 "As regards the manure"

Yes.

Wherever manure is laid down near cities, it should be at once dug in and covered.

---

last Para of Page

This would depend entirely on the extent of land, the distance from Barracks, the direction of winds, manuring, drainage, crops &c

---

Page 58 - lines 6, 7, 8, 9 from top

Yes - yes - yes

---

Page 65. 22.

Col= Crommelin is right however.

---

Page 67. 36

very good

---

Page 75 ] [

This question treated in the "Suggestions"

Plan of Bangalore Hospital bad

**f64/17.2v**

Page 77 ] [  
remarks very good  
---

Page 79 129. I.  
The best deodorizer is a drain  
pipe or a Scavenger  
---

Page 84 ] [  
Let them try their disinfectants  
---

Page 93. Mesan [?] Meer Water Supply  
"1. quite true  
---

I will not weary you any  
more with marks of admiration  
& remarks of affirmation; but  
only wish you Godspeed - &  
am ever your faithful servt=  
Florence Nightingale  
Dr. Pattison Walker

Letter, LMA pen H1/ST/NC1/64/18

Hampstead NW  
Oct 5/ 64

My dear Dr. Parkes

I will not lose a day  
in thanking you for your  
great work, with its  
dedication to our dear  
friend.

I have just spent  
the afternoon in turning  
over the pages & having  
a general glance at  
the immense mass of  
important matter &  
valuable facts you have  
brought together - Let  
me congratulate you on

**f64/18.1v**

the accomplishment of  
such a work -

I shall give myself  
the pleasure of writing  
to you again about it,  
when I have had time  
to drink in even a  
portion of its contents.

Believe me

ever yours sincerely

Florence Nightingale

{not in FN's handwriting:}  
TO D.S.G. Parkes

{archivist's note:  
I 26

64/19 F.N. to Dr. Pattison Walker 10 Oct. 1864

64/20 " " " 18 Oct. 1864

64/21 F.N. to [Mary Jones] 27 Oct. 1864

64/22 [see next folder notes on Swansea hospital 7 Nov. 1864]

64/23 F.N. to Dr. Pattison Walker 19 Dec. 1864}

Letter, pen LMA H1/ST/NC1/64/19

**f64/19.1**

32 South Street London W

Oct 10/64

*Private*

Recd. 13/11

Repd. 19/11

My dear Sir

I write in haste to thank you  
for your important "Draft Rules for  
Military Cantonments," just received.

**[9:498-99]**

I have only had time to glance  
through it. As a proposed sanitary  
code for Indian Stations, it shews that  
it has been most carefully considered  
with an earnest desire to make its  
provisions efficient (and with what  
a masterly hand it is done!)

There is so close a conformity in  
its provisions with the points in the  
"Suggestions" of the War Office Commission which  
have been sent you, that there will be  
no difficulty in arriving at an agreement.

In the W.O. "Suggestions" there are

**f64/19.1v**

some points which might be introduced with advantage into your code. With this view, might I venture to suggest that you should compare your clauses with theirs, so as to introduce into your code any additional clauses you may, on consideration, judge to be useful & practicable?

Two or three points have especially struck me in my hasty perusal: -

1. as to Inspectors of Nuisances  
These are Officers whose duty it is to see *the thing done* with their own eyes. This is indispensable with us here.

It may interest you to know that one of the most active "Inspectors" in England has offered to the W.O. Commission to give up his appointments - & come out to you. He says there are many others in England who would gladly lend their aid to the great work in India

**f64/19.2**

(not for the sake of large salaries, but simply to help forward the sanitary cause). We have referred him to the India Office.

If you should want any such Inspectors, you would have to apply to the India Office. And the W.O. Commission would try to find them for you -

2. A very important power suggested by the W.O. Commission is the making of Bye-laws under sanction.

Could you adopt this?

3. Could not something more be said about permanent works - granting to the local authorities certain powers of moving the Government as to putting Stations or towns in a complete sanitary condition (as to works of a permanent character)?

4. Could you not include the Sanitary police of native towns, & make some provision for introducing works into them?  
?

**f64/19.2v**

These are the chief points which have struck me - not knowing the bearing of local powers in India. You may have perhaps already provided some of these powers, altho' I (ignorant) do not see it.

You intend, as I gladly see, to send copies to the W.O. Commission. They will joyfully give you every hint that occurs to them. **[end 9:499]**

I trust that Mr. John Strachey is better - his is a master-hand - & that your own health improves. We cannot spare you.

I can only wish you God speed on your noble work, & beg you to believe me ever your faithful & ready servt

Florence Nightingale  
Dr. Pattison Walker

Letter, LMA ff64/20.1-64/20.2, pen, copy 45781 ff246-47

**f64/20.1**

Private 32 South Street  
Recd. 17/11 London W.  
Repd. 19/11 October 18/64

My dear Sir

I am very much indebted **[10:29-30]**  
to you for your last letter  
(of August 31) also for the  
copy of "Rules & Regulations"  
which I received &  
acknowledged by last mail.

You have now had time  
to look over the "Suggestions,"  
which you are kind enough to acknowledge -  
& which are intended as  
a kind of guide to  
executive authorities in  
India, in European  
experience of Sanitary work

**f64/20.1v**

rather than as a guide to teaching in which they are deficient.

I suppose that your course of lectures will be attended by Eurasians & natives entering the Medical profession. You will have a glorious opportunity, not only of teaching civilization & health, but also of teaching them practice by bringing the pupils into practical contact with sanitary problems in Calcutta.

A good text=book

**f64/20.2**

would be a great help to them - & also a few tracts in the vernacular.

If the natives would give you all the information they can as to domestic habits, you might teach them how those habits can be followed with least injury to health.

[ I wish ~~it~~ Sanitary rules could be made a religion, a fanaticism with the ignorant of the natives. I suppose it is not by intelligence, at least at first, (by explaining reasons,) that these natives can be led - But we hear of fanaticism about cleanliness

**f64/20.2v**

in some points among  
Brahmins - & we know  
that Moses made sanitary  
things a part of his code  
for the people - Could not  
observing certain laws of  
death be made a religion  
with the ignorant of the  
*Hindoos?* [end 10:30]

I trust that your health  
is better - & that of Mr.  
Strachey.

Believe me  
most faithfully yours  
Florence Nightingale  
Jas=Pattison Walker Eq Md

Letter, LMA pen H1/ST/NC1/64/21

**f64/21.1**

Dearest friend

I ought to have [13:89]  
returned you the enclosed  
long ago.

I am very glad that  
you can admit 10 Probrs.  
I have heard from Dr.  
Morgan that they will  
send 10 to St. Thomas'  
(where we can only give  
up 10 places, owing to  
other engagements). They  
will select those intended  
for District Nursing

**f64/21.1v**

rather for King's Coll: - &  
 those for Hospital  
 Nursing rather for St Thomas'.  
 I do hope it will turn  
 out all for the best.  
 It remains to be seen  
 whether they will be  
 able to find 20 proper  
 Probrs all at once -  
 We can't.

Have you heard of the  
 death of Pastor Fliedner  
 of Kaiserswerth? It took  
 place on the 4th (in  
 harness) - of long standing

[7:586-87]

**f64/21.2**

disease. Pray for them  
 with your Nurses. They  
 ask our prayers - not  
 for themselves, tho' a  
 widow, who was herself  
 the most efficient  
 Supt. & 7 children  
 without provision  
 remain - but that it  
 will please God to raise  
 up men to carry on  
 the work in the same  
 spirit that His servant  
 Fliedner did.

His death is to me  
 almost as if I had lost  
 a father.

He leaves over 400 "Sisters" -  
 the work of 27 years. on no money - [end 7:587]

**f64/21.2v**

I am coming back to  
 London - I have been  
 (like you) so busy. And  
 yet I seem to be doing  
 nothing -

ever your

F.

Oct 27/64

Letter, LMA pen H1/ST/NC1/64/23

**f64/23.1**

Private 32 South Street  
Recd. 22/1 Park Lane  
London W  
Dec 19/64

My dear Sir

I will only today thank you for your beautiful (& distressing) photographs of the Calcutta damage from the Cyclone, which arrived in perfect condition - Also for Col= Crommelin's Memo. on Hospital Construction - his principles appear admirable & his application of them ingenious - also for the Minute on Vaccination.

On Friday night Mr.

**[9:501]**

**f64/23.1v**

John Strachey called at my houseX on his way to Bristol - & left with me your Proceedings for August & September - I was exceedingly obliged for your thought of me; - but regretted the cause, I fear ~~suppose~~ ill health, which brought Mr. Strachey home. I did not see him, but he promised me to write from Bristol. If his health permits, & his stay is long enough in England, he might obtain important information here. In the mean time, he leaves the cause in  
-----

X I am not now at South St. but close by (for a time) All letters reach me as before addressed to South St -

**f64/23.2**

Bengal in the best hands,  
which are yours -

[end 9:502]

I am about to write to  
you, with your permission,  
at some length.

Sir C. Wood (but this  
is STRICTLY IN CONFIDENCE)  
referred the Report of Dr.  
Leith on the Sanitary  
Condition of the Bombay  
Arms, to our "Barrack &  
Hospital Improvement  
Commission" for reply.  
We have replied to it.  
I shall send you a  
copy of the reply (you  
have of course seen Dr.  
Leith's Report) as soon  
as it is through the press.

[9:393]

[end 9:393]

**f64/23.2v**

In the meantime  
believe me  
yours most sincerely  
Florence Nightingale  
Dr. Pattison Walker

Mr. Strachey has found  
us in a thick London  
fog, & with snow & frost  
on the ground (it is  
freezing now) & with a  
bitter N. Easter -  
F.N.

{archivist's notes:

I 27 F.N.'s notes on  
64/22 Swansea Hospital 7 Nov. 1864  
(sheets 1+2)}

Notes, LMA ff64/22.1 64/22.10, pen

[16:675-78]

**f64/22.1**

*Swansea Hospital*

These plans, taken as a whole, are admirable. I have never yet seen first Drafts which require so little alteration. The main points of criticism arise, partly out of the form, & lay & area of the ground - partly out of the requirements which the Committee has asked you to fulfil.

The area & cubic space per bed are ample. And the height & width of the wards are well proportioned.

The windows are so large that you may quite well leave more space between the top of the upper windows & the eaves, so as to give a better

**f64/22.1v**

architectural effect  
outside. i.e. if you  
think it desirable.

Considering that the  
prevailing winds are  
from the S.W., the  
Blockplan, No. 3, would  
bring these winds  
most favourably  
upon the building.  
This Blockplan would  
also keep the interior  
of the wards most  
out of sight of house  
windows. If you  
adopt this plan,  
you will have to  
alter the Operating  
room & place it  
on the N. side of  
the Central block,  
where the stair=case  
is at present.

**f64/22.2**

If the road were diverted, this plan would enable the Hospital to be extended Northwards to give rather more than an additional third of accommodation at some future time.

Blockplans Nos. 1 and 4 are, either of them, as good as No. 3, so far as the disposition of parts is concerned. They would enable the line of the wards to be brought into the line of the streets. This might however be a disadvantage from rendering the wards liable to be overlooked from neighbouring houses. But the chief

**f64/22.2v**

disadvantage would be that the sea breeze would be partially interrupted by the Central block, & that ~~they~~ it could not fall so favourably against the sides of the wards, as in Plan No. 3. These questions however can be best settled on the spot. And if for any local reason, Plans 1 or 4 be preferred, either will make a good block plan.

I would strongly recommend however that the proposed Turkish Bath be not placed

**f64/22.3**

on the S.W. point of the ground. The place where it should be, is at the Northern angle. *As it is*, the site will in time become much more confined than might be desirable - & as much open space should be kept within the Hospital enclosure as possible.

The wards on the Men's side will do, with the slight alteration suggested in the position of one of the Nurse's two inspection windows - See Plan.

The same remark applies to the first floor female ward.

**f64/22.3v**

But there is a serious administrative objection to the small (women's) ward on the ground floor - on account of increased difficulty of supervision & increased cost of nursing. That Ward will require a Day Nurse & a Night Nurse to itself - & even then, being out of the way of the Head Nurse, would not be well-nursed. Would it not be possible, by lengthening the Women's Pavilion, to have a 28-bed ward & a 6-bed ward, which would give all the accommodation

**f64/22.4**

required & with infinitely greater advantage to the Patients being on the same floor. Women's Surgical cases in the country, are generally few - (no proportions between Medical & Surgical cases is given in the Specification. But, judging from experience, a 28 bed Medical & a 6 bed Surgical Female Ward would be all that is required].

If this were done, the abandoned 6=bed ward might be turned to better purpose, such, e.g. as Physician's & Surgeon's rooms, Hospital Admission & Waiting room &c.

For this purpose, a different arrangement of doors would be

**f64/22.4v**

required.

The Committee must be consulted on this point of the small lower Ward. But, if they judge fit to retain it, they must decide upon incurring the additional cost of Nursing.

The whole of the lower floor of the Women's Pavilion, intended to be used as a dispensary for Out Patients, must be completely cut off from the Hospital.

It is generally considered that it is impossible (too) to cut off ~~too~~ inexorably enough all communication between Men & Women Out=Patients.

{archivist's note:

I 28

F.N.'s notes on  
64/22 Swansea Hospital 7 Nov. 1864  
(sheets 3+4)}

**f64/22.5**

They should come  
in by separate  
doors - they should  
have entirely separate  
W.C.s, - should be  
cut off, in fact, from  
any possible  
overlooking of one  
another either in  
entering, waiting  
or departing.

[see Plan for  
re==arrangement]

I would strongly  
suggest that the one  
storied building,  
containing Operating  
Room & small wards,  
shewn in Block  
Plans 1 and 4, be  
removed, or at all  
events so reduced  
in length as to

**f64/22.5v**

contain no more than  
the Operating Room,  
a one bed ward,  
space for a W.C., &  
sink & one wash  
hand basin.

What can be wanted  
more ~~tha~~ (for Men  
Patients' accommodation)  
than what is found  
in the Pavilion, one  
large & one small  
Surgical, one large  
& one small Medical  
Ward?

An eye case (who  
has to be shut up  
by himself in the dark, poor fellow,)  
may be put into this  
one bed ward, if such  
is judged necessary.  
For he wants no  
more nursing than  
can be given him

**f64/22.6**

N.B. The operating room should have not only a sky=light, but a large N. window.

**f64/22.6v**

by the visits of the Head Nurse of his floor. Whereas, if there is to be a two bed special ward there, the same remark, as above, applies, viz. a Day & a Night Nurse would be required. And all this for 3 beds!

[The small wards of one or two beds for special cases, & the one or two small wards for surgical cases would be found quite unnecessary in practice, while they would add greatly to the cost of the Hospital & to the cost of Nursing.]

At

**f64/22.7**

I am very glad that you have missed out the Convalescent wards. If, in such a place as Swansea, such wards are ever necessary, they should consist in cottages at the sea-side.

The Deadhouse & Post Mortem Room, (& Laundry, if there is to be one) should be placed at a sufficient distance from, & on the N. side of the Hospital.

**f64/22.7v***Central Block*

Kitchen floor very good.  
Area to be sufficiently  
wide for plenty of  
light. Cook must  
not sleep there, but  
among the female  
servants.

*Ground floor* will  
answer with the  
slight alterations  
(vide Plan) suggested, unless  
part of the accomo=  
dation is to be  
transferred into  
the lower floor  
women's ward.

[I presume there  
~~is to be a Porter~~  
~~And he~~ must sleep  
on the premises.  
He ought to sleep  
& take his meals  
as near the principal  
door as possible.]  
The room allotted to him seems  
scarcely large enough  
for him to sleep  
& take his meals,  
which he ought  
to do, there.

**f64/22.8***First floor*

Matron's accomodation,  
Linen Store &c will  
answer. But, if by  
any rearrangement  
you can obtain  
access from the  
Matron's floor by  
the terrace to the  
upper floor wards,  
it should be done.

*Upper floor*

I presume there will  
be a cook, housemaid  
& one or two other female  
servants. These ~~cook~~  
should have a room  
apart from the Nurses,  
but divided by  
compartments. It  
would be preferable, however,  
if the Cook could have  
a small room to  
herself. Also, if one female servant, who will  
I presume, assist the Matron with the linen, should  
sleep near the Matron.

**f64/22.8v**

To nurse the 3 large  
& 3 small wards  
efficiently would  
require

3 Head Nurses

9 Day "

(2 to each large

1 " " small ward

3 Night Nurses

& I am afraid an

Extra Nurse, in case

of extra Night Nursing

in any of the 3 small  
wards)

Or it might be  
*possible* to nurse  
the 3 floors with

3 Head Nurses

6 Day "

3 Night "

and 1 extra Nurse

1 Scrubber.

[I dislike this latter plan.

It is infinitely

preferable that

the Nursing Staff

of each ~~ward~~ floor should

**f64/22.9**

be distinctly separate  
from the Nursing  
Staff of each other floor.

~~ward~~ - & that no  
scrubber or nurse  
should go from one  
floor to another]

The 3 Head Nurses  
accomodation is  
provided for (in the Ward Nurses' rooms.)

The 3 (if not 4)  
Night Nurses must  
have a separate room  
to themselves, divided  
by compartments.

There remains 9, if  
(~~not~~ or at least 7) Day Nurses  
to provide for. These  
may be in the same  
room, with separate  
compartments. But it is preferable  
that the Nurses of  
each floor should

{archivist's note:

I 29

F.N.'s notes on  
64/22 Swansea Hospital 7 Nov. 1864  
(sheet 5)}

**f64/22.9v**

have a separate  
room, with compart=  
ments. It ensures  
better discipline=particularly  
that the Nurses on the Men's side  
& on the women's side should have separate rooms.  
[Day & Night Nurses  
*must* be separate,  
in order to allow  
the Night Nurses  
undisturbed sleep  
in the day.]

I have said elsewhere  
that, if the small  
wards are retained,  
which I have proposed  
to abolish, accomodation  
must be found for  
at least:

2 more Day Nurses

2 " Night "

The Sculleries should  
be roomy & comfortable  
enough for the Day  
Nurses to take their  
meals in [also, the  
Night Nurse, but at  
a separate time, of  
course]

The Head Nurses'  
rooms should also  
be large enough for  
each Head Nurse  
to have her meals  
in her own room.

**f64/22.10**

The disposing of this accommodation cannot however be finally arranged until the Committee has decided on the block plan to be adopted.

N.B. On looking at the plan of the ground, I see that all the houses have back premises. It should be ascertained whether the houses have proper W.C.s drained, or merely open privies over cess-pits. If the latter, they would

**f64/22.10v**

be a fatal objection to the site. When these matters are satisfactorily arranged, Swansea will have one of the finest Hospitals in the kingdom. I only wish the site had been as good as the plan.

**[end 16:678]**

F.  
Nightingale  
London  
7/11/64

{archivist's note: I 30  
64/24 F.N. to [Mary Jones] [Christmas 1864?]}

Letter, LMA pen H1/ST/NC1/64/24

[5:171-73]

**f64/24.1**

*Private* 27 Norfolk St.  
Park Lane W.

Wednesday morning [prob 21 December 1864]

Dearest friend [Mary Jones]

I am so overwhelmed with work & illness - & so ashamed of myself for being so overwhelmed - but I will try to help (as you have so often helped me in similar things) tho' I am afraid what I have to say will not help much.

I think that in our race, (I set aside R. Catholic races & institutions for the moment) all working people ought to be helped in both ways, viz. Savings' Banks & Deferred annuities, to obtain an independance - I think neither way complete without the other. [And I believe that in time

**f64/24.1v**

& with a wise Government, poor=laws might be dispensed with under such a regime. But this does not concern you & me now]

All that Mr. Gladstone is now doing in this line I think is dictated by the wisest policy.

In such an Institution as yours, the details may be settled in many different ways. But I should always, in all Institutions, aim at these two things, viz. 1. that the Nurse should have a store in Savings' Bank, to enable her to help a relative temporarily, to help herself in an emergency, & also to pay the premium to the Deferred Annuity, when she is incapacitated by sickness from earning wages (this would not apply to you) 2. that she should have

**f64/24.2**

a Deferred Annuity in expectation.

Suppose every worthy Nurse could have an Annuity of (say) £50 at the age of 55, this would be affluence.

[St. Thomas' grants such.]

There are various ways of doing this: - you might make the Nurse pay to both, Savings' Bank & Deferred Annuity - gratuities for good conduct from the authorities going to both. Or you might devote subscriptions to the Deferred Annuity, & let her own savings go to the Savings' Bank, with or without any gratuities for good service from yourselves, the authorities - Whichever way you adopt, I think, to give an English woman that proper feeling of independence & self-help, which you so wisely encourage, she

**f64/24.2v**

should have *both* (Savings' Bank deposits, & Deferred Annuity) to look forward to.

[It would take much more time than either you or I have, if I were to tell the Mischiefs I have seen in R. Catholic orders, arising from a want of acknowledging the principle of individual independence in their dependents

The miserable old ages of their Nurses in the Salpêtrière, where they are entirely provided for -

The absolute helplessness of big girls of 20 & upwards, brought up in their orphan Asylums, (in which I have lived & served). It is not, as is generally supposed, that the orders themselves are destitute of

**f64/24.3**

[2]

the principles of Political Economy -  
*quite the reverse* - All over  
 France, Orders actually make  
 money by the work of their  
 dependants - & quite right too.  
 But these dependants are *perfectly*  
 INCAPABLE, when they leave the  
 Institution, whether Educational,  
 Penitential, or what not, of  
 governing themselves, so as to  
 earn a single sixpence even at  
 the very work they have been  
 used to do for the nuns, - or so as  
 to keep themselves from falling into  
 the arms of the first man who  
 tempts them. Pardon the crudity  
 of my expressions.]

I therefore entirely conclude  
 for the English principle, which

**f64/24.3v**

you have carried out so well, of  
 helping people to help themselves.  
 I would do this both ways, both  
 by Savings' Banks & Deferred  
 Annuities

-----

I think all experience teaches  
 your principles, viz. of definite  
 engagements, 3-5-7 years, to be  
 renewed, if desirable, - not of  
 indefinite engagements, to be  
 broken off, if undesirable.

-----

I send you what I am afraid  
 will be of little use: -  
 1. the principles which guided us  
 as to the Army Nurses, both in regard  
 to wages & pensions (please burn  
 the detached sheets - & send me

**f64/24.4**

back the "Regulations")

2. a sketch by Mrs. S. Stewart which please burn, when read.

It is an old thing; & she would be "mad" with me for sending it you.

3. a book of Dr. Farr's which you will have neither time nor inclination to go into - & which please return to me.

Tho' of course, I would not tie down Institutions & private families & societies to the strict principles of the value of money & life of Life Insurances & Government Annuities, yet I incline to think that, the nearer we keep to money=& life= values in our private transactions,

**f64/24.4v**

the safer we shall be in doing good & not doing harm.

If, as you cannot possibly be expected to study Dr. Farr's thick book, you would like to write to him (our Army Nurses pension=rates, &c., were all calculated by him) - or would wish me to write to him, to ask some such question as follows:

whether, seeing that Government has provided both for savings & deferred annuities, it would not be best to adopt both plans, say, a deferred annuity accruing at 55 (or 60?) and the remainder to be placed in a Savings' Bank. Or the Nurse might place all her savings in the Savings' Bank, and

**f64/24.5**

[3]

the Subscriptions might go to a  
Deferred Annuity. [The chief  
difficulty in any scheme is in  
the want of security that the  
Nurse will continue in her work  
till she is 55.] **[end 5:173]**

-----  
[Between the leaves of my copy  
of Dr. Farr's big book are some  
photographs of the Cyclone at  
Calcutta, sent me from Calcutta,  
which it may amuse & distress you to  
look at]

-----  
I had already written to Embley  
to send me Christmas greeneries  
for you on the 23rd. But I will  
write again to ask particularly

**f64/24.5v**

for hollies in berry, *if they are at  
all*, - & perhaps the box had  
better go straight to you (?) -  
I am so sorry you are so sad for  
your Christmas.

God bless you  
ever yours  
F.N.

**f64/24.6**

Dearest friend      CONFIDENTIAL

I will tell you (what I have told no one) what has overwhelmed me so much this last fortnight. In addition to our usual work, particularly heavy just now, I have had to do the most painful thing that I ever had to do in my most painful life.

Col=Wilbraham has accused Mrs. S. Stewart of Manslaughter - because she interfered to prevent every Patient from choosing his own Orderly to sit up with him, from ordering said Orderly to be attached to himself alone, & forbidding ~~every other~~ the Ward Night=Orderly to enter his ward!!! Half an hour after this insane proceeding had been put a stop to, a Patient dies, &

**f64/24.6v**

Mrs. S. Stewart is accused of his death. [In addition, she is accused of Anglicanism, "Foaming at the Mouth", Manslaughter, ""Snapping her Fingers" Insanity, DRINK, Being Silent in an Omnibus, General Incivility, Not accepting an Invitation to tea, &c &c &c]

I have gone thro' all these papers which were sent me officially like a Chief Justice, & not like a Counsel.

Today a War Office Commission of 3 members goes down to Netley to examine all the parties.

The worst of it is, not that Mrs. S. Stewart should be accused (for the accusations are too absurd) but how can her post be of any use to the service after such a scene as this?

F.N.

**f64/24.7**

[4]

P.S. In addition, in an *official* letter to the *Secretary of State*, asking for the "dismissal of Mrs. S. Stewart", dated Sept 27, (but sent to me only a fortnight ago), Col: Wilbraham quotes a *part* of a *confidential* conversation he had with me, (in which I acknowledged Mrs. S.S.'s defects of temper,) taken out of its connection, which was to soothe him - as a ground for calling for her dismissal: There is no safety with such a man. And I only mention this, in case you should have further communication with him - he may quote you *officially*.

F.N.

{archivist's notes: II 1

65/1 F.N. to [Dr. Pattison Walker] 3 Jan. 1865

65/2 F.N. to J.J. Frederick, Esq. 9 Jan. 1865}

Letter, LMA pen H1/ST/NC1/65/1

**f65/1**

Private 32 South Street  
Park Lane  
London W.  
Jan. 3/65

{rec'd 4/2}

My dear Sir [Pattison Walker]

I will not let a mail  
pass without telling you  
how deeply touched I am  
by your & Mrs. Walker's  
most kind (& pressing)  
invitation to me, a complete  
stranger to you. Would  
that I could avail myself  
of your & her great  
kindness! There is nothing,  
really nothing, - on this  
side the grave which I  
long for so much as a  
visit to India - nothing

[9:506-07]

**f65/1.1v**

which would interest me  
so much. While others  
try to run away from India,  
I would desire more than  
anything else which I  
do desire, (I "desire with  
desire," as the Hebrew says)  
to go to India. I have  
studied the country so much,  
I seem to know so well  
what I want to do there,  
that it appears to me as  
if it would be going home,  
not going to a strange  
country. But, alas for me,  
it is quite impossible.  
I shall never leave London,  
except for the grave. Even  
the move to the next street

**f65/1.2**

brings me to death's door.  
And I am assured that I  
have no prospect except  
of getting worse - tho' it  
appears that I must  
have a (family) constitution  
like iron, for, for nearly  
7 years, I have never  
been expected to live  
6 months. If there were  
even any hope of my  
reaching India alive, &  
of my being able to go  
on working when there,  
as I do here, I believe  
I should be tempted to  
go. For my term of life  
cannot be much longer,  
wherever I am. But it

**f65/1.2v**

is quite impossible. It is  
absurd for me to think  
of it, though I shall  
never forget the kindness  
which dictated the  
thought - in you & Mrs.  
Walker - to be willing to  
take charge of such an  
invalid, an utter stranger  
to you - ~~But~~ Even if it  
were possible, I really  
could not impose such  
a charge upon you -  
But it is not possible.

I may tell you in confidence that, in 1857,  
that dreadful year for  
India, I offered to go  
out to India in the same

**f65/1.3**

way as to the Crimea.

But Sidney Herbert,  
with whom I worked  
for five years, all but  
a week, in the War Office  
till his lamentable death,  
put a stop to it. He  
said that I had  
undertaken this work,  
caused him to undertake  
it, & that I must stay  
& help him (meaning  
the sanitary Army reforms)  
Since his death, it has  
been all the more necessary,  
~~tho~~ because all the more difficult.  
There is but one Sidney  
Herbert - there is but

**f65/1.3v**

one Sir John Lawrence -  
They have no successors -  
you will know what I  
mean - what is to be done  
must be done in their  
time, or not at all. Our  
work is mere child's play now,  
compared to yours.

[end 9:507]

[10:32]

I admire your Lecture,  
particularly your famous  
story of the Coolie (at 4  
Rupees a month) dealing  
destruction round the  
land. It is a most  
suggestive & appropriate  
illustration. I assure  
you, the information you  
are so good as to give  
me is the greatest interest

**f65/1.4**

I have.

I had not intended to write this mail, because the papers are not ready about which I meant to write to you, & which alone would have given my letter any worth. But I could not forbear writing to thank you & Mrs. Walker (to whom I intend to have the pleasure of writing myself) for your unspeakable kindness - & to beg that you will believe me ever most faithfully & gratefully yours & hers

[end 10:32]

Letter, LMA f65/2, pen **f65/2.1** [add re contributions to causes]

{printed} 27. Norfolk Street.  
Park Lane. W.  
9/1/65

Dear Sir,

If I can be of any use to you in helping to guarantee the fund for your South London Industrial Exhibition, which I see is to open next month, I shall be most happy to do so, to the extent of £5.

I am afraid I am rather late in saying so. But I am so constantly

**f65/2.1v**

hurried, & over busy & ill, that you must excuse me, if this be the case -  
ever Yours very faithfully

Florence Nightingale  
J.J. Frederick Eq

{archivist's notes: I 2 65/3 F.N. to [Mary Jones] 24 Jan. 1865}

Letter, LMA ff65/3.1-65/3.4, pen

**f65/3.1**

*Confidential*

My dearest friend [Mary Jones]

For some time I have been expecting, [9:943-45]  
rather than hoping, that Sir J. Lawrence  
would lay upon me the formation of  
a Nursing Staff for the East. And I  
am afraid the same fear will possess  
you (when you see my letter) that does  
me.

His letter is most liberal: he says  
that ~~no~~ "whatever expense" is requisite must be ~~spared~~ met for  
such an object.

The idea is: to Nurse the Military  
General Hospitals by European trained women,  
& all the female Regimental Hospitals  
which, as you know, means the soldiers'  
wives & children, (~~most~~ many of the cases being  
lying-in cases,) by European trained women.

This for a beginning. But of course

**f65/3.1v**

they must ~~have~~ establish one or more Training Schools in each Presidency, for how can we supply them with so many Nurses, who cannot supply ourselves?

Here comes the difficulty. The material to be trained is ~~absolutely~~ almost *nil*. Every decent woman they get marries directly. There are nothing but soldiers' wives & widows, & they candidly say that, besides the losing them directly, they are a wretched set, worse than their husbands.

A religious Society would be the only thing. And I am sure I would help them to a religious Society, if I could. But there is but one person to do it, & that is you - and I am quite sure the danger in India would be far greater than it is in England of what we have seen nevertheless too often here, viz. the absurdities religious (nursing?) orders have fallen into: if not really laying their hands to the work in Hospitals & under a good discipline.

**f65/3.2**

[I have been quite afraid of writing to you upon Sir John Lawrence's letters. Because I thought you would either volunteer yourself or volunteer Sister Laura - Now I do think that, unless a higher voice directs you, it is far more important to keep the kernel together at home -

& send out branches to India -]

I enclose you a printed paper, which has been sent to me from India for my guidance. But, at the same time, the private information which accompanies it, almost negatives it: -

1. they laugh at Dr. Beatson's admiration of the Nurses at Allahabad, who, they say, were soldier s' wives, picked up anywhere, & that Dr. Beatson liked them, because he was their Matron & Superintendent. [All our Medical Officers in the Crimea, of whom he was one, always wanted to be Matrons themselves. What an odd taste!]

Of course where there are two Nurses, one must be Matron.

**f65/3.2v**

2. the Medical College Hospital at Calcutta is such an abominable place that they are now urging us to say (which we shall do) that it must be pulled down & reconstructed elsewhere.

3. the General Hospital at Calcutta is half Military, half Civil, half under the Military authorities, half under the Lt Governor of Bengal. This occasions many difficulties if it were to be used as a real Training School for Nurses.

4. The ladies of the Committee, of whom, Mrs. Williams is the head, (who, in fact, wrote the paper I enclose) tho' very useful & zealous, are not really qualified by knowledge to govern a Training School or to judge of Nurses.

It seems that they have no such thing as a Matron who would really take charge of a real Training School. Such a person, if we sent one out, must be quite above the possibility of marrying, such as Mrs. Girdlestone

**f65/3.3**

or Mrs. Shaw Stewart.

[You see even Mrs. Polehampton, who offered herself both to you & to me, was not.]

Now, what is to be done?

I shall send out to Sir John Lawrence all our experience as to Training Schools, Military Hospital Nursing, &c &c -

But what is the good of that?

The thing would be to be able to tell him: we have 1.2.3. &c who would do to send out as Matrons, whose health would stand the climate - or, we shall have within - - - months.

And we have 4.5.6. &c who would do to send out as Nurses for Military Hospitals

and 7.8.9. &c. for female Regimental Hospitals - whose health would stand the climate - or, we shall have within - - - months.

**f65/3.3v**

I am quite sure India deserves from us all she can get from us.

And if you could train persons for India here, you would be doing a greater deed than by going out yourself, which would be abandoning the root.

[How I wish I could go - Do you know I have received a most pressing invitation to go out, invalid as I am, everything to be provided for me as for an Invalid? But it is nonsense to wish! It would be quite madness!]

The difficulty of finding working persons is to me inconceivable. It seems to me to increase in the proportion that the outcry for women's "Fields" increases.

Manchester writes to me for a Supt. And I answer: a place like Manchester must find one for themselves & send her up to us to train.

**f65/3.4**

I know Mrs. Shaw Stewart can't help us - tho' she ought to be the Training School for all Military British Hospitals, at home & abroad. But she will have the utmost difficulty in taking on Woolwich, which is nearly ready.

Sir John Lawrence's application could not have come at a worse time for Mrs. Wardroper. For, as you know, we have been drained by Liverpool - And not only Manchester but several other places have engaged every vacancy we have.

And what are 15 among so many? It really goes to my heart to write you such a letter - if, as I am afraid the beginning of the year is with you, as it is with us, a particularly busy time. But I think you would be as sorry as I should be, if such an opening as Sir John Lawrence affords the

**f65/3.4v**

cause, should be allowed to fall through

God bless you

ever yours

F.N.

27 Norfolk St. W.

Jan 24/65

I have been writing this before the  
morning light - not really

having time in the course of

the day. **[end 9:945]**

{archivists' notes:	II 3
65/4 F.N. to [Mary Jones]	6 Feb. 1865
65/5 F.N. to J.J. Frederick	7 Feb. 1865
65/6 F.N. to Dr. Pattison Walker	26 Feb. 1865
65/7 " " " " "	3 Mar. 1865
65/8 " " " " "	10 April 1865}

Letter, LMA pen H1/ST/NC1/65/4

**f65/4.1**

*Private*

27. Norfolk Street. {printed}

Park Lane W.

6/2/65

My dearest friend [Mary Jones]

I venture to send you  
the first rough Draft  
of a paper I am obliged  
to draw up for Sir John  
Lawrence.

Please do remember  
that in India they  
print everything - that  
if I did not print  
for them what I  
don't mind being  
printed, they would  
print for me what

**f65/4.1v**

I should not like to be printed.

But I have said & shall say, in private letters to Sir John Lawrence, a great deal about this Nursing matter I cannot put in a printed paper.

If you don't like the tone of this printed paper, no more do I - probably less than you do.

But what I want to add to it principally,

**f65/4.2**

(tho' many other things will have to be added, of course) is some account of your system, your Society, your Sisterhood - which might come in after page 1.

And this is what I principally write about now. But I will ask you to criticize every thing -

I have never thanked you for your most encouraging letters. I fully expect that Sir John Lawrence will call upon us for more than we can do for him.

**f65/4.2v**

and for  
all we can do. There  
is plenty of room, and  
to spare in India for  
every kind of Nursing  
effort. Would we were  
as ready for him as  
he is for us.

Do you remember  
coming to me on Feb 7  
last year? I remember  
it so well.

I have to see Mr. Massey  
today who is starting  
for India as Financial  
Minister. And I must  
stop.

God bless & prosper you -  
ever yours F.N.

Letter, LMA pen H1/ST/NC1/65/5

**f65/5.1**

{printed} 27. Norfolk Street  
Park Lane. W.  
7/2/65

My dear Sir

I am extremely obliged  
to you for your Programme,  
newspaper account, &c.  
of the S. London Exhn.  
And I congratulate you  
most sincerely on the  
success of a laborious  
work, calculated to  
do so much & lasting  
good to the Working Men.  
J.J. Frederick Eq.

**f65/5.1v**

There is nothing I  
should like better  
than to visit it, as  
you so kindly propose,  
(except to go to India,  
where I am strongly  
invited) -

But it is physically  
impossible - I have  
not left my room  
for 3 years, except  
to change my house.  
And I never get up

**f65/5.2**

except when I see my  
masters.

Dr. Sutherland has  
some wild notions,  
I know, about my  
going to see the Woolwich  
Hospital -

But the fact is as  
I tell you -

With renewed thanks  
for your kind information  
about affairs in which  
I am so much interested,  
believe me, my dear Sir,  
sincerely yours,  
Florence Nightingale

Letter, LMA, pen H1/ST/NC1/65/6

**f65/6.1**

32 South Street  
Park Lane  
London W.

February 26/65

My dear Sir [Rawlinson]

I have to thank you,  
which I do most heartily,  
for two letters, and for  
two printed papers, one on  
the construction of Barracks  
for Europeans, Circular No. 89,  
& one on Carbolic Acid.

I am sure you are  
perfectly right as to  
taking the conservancy collections  
out to sea. Proper dung -  
boats with a small steamer  
to remove the filth of  
Calcutta down the river  
to the sea, is the only plan.

**[9:872-73]**

**f65/6.1v**

This is what we used to do  
at Balaclava, in the Crimea.  
And *till* we did it,  
Balaclava was on a  
small scale, what Calcutta  
is *on, alas!* too large an one,  
the hot-bed of Cholera &  
Typhus, even during the  
short time we infested  
it. If under a very  
fine climate, a small  
place, like Balaclava,  
became in ~~twelve~~ nine months,  
i.e. till the dung-boats  
were used, what was very  
nearly the grave-yard of  
a whole British Expedition,  
what must Calcutta have  
become in 100 years under

**f65/6.2**

a very trying climate?

About the disinfectants: -  
we have had this question  
referred to us over & over  
again from the Bombay  
Govt. & have consulted the  
Local Government Act Office.  
I send you an opinion of  
theirs, tho' it does not apply  
precisely to your case: -

"It is the old, old story  
over again - disinfectants  
in place of removal -  
and a wish to have things  
'far sent & dear bought'.  
Wood=charcoal dust  
will do all which the  
fluids & powders are  
said to have done. But  
cleansing & reforming  
the Latrines & drains,

**f65/6.2v**

"with subsequent flushing, washing, & regular removal of refuse, at short intervals, will be better. These Disinfectants are the right hand power of ignorance & nothing more. We do not repudiate disinfectants - they have an use - but that use is not to palliate refuse heaps, which ought never to have been allowed to accumulate. A temporary use of disinfectants may be allowed, to enable a safe removal of refuse now existing, to be made - the store of poison heaped up by

**f65/6.3**

"ignorance in past times. But a continuance of poison=storing and disinfecting should not be allowed. McDougall's powder may prevent the heaps of foul refuse killing the men ordered to remove it, or wood charcoal powder - but on the condition that any such heaps & deposits are not to accumulate in future."

I wish such papers as this of the Health Officer of the Municipality of Calcutta could be remitted home for the "Barrack & Hospital Improvement Commission

**f65/6.3.v**

(consisting of members of the War & India Offices & Local= Government Act Office) to make their suggestions upon. It appears not impossible. At this moment the Bombay *Engineer* is in England - consulting with one Engineer of the Local Govt. Act Office, on the drainage of Bombay. I have to thank you very much for a very able letter, No. 774, upon the Nurse question, from Dr. Macpherson, Secy. to the 1st Inspector Genl.

**[end 9:873]**

I was in hopes to have sent you my answer to your official letter on the Nursing question by this mail.

**f65/6.4**

But it is only this moment come from the Printers!  
Dr. Walker

Letter, LMA pen H1/ST/NC1/675/7

**f65/7.1**

32 South Street  
Park Lane  
London W  
March 3/65

My dear Sir

I have to acknowledge the Proceedings of your Commission for November, which you have been so good as to send me.

**[9:512]**

In reading 273. on the "Influence of Temperate & Intemperate Habits," it struck me whether the data could not be obtained in the following way: -  
1. that a Regimental list be printed containing the names of every man  
2. that a copy of this List

LMA (FNM)

187

be filled up at the Canteen

**f65/7.1v**

every day from the peg. board  
- shewing the quantity of  
spirits & of beer each man  
has had in the 24 hours

Make it a current  
Regimental Return to be  
supplied to the Commanding  
Officer.

3. have a Medical return  
printed with the men's  
names on a similar form  
to be filled up on the  
last day of every year;  
shewing the diseases each  
man has suffered from  
for the 12 months preceding.

The Returns you propose  
would then become of  
great use for comparison.

**f65/7.2**

Any person with Statistical  
knowledge might extract  
from such Tables most  
valuable information and  
a very clear view of the  
state of the whole case.

If our Commander-in-Chief  
w (in England) were not  
a "snob", (which is a very  
disrespectful form of  
speech on my part - he  
would do all these things  
& get all these Returns for  
us - But he does nothing  
*Private*

The India Office has  
submitted to the (home)  
Sanitary Commission ("Barrack  
& Hospital Improvement")  
the Gov't papers on the

**f65/7.2v**

principles for designing  
Barracks in India, containing  
Col = Crommelin's paper,  
that by the Govt. of India  
(which you were so good  
as to send me) the papers  
by your Commission &c &c.

[end 9:513]

They are up here now,  
being considered. On the  
whole, they are admirable.

In haste,  
Pray believe me  
Yours very Sincerely  
Florence Nightingale  
Dr. Pattison Walker

Letter, LMA pen H1/ST/NC1/65/8

**f65/8.1**

repd. 15/7/65 32 South Street  
Park Lane  
London W  
April 10/65

My dear Sir

I cannot sufficiently  
thank you for most  
kind letters, by several  
mails repeated - for  
four most valuable  
& encouraging Statistical  
Tables, which we shall  
make great use of -  
for a number of printed  
papers, all more  
interesting one than the  
other.

[9:873]

**f65/8.1v**

I have consulted several scientific men both in London & Manchester & at the Army Medl. School at Netley, about the water=supply analysis question, as to which you did me the honor to write to me.

[end 9:873]

And I hope to send what may prove useful by next mail - as well as to write about the Statistical tables & the printed papers which you have been so good, so very good as to send

**f65/8.2**

me.

This is merely an acknowledgment for the great pleasure you have given me.

Pray believe me  
ever yours most truly  
& gratefully

Florence Nightingale  
Do you know that your water=analysis letter was fished up from the sea?

F.N.

{archivist's notes:

II 4

65/9 F.N. to Dr. Pattison Walker 26 Apr. 1865}

Letter, LMA pen H1/ST/NC1/659/9

f65/9.1

Private 32 South Street  
Recd 4/6/65 Park Lane  
Repd 15/7/65 London W.

April 26/65

My dear Sir

I was in hopes to have sent you your (Water=supply) analysis questions, answered, by this mail. But my learned men are so dilatory.

[9:695-97]

However, I will not delay to thank you for all the rich store of information which touches me so deeply, that you have been kind enough to send me.

I feel so much what you say about your

**f65/9.1v**

Insp. Genl. of Prisons, Mr. Woodcock, whom you call the first of Indian Sanitary reformers, so justly. What a great work he did & at how great an expense to his own peace of mind. Indeed we ought to be very grateful to him.

It is hard enough, God knows, for public men to do their duty anywhere.

But I do think it is harder in India than anywhere else. So much the greater honour to their memories, be they living or dead.

In regard to Jails: -

**f65/9.2**

the diminution of over-crowding, with the increase of superficial area, has been the result of progressive experience. Every climate has its limit. Thus, for Turkey, the Inspector, who is at present in England, informs me that 72 sq. ft. are allowed, both in cells and in common rooms. This Turkish experience is probably the nearest to yours.

One would think the occurrence of Epidemic disease in Indian jails a sufficient reason for increasing the space. If you have any prison in which Epidemics prevail, your area is too small.

**f65/9.2v**

If you have any exempt, your area is sufficient. Increase your area and cubic space, until Cholera, Dysentery & Fever disappears *epidemically*. Of course ventilation & cleanliness are inferred.

Prison Epidemics in England have been taken as the test of Sanitary condition. Formerly they killed prisoners, jury, & judges. Now they have ceased to exist in prisons. This is your Indian test.

[You have the Reports on Prison Construction & Prison Regulations by

**f65/9.3**

[2]

Sir Joshua Jebb (he was the great Prison Sanitary reformer in England, of whom I should speak, as you of Mr. Woodcock, both as to his sacrifices & as to the unworthy, return made him)

The best plan for a tropical prison I ever saw was for Malta (for a new Prison there) by a Mr. Inglott, of Malta - a man who has a perfect genius for that kind of thing.]

The Colonial Office (of course this is entirely in confidence)

**f65/9.3v**

is now 'girding up its loins' to clean out *its* house too, with regard to its Prisons. It has instituted an enquiry. And India must not be left behind.

If these kinds of questions in India could be referred for an opinion to the home Sanitary Commission, we might back you up with our experience. It is a wonder that men do not learn - both from these dreadful Epidemics, & from their absence, when conditions are improved. [Lord Stanley is at this hour (again, this is in perfect confidence)

**f65/9.4**

applying to Sir Charles Wood to refer to the home Sanitary Commission for an opinion both on the Jail question, & on the question of Mr. Strachey's most able Calcutta paper, - which, as you are aware, has been made a Parliamentary paper of, & presented to the House of Commons on February 22.

I must again thank you for your invaluable Statistics (8 Forms). I am quite touched by your having taken Dr. Bryden's duty - which, I think, is

**f65/9.4v**

very magnanimous. And  
I only hope that you  
will do your very best  
to keep your health  
and Mr. Strachey too.  
For, as I shall tell him,  
it will not do for  
Sanitarians to die.  
Martyrs used to do good  
by dying. But, in these  
days, martyrs *must live*  
to do good.

The Statistics are very  
good indeed - very cheering  
- & give a great deal  
of invaluable information.  
Let the absence of  
Epidemics become a  
permanent condition -

**f65/9.5**

[3]

you will succeed in this  
at last. A large part  
of your diminution of  
Death-rate is due to  
absence of Epidemics,  
specially of Cholera.  
No higher reward can  
be wished you than that  
you may become able  
to depend upon, in  
future, this absence of  
Epidemics.

[We must not boast  
in London - Typhus has  
become more prevalent  
the last two years - and  
is always trying to raise

**f65/9.5v**

its head & burst out  
*epidemically*. So much  
 the more shame for us,  
 in a temperate climate.]

I cannot close my  
 letter without recurring  
 again to the honour  
 which must be paid to  
 you, for undertaking  
 Dr. Bryden's work -

I do trust it will  
 please God to preserve  
 Sir John Lawrence's  
 health. I conceive there  
 has scarcely ever been  
 a time in history when

**f65/9.6**

so much depends *for good*  
 (often it has depended for  
 evil) upon one man as  
 the head.

Sir C. Trevelyan's break -  
 down in health is a  
 great misfortune.

Mr. Massey, however,  
 comes out with the  
 highest possible desires  
 (& ability) of seconding  
 Sir John Lawrence &  
 doing India good service.

Pray believe me

My dear Sir  
 with most grateful regards  
 to Mrs. Walker

yours most sincerely

& thankfully

Florence Nightingale

**f65/9.6v**

N.B. I am quite aware that one of Sir John Lawrence's first Acts was to appoint a Commission to Report on the whole question of Indian Jails within a month, on which Commission you were - that the several Governors were desired to send in their requirements & their "bill" for their own provinces, in obedience to the recommendations you then made - that Madras & (I suppose) the other Governments have sent in theirs - which, I suppose, have

**f65/9.7**

been approved -  
 [Was it in reference to these that you complained so justly that so small an allowance of superficial feet had been asked for?]

How very glad I should be, if we could help you about these things.

Could you send us a copy of your Report (viz. of the Commission on Jails above mentioned) & of any administrative papers appertaining to it?

in haste

F.N.

{archivist's notes: I 5  
 65/10 F.N. to [Mary Jones] 2 May 1865  
 65/11 " " " 3 June 1865  
 65/12 " " " 5 June 1865  
 65/13 " " Fras. Hicks, Esq. 10 Aug. 1865  
 (envelope only)}

Letter, LMA pen1 H1/ST/NC1/65/10

**[6:393-94]****f65/10.1**

*Confidential* 34 South Street  
Park Lane  
W. May 2/65

[Please observe new  
address. I do hope  
I shall never move  
again.]

Dearest friend [Mary Jones]

I am in such straits.  
And I am sure you  
will advise me.  
Perhaps you know  
that, ever since the  
beginning of the year,  
the Poor Law Board  
have been "intriguing"

**f65/10.1v**

with me about an  
entire revision &  
re-formation of  
Workhouse Infirmaryes.  
I do wish I had  
time to tell you  
their plan. But I  
hope to be able  
soon.

But there is one  
thing which makes  
me excessively  
nervous.

The P.L. Board  
have about 2800

**f65/10.2**

girls in the Union  
Schools - of whom about  
200 every year - of  
the age of 16 - to put  
out to places.

They propose to derive  
their Staff of Nurses  
from this material.

- to send a Circular  
to all the Hospitals  
to ask them to take  
in a proportion,  
each, as apprentices  
- and a Circular to  
all the Boards of

**f65/10.2v**

Guardians to ask  
them to apprentice  
out such of these  
girls, as would like  
to become Nurses,  
to Hospitals.

When arrived at the  
age of 25, to be  
engaged as Nurses  
in the proposed  
new Consolidated  
Workhouse Infirmaryes.

I can't conceive,  
even if you limit it  
to the female side,  
what a girl of 16

**f65/10.3**

[2]

could do in a Hospital  
but clean & scrub.  
And I am sure  
Assistant Nurses,  
in the *run* of  
Hospitals, would  
not be good  
Mistresses.

You will understand  
that this is strictly  
confidential. But  
I wrote to the Poor  
Law Board expressly  
for permission to  
consult you -

**f65/10.3v**

Will you tell me  
what you think of  
the feasibility of  
such a scheme?

Could you find  
*Hospital* employment  
for girls of 16 &  
over, which would  
qualify them to be  
Nurses at 25?

Would there be any  
objection to their  
introduction on the  
female side of Civil

**f65/10.4**

Hospitals, taking  
into consideration  
the Medical students?

In short, if the  
proposition were  
made to you to  
undertake, say, 6  
of these apprentices,  
should you undertake  
it? - should you  
have fair hope of  
making Nurses  
of them?

N.B. I think few

**f65/10.4v**

know: -

1. what excellent  
wholesome material  
there is among these  
Union orphan girls,  
bred in the (country)  
Union Schools out  
of London Workhouses
2. that the demand  
for Nurses is getting  
so enormous - And  
where are we to  
draw from, if not  
from such a source  
as this? It seems a  
thousand pities to let it  
slip.

**f65/10.5**

[3]

The difficulty of course  
is:

the Guardians try to  
get these girls out to  
places at 14: -

the Poor Law Board  
says, 16: -

no one has any plan  
what to do with  
them between that  
age, & the age when  
WE say: train as  
nurses.

I have an idea ~~of~~  
that we shall train

**f65/10.5v**

~~training~~ Head Nurses (of the usual age)

for the proposed

Consolidated

Workhouse Infirmaryes,

& ~~apprenticing~~ the

girls to *them* on

the female side.

Still the age (of 16) is

a difficulty any

how -

God bless my dearest

friend

ever yours

F.N.

Envelope 2.5.65

*Confidential*

Miss Jones

Lady Supt.

King's College Hospital

Letter, LMA pen black-edged paper

**f65/11.1**

June 3/65  
{printed} 34 South Street  
Park Lane,  
London. W.

Dearest friend

You shall have by  
Monday a letter of  
introduction to  
the Director General  
of all the Paris  
Hospitals.

[13:89]

Do not you think  
you trouble yourself  
unnecessarily about

**f65/11.1v**

the Chambers Article.

I have not done  
more than glance  
over it. But an  
opinion much  
better than my own  
says: while admitting  
what you think:  
"The object of the  
Article evidently is  
to induce women

**f65/11.2**

of good character  
to enter nursing  
as a means of  
livelihood. This is  
obviously the whole  
gist of it. And we  
should not regard  
the other side, as  
not entering into  
the compass of the  
Article."

As you have not read  
it yourself, I have

**f65/11.2v**

the less scruple in  
begging you not to  
concern yourself  
about it.

Do not send it to me -  
Chambers comes to  
me regularly.

I have had such  
trouble within &  
without that I have  
not been able to  
write. I do hope  
we shall succeed in

**f65/11.3**

doing something for  
the Workhouse Infirmaryes  
& their 7573 sick.\*  
ever dearest friend  
yours in life & in  
death

F.N.

[end]

-----  
\* one third more  
than the whole of  
Paris has - And our  
7573 are independent  
of the Civil Hospitals

Letter, LMA pen H1/ST/NC1/65/12

f65/12.1

God bless you 5 June/65 [7:760]  
ever your {printed} 34 South Street.  
Park Lane,  
London. W.

Dearest friend

I send you a letter  
to the central spider  
of the whole web -  
the Director - whose  
office is on *Parvis*  
*Notre Dame*.

He will give you  
all the introductions  
you want. All the

**f65/12.1v**

Supérieures are dead  
or changed since my  
time. [This Director  
is not the same.  
(Davenne was my man)  
But] this man has  
shewn me the most  
constant & helpful  
kindness. And he  
did everything for  
Mrs. Shaw Stewart,  
~~to~~ whom I recommended to him,

**f65/12.2**

tho' it was a great thing  
 then to get her admission  
 to live in all the Hospitals.  
 Her fidgettiness was some -  
 thing I cannot describe,  
 (but you can fancy,)  
 lest I should not  
 get her efficient &  
 the right introductions  
 & admissions. But  
 what I did do was  
 to go right to the  
 centre at once. And  
 I succeeded: (And I

-----  
 thro' Marshal Pelissier (then our Ambassador)  
 & this man

**f65/12.2v**

would recommend  
 you to go to this man  
 at once, & put  
 yourself in his hands.

[end 7:760]

You must tell him,  
 if he asks you, that  
 I really was so ill I  
 could hardly write my  
 letter to him. And  
 he must pardon its  
 rambling=ness.

I wish I could have  
 told you more of what  
 we are doing at the  
 Poor Law Board before you went.

Envelope: C V2  
 Fras Hicks, Esq  
 St. Thomas' Hospl Counting House  
 St. Thomas St.  
 S.E.

{archivist's note: II 6  
 65/14 F.N. to G.M. Murphy, Esq. 21 Aug. 1865  
 65/15 F.N. to [Mary Jones] 15 Sept. 1865  
 65/16 F.N. to Wm. Rendle, Esq. 18 Sept. 1865  
 65/17 F.N. to [Mary Jones] 21 Sept. 1865}

Letter, LMA H1/ST/NC1/65/14, pen

**f65/14.1**

34 South St. W.

Aug 21/65

*George M. Murphy Esq*

Sir,

In reply to your  
Circular of August 8,  
I shall be most  
happy to contribute  
£2 to the subscription  
you propose, especially  
as my excellent  
friend, Mr. Frederick,  
whose merits & labours  
I do deeply appreciate,  
is to receive a gold  
Medal from it.

I am, Sir,  
your faithful servt  
Florence Nightingale

Letter, LMA H1/ST/NC1/65/15, pen

**f65/15.1**

Sept 15/65

{printed} 34 South Street,  
Park Lane,  
London. W.

Dearest friend

I would have  
written but I could  
not. I have not  
even been out of  
my bed. ~~even~~ since  
I have been here -  
and I cannot  
speak for more -  
than 10 minutes or  
even that. I assure

**f65/15.1v**

you the greatest  
disappointment in  
all this has been  
the not being able  
to see you, who I  
think would have  
come down here  
for country air, even  
if I had not been  
able to talk. "Here"  
means Hampstead.  
But I am staying  
on only from day  
to day from sheer

**f65/15.2**

inability to get out  
of bed - having Indian  
business, to my very  
great anxiety,  
waiting for me  
in London. I must  
go back, whether I  
can or not. I hope,  
if I am a little  
better in the winter,  
you will come & see  
me at S. St. But it will not  
be the same to you  
as coming into the country.

**f65/15.2v**

I dare say you may  
have heard from Mr.  
Rathbone of our great  
Liverpool Workhouse  
anxieties. But, if you  
have not, don't  
mention them. Please  
God we shall pull  
through - It is His  
work - I wish I  
could have gone down  
But God's will be done.

Hilary Carter is dead.  
The suffering had been

**f65/15.3**

cruel. But the end  
 was peace. No words  
 can tell my gratitude  
 to God that it is over.  
 The golden bowl is  
 broken. It was the  
 purest gold, the  
 most *unworked* gold  
 I have ever known.  
 She is gone to a more  
 perfect service.

And now let me  
 tell you that I have  
 really not written

**f65/15.3v**

out of anxiety for you  
 - an odd reason, you  
 will say. But I am  
 afraid you know from  
 yourself that it is  
 a true one. I felt  
 I could not bear  
 one more anxiety  
 (where I could do  
 nothing,) if I heard  
 you were not well  
 or over-weighted.

**f65/15.4**

Even the physical  
 labour of the daily  
 writing to & from  
 Liverpool I have  
 been scarcely able  
 to get thro' - But do not  
 mention this.

God bless you  
 ever yours  
 anxiously  
 F.N.

Letter, LMA H1/ST/NC/65/16 pen

[6:342]

**f65/16.1**

Sept 18/65  
{printed} 34 South Street,  
Park Lane,  
London. W.

Sir,

I beg to thank you  
for a copy of your  
valuable speech on  
"London Vestries", & to  
say how much pleasure  
it gives me to be  
allowed to enter into  
communication with  
you, who have been so  
long one of the wisest  
& most strenuous  
supporters of the  
William Rendle Eq

**f65/16.1v**

sanitary cause.

I am so weak from  
illness that I will ask  
you now to permit me  
only to acknowledge  
your pamphlet very  
shortly.

I agree with you  
that the work should  
be done by local  
authorities - & that  
the difficulty is to find  
means of visiting  
neglects with punishment.

Public opinion is

**f65/16.2**

gradually becoming public  
indignation: and I  
should not be at all  
surprised if the  
Vestries were placed  
under legal supervision,  
& heavily fined for  
neglect, - as the  
final result of their  
indifference to the  
poor.

I beg to remain

Sir

Yours faithfully & gratefully  
Florence Nightingale

Letter, LMA H1/ST/NC1/65/17 pen

[6:259]

**f65/17.1**

*Private* Sept 21/65  
{printed} 34 South Street,  
Park Lane,  
London, W.

Dearest friend

If you go to your  
own cottage, I am  
satisfied, i.e. *almost*.  
You know there is  
such a thing (for  
*you*) as to be too  
near London. But  
it can't be helped.

**f65/17.1v**

I am thankful Sister  
 Laura is better.

God bless you  
 ever yours  
 F.N.

I think we have  
 got over the Liverpool  
 Workhouse difficulty  
 for the present.  
 [It all arose from  
 the Gov=nor not choosing to subordinate

**f65/17.2**

his own paupers & from  
 the Governor choosing  
 to subordinate the  
 Trained Nurses as  
 if they were paupers.]  
 But this is only a  
 [illeg]. And till we  
 get the Poor Law  
 Board to make  
 some regulation, it  
 will be impossible  
 to have respectable  
 women as Nurses

**f65/17.2v**

in Workhouses, as a  
 general system.  
 This is just dragged  
 through to Mr. Rathbone,  
 Miss A. Jones & me -

Please burn this  
 F.N.

{archivist's note: II 7  
 65/18 F.N. to Dr. Pattison Walker 25 Sept. 1865  
 65/19 " " " " " 18 Oct. 1865}

Letter, LMA H1/ST/NC1/65/18 pen [& for prison stats]

**f65/18.1**

{Rec'd 4/4/65      34 South Street  
Replied 6/10/65} Park Lane  
                  London. W.  
                  Sept 25/65

My dear Sir [Dr Pattison Walker]

I write in haste merely  
a line to thank you for  
your welcome letters of  
July 15 and 31 - welcome  
in every thing but the  
tidings of your own health,  
which I am very sorry  
to hear is so bad - but  
which I hope you will  
take timely measures to  
improve. It is so valuable.

I have received all  
your enclosures, I believe,  
including one on the present  
defective method of

[9:697]

**f65/18.1v**

calculating prison Death=rates.

And as you are so very  
kind in wishing every  
thing to be submitted to  
you - which is worked out  
on your subjects in England  
- for your consideration, I  
venture to send you a  
Memo. by Dr. Farr, of the  
General Register office,  
with whom I have been  
always greatly associated  
in work.

The object is not to obtain  
the *absolute* mortality, which  
is scarcely possible, but to  
obtain a result which  
will be comparable with  
other results similarly  
obtained.

**f65/18.2**

You will think that I am never going to send the method for finding out the amount of "dirt" in water. All I can say for myself is that I have myself revised it six times thro' the press - that my learned men are always making fresh additions, which worry the printers very much & me still more, but which are quite worth while, for the paper is quite a different thing in worth, since it was begun more than 6 months ago. I do hope this is the very last Revise, and to send it you now very soon.

I hope to write you a

**f65/18.2v**

longer letter soon, in return for yours of the 15th July - But I trust that you will not let my letters or enclosures impose upon you additional work. They can all lie by for a time.

I received the Prison Forms &c, with much gratitude.

I am going to take the liberty of sending you tracings of plans of a small prison, about to be erected in one of our (hot-country) colonies, which we think a sanitary model of its kind for warm climates.

But this will not be  
{text breaks off here}

[end 9:697]

Letter, LMA H1/ST/NC1/65/19, pen

**f65/19.1**

Private            Oct 18/65  
                     34 South Street, {printed}  
                     Park Lane,  
                     London. W.

My dear Sir [Dr Pattison Walker]

I am very sorry to hear  
 you are so far from well.  
 But I hope that you have  
 taken holiday in time.

[9:873-75]

John Bull is a conceited  
 ass, & thinks the climate  
 ought to take care of him,  
 instead of him taking  
 care of the climate. The  
 French fare much better.

Anglo=India has made  
 its capital of a place  
 where the Moguls used  
 to send their state prisoners

**f65/19.1v**

to die - And people fall ill  
 in Calcutta, & then say =  
 it's the climate.  
 The R. Commission never told  
 you all to live in Calcutta.  
 But you abuse them for not  
 having laid sufficient  
 stress on "climatic influences."  
 We are spending just  
 five millions sterling  
 to empty that small  
 gutter, the Thames, of  
 sewage. And this in a  
 temperate climate.  
 What are you doing? -

It is not that Calcutta  
 might not be made  
 much more healthy  
 than it is, if you were

**f65/19.2**

willing to spend several Millions. The main question is: - to keep the sub-soil moisture at a certain distance below the ground varying with latitude & local circumstances. This costs money. ~~Thi~~ If it *costs too much*, as perhaps in a place like Calcutta) then the place ought to be abandoned, or never to have been chosen. This is the only real determination of localities, as far as healthy surface of ground is concerned.

But people in India, tho' they are always raving against the "climate", actually

**f65/19.2v**

tolerate a state of things in their palaces which we here ceased to tolerate in the poorest village in this healthy climate. And yet we have always Typhus & sometimes Cholera - and at this moment the Poor Law Board is meditating a sweeping Bill (for London) for next Session, because the Vestries are not doing their duty. And the Poor Law Board is quite right. [I tell you this - but it is a secret.]

**f65/19.3**

[2]

There are 120 ways of boiling eggs (this anent "climatic influences") Climate is good everywhere - But man & his habits & his manner of selecting places to live in & to build on are as bad as possible - (as I say, John Bull's a conceited ass, & his conceit is that climates are made to obey him). And hence he confounds climate with his own want of care. He ought to boil his eggs better.

Batavia was the most deadly place in the world. And now,

**f65/19.3v**

people go there for their health. Can anything be stronger than this?

In the Table of Mortality for 1859-64, shewn in its distribution by months, which you have been good enough to send me, are appended Notes as to the climatic elements, which are assumed as causing the increasing Death-rates during certain months. I think this is a pity. They belong to a method of determining causation, which in this country we venture

**f65/19.4**

to think we have improved upon. High temperature & moisture are nothing per se. As influencing other causes, they are a great deal - they have immense power. To place them as *causes* is much the same thing logically as it would be to make the perfection or imperfection of roast beef depend on the quantity of coals raised at Newcastle - as if you said, the more fuel the sun puts into his grate, the more unhealthy India becomes.

I have to thank you for your most kind note

**f65/19.4v**

of Aug 16, & for its enclosure from Dr. Bryden.

There is a growing conviction in Europe that, when Cholera seizes a population living in bad Sanitary conditions, its influence may extend hundreds of miles atmospherically from the centre where it began. And there is a diplomatic proposition to suppress or regulate the Mecca pilgrimage, in order to prevent its becoming the Epidemic centre for the West, which it has always been hitherto.

The moral is: that unless you improve the

**f65/19.5**

[3]

sanitary condition of the Civil populations, you cannot insure ~~the~~ immunity for the soldiers from Epidemics.

I have to thank you, which I do most cordially, for the valuable Draft No. 262 about railway traveling by troops - also for the Extract of a letter No. 247 about the Jails in the Lower Provinces. How curious & instructive that is - & how terrible. It shews that some one must again set hard to work to reform the Management & laws of these Jails, like a Howard, & never leave off till he has done.

**f65/19.5v**

The contrast between the men's & women's health, & between the cubic space for each, startles even me.

But my mind is full of Lord Palmerston's illness. He may be passing away even at this moment. He will be a great loss to us. He made a joke about every thing. But, tho' he made a joke - when asked to do the right thing, he always did it. No one else will be able to carry the things thro' the Cabinet he did. I shall lose in him a

**f65/19.6**

powerful protector. Especially in Poor Law & wide Sanitary views, he was so much more in earnest than he appeared. He did not do himself justice.

His *presumed* successor is so queer-tempered that he cannot manage the Cabinet.

**[end 9:875]**

I most sincerely hope that this note will find you quite restored in health.

I will write again by next mail.

Pray believe me  
ever yours most truly

Florence Nightingale  
Dr. Pattison Walker

{archivist's note: II 8  
65/20 F.N. to Dr. Pattison Walker 26 Oct. 1865  
65/21 " " " " 3 Nov. 1865  
65/22 " " " " " " " }

LMA (FNM)

221

Letter, LMA H1/ST/NC1/65/20 pen

**f65/20.1**

Recd 12/12 34 South Street  
Acknowledged Park Lane  
21/12 via Mail London W.  
Oct 26/65

My dear Sir

I write in haste,  
because I do not like  
to miss a mail, in  
acknowledging your  
most kind & interesting  
letter of Sept. 20. But  
we are all in confusion,  
because of Lord Palmerston's  
death.

[9:538-39]

I sincerely hope you  
are better, if not  
quite well. We cannot  
afford to lose an hour  
of you -

**f65/20.1v**

It is sad what you say about the hurry of Indians to come home. May it not be the result of the state of health which Indians suffer from the bad Sanitary state of Calcutta. Bombay & Madras are not in such a hurry, I believe, are they? -

As for yourself, I am afraid that cardiac & tiny affections always suffer from the great attitude of Simla (do not they?) - & that, tho' Calcutta is worst,

**f65/20.2**

Simla is bad for you -

I have failed to acknowledge your "No. I. "Return shewing the "Sickness & mortality "&c Military & Civil "Regulation &c - Bengal "during month of --" i.e. the Form, which you were so kind as to send me -

It has excited a good deal of attention at the War Office & Army Medical Departmt= here. And I send you their Remarks, tho' fearing that you may

**f65/20.2v**

think them impertinent.

[end 9:539]

Presuming that the Return is intended for the information of the Military & Civil authorities & not for professional purposes - they suggest the following points for your consideration: -

1. Instead of Intermittent & Remittent fevers being stated separately, these might be given under the head of Paroxysmal on Fever {Intermittent, Remittent}
2. Sun=stroke should be stated separately; - or there will be a large {letter interrupted by 3/11/65 letter; see next letter}

**f65/20.3**

[2]

proportion of the cases of it returned under "apoplexy". A separate column for "Sunstroke" might precede "Apoplexy".

3. Instead of the two columns "Respiratory Disease" & Phthisis Pulm.", they would suggest to put "Phthisis Pulm." first, & then "Other diseases of the Lungs" - or put it thus: -

-----  
                   *Diseases of the Lungs*  
*Phthisis Pulmonalis*                    *Other Pulmonary Diseases*

4. For "Wounds & Accidents" they would suggest "Wounds & Injuries".
5. To insert a column "Diseases of Heart & large Vessels" they suggest as important:

**f65/20.3v**

6. The Column "Deaths out of Hospital" vitiates the Return, because it excludes the causes of Death.

These causes should in every instance, be stated - either in a separate return or by subdividing each column into

{written vertically in 3 lined columns:

In Hospital  
Out of Hospital  
Percentage of  
Total to Strength}

(instead of the 5th column under each disease "Percentage of Deaths to Admission."

As the Admissions & Deaths are both given, the Ratio of D. to A. can be easily calculated, if required.)

**f65/20.4**

Of course, if this suggestion be adopted, you must alter the heading of the 3 last sections to "all other causes."

7. It is most desirable to have a column for "Suicide", if by the adoption of these alterations you gain a space.

8. Would it not be well to substitute "Disease of Liver" for "Hepatitis", as some men might otherwise omit Hepatic Abscess - which, altho' a consequence of inflammn., may possibly be, & sometimes is, returned as a distinct affection.

9. Is not some instruction necessary as to the cases to be included under "Spleen Disease"?

**f65/20.4v**

N.B.

It was impossible for me to finish even this short letter last mail - I was too ill & too busy and I doubt whether you will think it worth sending at all.

I am very sorry you are deprived of Mrs. Walker's care & society - for your sake - & hers.

Ever sincerely yours  
3/11/65 Florence Nightingale  
Jas: Pattison Walker Eq {Md.}

**f65/20.5***Private*

I think you must not look at the Sanitary Commission as "at an end." You are doubtless aware that Sir J. Lawrence wrote a very full Minute, dated January 9, to the Secretary of State here, proposing an organization for the Public Health Service in India. Some modifications will probably be proposed. But I think this is only a beginning of a great development of the Service. In the meantime, let me again say how deeply grateful I feel to you for all the invaluable information, the records of proceedings & letters I have received from you.

**[9:539]**

**f65/20.5v**

And I cannot but still regret that you have not been able to continue in the Sanitary Commission under its new form - Sanitary work I am sure you will do wherever you are.

F.N

Letter, LMA H1/ST/NC1/65/21 pen

**f65/21.1**

Private 34 South Street  
Recd. 17/12/65 Park Lane  
Acknowledged London W.  
26/11 3/11/65

My dear Sir

I have seldom been so struck by any thing as by the "Extract from "a letter No. 247 dated "the 8th May 1862 from "the Inspector Genl. of *Jails* "Lower Provinces to &c" which you were so kind as to send me. [I am aware I have acknowledged it before.]

**[9:699]**

I believe I could give you a help towards furthering the object

**f65/21.1v**

you have so much at heart,  
viz. providing a remedy.

Could you send me  
any later information  
in such a form that  
we could use it here?

Every thing relating  
to this subject is of  
immense importance  
to the future of India  
& also of our Colonies.

Should you be so  
kind as to grant my  
request,- would you,  
in sending figures, be  
so good as to state the  
precise manner in  
which the Statistical  
results are obtained?

**f65/21.2**

- in other words, how you  
get the percentages of  
mortality?

We should also have  
the chief groups of  
diseases.

[end 9:699]

I may mention to you,  
quite privately, that we  
have a powerful  
protector in Lord  
Stanley, (~~the~~ who was President  
of the R. Commission).  
He will do all he can  
in this matter.

I fear the impending  
renewal of political  
agitation will not  
be favorable to

**f65/21.2v**

departmental work.

Still, as Lord Stanley says himself, "we must do our best."

Parliament will not be called together till January, he tells me.

It may be that, if these Ministers under Lord Russell break down - (Lord Palmerstons loss is incalculable - it was *he* who dragged every too liberal measure thro' the Cabinet) this next Session may see Ld Stanley Minister for India -

[end 9:539]

yours sincerely  
F.N.

Letter, LMA H1/ST/NC1/65/22 pen

**f65/22.1**

Recd 12/12/65 34 South Street  
Park Lane W.  
3/11/65

My dear Sir [Dr Pattison Walker]

I have never acknow=  
ledged the "Memorandum  
on Hospitals" by Dr. C.A.  
Gordon ("*our*" Dr. Gordon)  
which you were so good  
as to send me - It is  
an admirable paper  
- a very good solution  
of the problem how  
far & in what manner  
the Hospital regulations  
in use here are  
adapted for India.

[9:539]

[end 9:539]

The only real difference  
between us is that Dr.

**f65/22.1v**

Gordon thinks the Indian  
 Hospital=Steward, if he  
 be empowered to answer  
 all requisitions of the  
 Medical Officer, will  
 have done his duty,  
 while we require him  
 to supply *according to a  
 scale*; and, besides this,  
 to comply with all  
 requisitions of the Medical  
 Officer. We think our  
 plan the better & safer,  
 for we give a distinct  
 responsibility. But, in  
 this matter, you in India  
 can alone form a  
 practical opinion. You  
 know your local habits  
 best. The whole {letter breaks off here}

{archivist's note: II 9

65/23 F.N. to Dr. Pattison Walker 26 Nov. 1865

65/24 " " " " " "

65/26 F.N. to [Mary Jones] 12 Dec. 1865

Letter, LMA H1/ST/NC1/65/23, pen, black-edged paper

**f65/23.1**

*Private* 26/11/65

Recd. 10/1/65 34 South Street {printed address}  
Park Lane  
London. W.

My dear Sir

At *last* I send  
you the final Revise  
which I have just  
received from the  
Printers, of Dr. Angus  
Smith's paper on  
Water Analysis,  
asked for by you

[9:879-80]

**f65/23.1v**

I am afraid to say  
how many months  
ago. But I can truly  
say I have not  
lost a moment.  
First I applied to  
our Army Medical  
School Professors -  
to some of our great  
Government Chemists.  
None were able to  
satisfy the want.  
Dr. Angus Smith is

**f65/23.2**

the only man in Europe  
who could do it.  
And this paper is  
well worth all the  
trouble. But what  
that trouble has  
been no one who  
does not know  
Dr. Angus Smith can  
know. [I think he  
is more difficult  
to manage than all  
the Government of  
India] The enclosed

**f65/23.2v**

paper has been  
thro' his hands &  
mine some 15 times.  
And we have had  
nine Revises of it  
from the Printers.  
The rough proof  
which I send you  
tho' merely a rough  
Proof, is the final  
one. It has been  
seen & approved

**f65/23.3**

by the great War Office  
Sanitary authorities.  
And on Wednesday,  
when they have a  
Meeting, they mean,  
I believe, to vote  
the sending it "by  
authority" to Army  
Medical Officers  
abroad & to the  
School at home,  
as their text-book.

**f65/23.3v**

But I make haste  
to send you this copy.  
And I will send  
you others, when  
I have had it  
printed off.

In great haste  
yours most gratefully  
for your many  
kindnesses

F. Nightingale

[end 9:879]

**f65/23.4**

I do trust that  
your health is  
better -

Letter, LMA H1/ST/NC1/f65/23, pen

**f65/23.1**

Recd 10/1/65            26/11/65

My dear Sir

I have to thank you most sincerely for sending me a copy of your "First Annual Report" which contains most gratifying evidence of the administrative energy, intelligence & earnestness of its authors & of Sir John Lawrence -

**[9:540-41]**

The more we reflect on it, the more important does this question of the health of our Army in India become. To say much - it is worthy of all of your life that has been given to it:

I shewed your "Report" - quite privately - to ~~the~~ (General Registration Office) Dr. Farr. And I send you his remarks (on the other side) I know you like to hear every opinion of any importance.

**f65/23.1v**

When all that you have recommended has been carried out, we shall see the results in still more greatly diminished Mortality.

You have again raised the ~~xxxx~~discussion regarding the estimated death-rate. We consider that your points can be easily answered, especially where you have run parallels between certain home-rates & yours, which do not resemble each other in the circumstances.

But what is really wanted now is onward progress in the great work of civilizing & saving life.

And this you are doing.

**[end 9:540]**

ever yours sincerely

F. Nightingale

Might I ask for a second copy of your "First Report"?

{a copy of a letter by W. Farr, 22 November 1865} black-edged paper  
recd. 10/1/65

Private note:

*Private and Confidential.*

In going over your "First Report",  
it is most gratifying to see,  
e.g. at p. 73, that the  
Indian Government is  
prepared to spend in one  
year half a million in  
their endeavors to wean  
the soldier from drinking  
ardent spirits & to induce  
him to drink wholesome  
beer.

And, p.48, the Government  
spends 10 millions for  
the better accomodation  
of the Army.

You know, I dare say, that  
our Registrar-General,  
Major Graham, was in  
India - private Secretary  
to Malcolm & Elphinstone  
- he takes the deepest  
interest in our Army there.

**note continued**

{His son, Captain Graham, is at  
{?Jubbulpoor.}

When the E.I. Compy. was  
abolished & the amalgamation  
of the two Armies took place,  
Major Graham regretted  
that Local European Corps,  
amounting in strength  
perhaps altogether to 15 or  
20 thousand, were not  
continue in each Presidency,  
like West India Regiments,  
Cape Corps, Malta Fencibles  
&c &c. thus reducing the  
number of the regular  
British Army necessarily  
quartered in India. But  
it was otherwise arranged;  
and consequently between  
70 and 80 thousand of the  
British Army are to be kept  
constantly in India, in his  
(Major Graham's) opinion

**note continued**

to the great detriment of that Army. For the best of Regiments, without exception (he thinks) in India become demoralized. And he laments that so many Officers are *in peace times* brought up in such a school. He maintains that an officer who *in peace times* has passed 10 or 12 years in India is good for little.

Therefore, "Seeing that it is fated that 70,000 or 80,000 of our country men brought up in this temperate climate are to spend their lives in that tropical region" (this is still Major Graham) he greatly rejoices to see the provident care of them which you & the Indian Government are taking.

Letter, LMA pen H1/ST/NC1/65/25

**f65/25.1**

**[8:170-71]**

Dec 12/65  
 {printed} 34 South Street  
 Park Lane  
 London. W.

Dearest friend [Mary Jones]

I was so glad to hear from you. But I am afraid you are very weary.

I write, as usual, because I want something of you.

Dr. Farr is writing a paper on the Mortality of children?

He wants some of your Teachers or Nurses to give him a short description of the treatment of children in England

**f65/25.1v**

(by "treatment" he means  
feeding, rearing,  
clothing, warming,  
nursing - or the  
absence of all these)  
at the ages of  
under one  
from one to three  
from three to five -  
in the lower  
middle  
upper classes -  
for publication.  
Perhaps one of your  
Sisters could kindly

**f65/25.2**

write it down from the  
lips of the Nurses?  
Dr. Farr has been collecting  
very valuable Tables  
from all over Europe  
as to Child's Death-rates.  
The thing is now: to  
ascertain why these  
Death-rates are so high.  
He has got information  
from Vienna, similar  
to what he now asks  
from you - which I  
have seen - as well  
as his Tables. He

**f65/25.2v**

~~limits~~ extends his paper simply  
to telling what Europe  
actually does with  
its children

under one  
from one to three  
from three to five  
*not* to giving advice  
as to what they should  
do.

God bless you -

I can only just get on  
with my life. We have  
never been so busy -  
St. Thomas' - London  
Poor-Rate - India - & War  
Office all at once. My  
nights are torture. And  
I often wonder how long  
my mind will last. ever yours

**[end 8:171]**

F.N.

{archivist's note: II 10  
65/26 F.N. to Francis Hicks, Esq. 16 Dec. 1865  
65/27 F.N. to Dr. Pattison Walker 18 Dec. 1865  
66/1 F.N. to [Mary Jones] 19 Mar 1866  
66/2 F.N. to G.M. Murphy, Esq. 26 Mar 1866}

Letter, LMA H1/ST/NC1/65/26 black-edged paper

**f65/26.1**

Dec 16/65 **[16:789]**

{printed} 35 South Street,  
Park Lane,  
London. W.

My dear Sir [Francis Hicks]

I have returned the  
plans to Mr. Currey  
with a few suggestions.

And, as your note  
of the 13th= leads us  
to expect an  
amended plan with

**f65/26.1v**

increased accomodation,  
 I think it best  
 to defer making any  
 observations, until  
 I have had an  
 opportunity of going  
 over the amended  
 plan.  
 I beg to thank you

**f65/26.2**

for your kind note -  
 also for giving me  
 occasion to see  
 Mr. Baggalley, who  
 has written to me  
 offering an appointment.

**[end]**

Pray believe me  
 My dear Sir  
 ever you faithful servt  
 Florence Nightingale  
 Fras Hicks Eq

Letter, LMA H1/ST/NC1/65/27, pen, black-edged paper

**f65/27.1**

*Private* Dec 18/65  
 Recd. 20/1/66 35 South Street, {printed}  
 Park Lane,  
 London. W.

My dear Sir

I really cannot tell you  
 the grief I felt at your two  
 last letters, which arrived  
 together - both for the account  
 of your health & for the  
 inestimable & irreparable  
 loss which the great  
 Sanitary cause in India  
 will sustain from your  
 resignation. I cannot  
 write about it. For, I  
 should only intensify my  
 regrets. And that would  
 be of no use. I can only

**[9:881-82]**

**65/27.1v**

hope that the step you have  
taken will perfectly &  
entirely relieve yourself  
& Mrs. Walker of all  
anxiety about your  
valuable life.

[end 9:881]

I sent you, by this, a plan  
of the Malta (female) prison  
which we consider the  
best for hot climates we  
have yet done.

Perhaps you will like to  
shew it to your friend,  
Mr. Stewart Clark, the Inspector  
Genl= of the N.W.P. Prisons.  
It may not be quite suited  
to India. But your  
acumen would see at a  
glance how it might be

**f65/27.2**

adapted.

The facility of supervision,  
the opportunity it gives to  
the prisoner of sleeping  
in the open air, the facility  
of ventilation, the power  
of multiplying the units to  
any extent, (if a larger  
prison is desired) are  
what we prize.

[I sent a copy direct  
to Sir John Lawrence]

[end 9:699]

By last mail but one,  
I sent to you, directed  
to Calcutta (I had not  
then had your fatal news)  
the first Proof of the final

[9:881-82]

**f65/27.2v**

Revise of Dr= Angus Smith's  
water=analysis paper -  
written at your instigation.  
By last mail I sent  
three copies to you at  
Simla. [I had not strength  
to write -]

I think I told you the  
ordeal this paper has  
gone through, in order to  
excuse its delay. It has  
been 15 times thro' our  
hands - & has gone thro'  
9 Revises. It is considered  
now to represent the last  
& most perfect knowledge  
on this subject in Europe.

I have presented it  
at the War & India Offices.

**f65/27.3**

And they were so much  
pleased with it that  
the War Off: has asked  
for 600 copies to distribute  
"by authority" among its  
Officers, Medical &  
Engineering - & at its  
Medical School. The  
India Off= has asked for  
copies, too. But it takes  
at least a year for them  
to do the sum in addition  
of how many copies it  
will want. And, as it  
will be at least another  
year before it sends  
them out, I shall send  
100 copies (privately) to  
India for distribution.

**f65/27.3v**

Could you kindly tell me how this object will be best attained?

I send you three more copies by this mail.

I give Dr. Angus Smith 200 copies. [He is a most curious man - Do you know him? - Nothing but the pressure put upon him would have made him bring this paper to its present point - And yet he is the only man in Europe who could do it. So you see what good you have done. The present paper will circulate thro' Europe &

**f65/27.4**

other parts of the world. And practical scientific men will improve upon it; & bring to a farther & still farther progress what Angus Smith has brought to this point only at present.

I have to thank you for the (Croquet & Archery) Photograph, containing yourself & Mrs. Walker, which interested me extremely. I wish I could send you some which would interest you as much.

I will not enlarge upon the immense loss to myself

**f65/27.4v**

of your retirement from the  
Sanitary Comm=. For indeed  
I cannot. It is irreparable.  
But I hope we shall never  
quite lose sight of each  
other, while I remain  
in this world.

I cannot thank you for  
all the kindness you have  
shewn me. But pray  
believe me ever yours &  
Mrs. Walker's gratefully  
& sincerely

Florence Nightingale

**[end 9:882]**

Letter, LMA pencil H1/ST/NC1/66/1 black-edged paper

**f66/1.1**

19/3/66

{printed} 35 South Street,  
Park Lane,  
London. W.

Dearest friend

To save time, I  
send you the enclosed  
note from Dr. Joseph  
Bullar, of Southampton.  
But I have told him,  
in doing so, that it  
is unwise to make  
these applications  
through me, & that  
he must write to you  
direct

**f66/1.1v**

If you cannot supply  
him, we must ask  
Mrs. Wardroper.

But I feel sure she  
cannot.

How much better if  
Lady Henry Scott  
would send you a  
woman to train!

Perhaps you will say  
so-

**f66/1.2**

God bless you  
ever yours  
F.N.

Letter, LMA H1/ST/NC1/66/2, pen

**f66/2.1** [contrib. noted in voll1pt3]

March 26/66  
{printed} 35 South Street,  
Park Lane,  
London, W.

Dear Sir, [George Murphy]

I was not aware till  
I received a day or two  
ago a copy of your  
"Memorial Catalogue"  
that you had pursued  
the scheme mentioned  
in your printed Circular  
of August 8, 1865 in  
connection with the  
S. London Industrial  
Exh:.. Pray accept the  
debt of Two Guineas

**f66/2.1v**

due to you as my promised  
contribution.  
Any thing which gives  
my good friend, Mr.  
Frederick, pleasure &  
satisfaction, in his  
excellent objects, is  
also a satisfaction to  
me.

Believe me  
dear Sir  
Yours faithfully  
Florence Nightingale  
George M. Murphy, Eq.

{archivist's note: II 11  
 66/3 F.N. to Dr. Pattison Walker 26 Mar. 1866  
 66/4 " " " " 10 Apr. 1866  
 66/5 F.N. to Dr. E.A. Parkes 10 May 1866  
 66/6 F.N. to [Dr. Pattison Walker] 18 May 1866  
 66/7 F.N. to [Mary Jones] 21 May 1866}

Letter, LMA H1/ST/NC1/66/3, pen black-edged paper

**f66/3.1**

Rec'd ?/5 London March 26, 1866

Ackd 22/5 35 South Street

Park Lane W.

My dear Sir [Pattison Walker]

I should have been quite unpardonable for not having written to you before, if my silence had been from neglect. For I cannot look at your beautiful photographs of Simla, at your many most interesting letters, & at all the extracts from Dr. Brydon, which you have been at the trouble to make - ~~The~~ also at your Jail Report, & your many other kindnesses, without feeling overflowing gratitude.

But, I have been so ill the whole winter - always a prisoner to my bed - often to one position for days together - that

**f66/3.1v**

I have had the greatest difficulty in carrying on even the most important current business.

I have had letters from Sir. J. Lawrence & Mr. Strachey. As you are aware, the position of the Sanitary Commissions will be modified in important particulars - I do not pretend to send you Indian news from England. I am at this moment engaged with the Indian Secy of State here about this. In one

**[9:882-83]****f66/3.2**

respect, Lord de Grey is a better Indian Sec=y of State for us than Sir C. Wood - for Ld de Grey is entirely penetrated with the importance of the Sanitary subject. As signifying improvement in civilization, more than anything else.

As to Vital Statistics: - there are two things:  
1. an accurate tabulation of facts  
2. a reduction of facts, so as to obtain conclusions.  
The first is by far the most important.

**f66/3.2v**

And for this purpose  
the present Army  
Medical Department forms  
should be used.  
The reductions made  
are of little value,  
except meteorologically.  
But there are other  
reductions which  
would be of the  
greatest value  
for the health of the  
Army. These require  
special knowledge  
for ~~their~~ performing  
them, & could be  
best made at the  
Army Medical Department  
at home.

**f66/3.3**

As to Dr. Angus Smith's  
pamphlet - I cannot  
remember whether I  
mentioned to you that,  
after I had finished  
compiling it, & presented  
it to the Army Sanitary  
Commission here,  
which has Indian  
members - the Government  
was so penetrated  
with the importance  
of it that the War  
Office & India Office  
each took 600  
copies, & have  
distributed these  
with a printed

**f66/3.3v**

Circular among their  
Medical & some of  
their Engineering  
Officers - abroad - by authority.  
So you see what good you have done.

I will not write more  
at present, because  
I scarcely know  
whether this will  
reach you. But I  
hope, when I have  
your new address, to  
write about many  
things more fully.  
Your letter containing  
an Extract from  
the Engineer's report

**f66/3.4**

about the drainage of  
Calcutta, was of the  
greatest importance  
to us - Had you been at  
Calcutta, I should have  
asked you to ascertain a  
point for us accurately  
which arises out of it.  
But now I know not to  
whom to apply. I feel as  
if we had lost our chief  
friend.

Pray give my most  
grateful & affectionate  
regards to Mrs. Walker,  
if she will accept them.  
And accept the same  
yourself from

yours ever truly

Florence Nightingale  
My birth day, as you are  
so good as to ask, was on  
May 12 1820.

[end 9:883]

Letter, LMA pen H1/ST/NC1/66/4 black-edged paper

**f66/4.1**

Recd 16th May April 10/66  
Ackd 22/5 35 South Street,  
Park Lane, {printed}  
London. W.

**[12:162-63]**

My dear Sir [Pattison Walker]

I will only now  
thank you for your  
most kind & valuable  
letter of February 21 from  
Simla - for the "Proceedings",  
which I have not yet  
received, & concerning  
which I will exactly  
observe your behests -  
for the Jail Report,  
which I have received  
& for your numberless  
valuable M.S. Extracts -  
particularly "Habits in

**f66/4.1v**

relation to Heat Influence" -  
- Return showing cub. ft  
& superf. area per man for  
Bengal Corps - April 1864.

All these facts are invaluable  
to refer to.

I am afraid you will  
think I am going beyond  
my province - but then  
you know you need not  
listen to what I say-  
if I say: Facts are  
everything - doctrines are  
nothing.

See what harm the  
German pathologists have  
done us -

**f66/4.2**

There are no specific diseases  
- There are specific  
disease=conditions.

It is that which is bringing  
the Medical profession  
to grief, & will, in time,  
work a great reform -  
to wit, to make them  
make the public care  
for its own health, &  
not rely on doctrines.

It is a grand thing for  
weak minds - the  
doctrine of contagion.

It is a grand thing for  
[three lines cut out]  
it is not a one-sided one.  
The specific disease=doctrine  
is the grand refuge of

**f66/4.2v**

weak, uncultured, unable  
minds - such as now  
rule the Medical  
profession from Dr.  
Watson downwards -  
Watson who has the  
biggest practice in London.  
Pardon me these unprofessional  
words. I will not  
trouble you again till  
I farther know of your  
whereabouts - & pray  
believe me, my dear Sir,  
ever yours truly, & gratefully **[end 12:163]**

Letter, LMA pen H1/ST/NC1/66/5 black-edged paper

**f66/5.1**

May 10/66  
{printed} 35 South Street,  
Park Lane,  
London, W.

My dear Sir

I was deeply touched  
by your remembrance  
of me in sending me  
the second Edition of  
your book, with which  
I have many associations  
besides those of  
interest in its  
scientific & practical  
value.

I should be  
unpardonable if my  
E.A. Parkes Eq Md

**f66/5.1v**

delay in acknowledging  
 it had arisen  
 from any thing but  
 illness & overwork.  
 But in truth I  
 hoped to have  
 been able to look  
 thro' the Second Edition  
 before writing. I see,  
 however, I must  
 put it off.

Pray receive my best  
 thanks in the mean  
 time & pray believe  
 me ever yours sincerely  
 Florence Nightingale

Letter, LMA H1/ST/NC1/66/6, pen [med, warwo?]

f66/6.1  
 Recd & Ackd 35 South Street  
 17/6 Park Lane  
 London W.  
 May 18/66

My dear Sir  
 I know not how  
 to thank you for all  
 your kindnesses to me.  
 I forget whether  
 I told you that I have  
 received your Proceedings.  
 They are most valuable.  
 I will send them back  
 as you desire, without  
 making any farther use  
 of them than for  
 myself -. They are  
 full of interest - full  
 of the energy of you  
 most energetic men - who  
 have been doing your

**f66/6.1v**

work in your own way.

We here could not agree with all your methods. But we cannot but agree & rejoice that you are doing all that can be done - & that, as you advance, you will improve as we hope even on our procedures in the old country.

I forget whether I mentioned to you that Lord de Grey, at the beginning of this year sent a Commission into Algeria, which has many problems similar to those of India [deep ploughing & draining

**f66/6.2**

has made many of their pestilential stations healthy - & they can now rear children as well as in any country in Europe] The object of the Commission was to enquire into the causes of this decreased Mortality. They have already reported in a first rough Proof. The first complete Proof to be had shall be for me to send to you.

I have received your last kind letter of April 4 - with Dr. Macnamara's paper on Water-Analysis which I have duly forwarded to Dr. Angus Smith with your message.

**f66/6.2v**

By this mail I send you  
 by book post = (16) sixteen  
 Photographs, of which I  
 beg your kind acceptance  
 & Mrs. Walker's. I selected  
 them particularly with  
 a view to what she  
 might feel interested in &  
 to addressing her new house, if she will be so kind.  
 [I am disappointed to see  
 how much less well they  
 look without their  
 mounts. But, if you take  
 the trouble of mounting  
 them, it of course makes  
 them look much better.]  
 N=os 501, 521, 519 are  
 all from pictures by  
 Turner in our National  
 Gallery - specimens of his  
 different manners.

Letter, LMA H1/ST/NC1/66/7, pen

**f66/7.1** black-edged paper

**[8:171]**

May 21/66  
 {printed} 35 South Street,  
 Park Lane,  
 London, W.

Dearest friend [Mary Jones]

I hope you will have  
 had a note from Embley  
 this morning telling you  
 all about trains, station  
 & fly.

Embley housekeeper  
 says: there is no tea  
 out at Lea Hurst - & the  
 tea is not good at the  
 surrounding shops.

I venture to send you  
 some tea of my own,  
 not to be bought in  
 shops, but straight

**f66/7.1v**

from China. I hope  
 you will *out=stay*  
 this tea, & desire me  
 to send you more.

I have a terrible little  
 Swedish lady here,  
 formidable in her  
 timidity, youth & lack  
 of English, come to  
 be trained for a  
 Matron at St Thomas'.  
 I promised her an  
 introduction to you  
 (Miss Emmy Rappe)

**f66/7.2**

[She does not enter St. T.'s  
 till July 1. for she really  
 does not understand  
 even the word  
 "Patient."] Could you  
 tell me to what lady I  
 could give her a letter  
 in your absence at  
 King's Coll= Hosp=?  
 just to see the  
 arrangements.

I hope this is the  
 only trouble I shall  
 give you now. But  
 afterwards I am  
 sure this innocent  
 maiden ought to have

**f66/7.2v**

a training under you -  
 If you will just ask  
 one of the "Sisters" to  
 write to me, that is  
 all that is needed now.

God bless you &  
 restore you to us  
 well & strong  
 ever yours

F.N.

[end 8:171]

{archivist's note:

II 12 F.N.'S NOTES  
66/8 RE NURSES' QUARTERS (MAY 1866?)}

Note, ff66/8.1-66/8.3, pencil. [illegible on microfilm]

**f66/8** [To Mr A. Currey] [May 1866] [shd be H. Currey] JSt hand

I am very glad to have seen the plans of the Nurses quarters you have made to the best of the ground as it appears to me. I suppose in coming you must cram the entire mass of air in the centre of the nurses block by a flanged water stove & some similar Contrivance. It would be a great advantage ~~if~~ & save cost ~~if~~ in service if you could put in each water-stove a small water-sink with a hot & cold water tap, over it. You have to have the pipes already for the bath & there would be no difficulty in this matter.

It is of so much importance for me to keep constantly before me the kind of plans ~~xxxxxxxx~~ in which my probationers have to work in ~~or~~ order to understand how things are going on that I would willingly pay for tracings of the plans if I am not out of order in saying so.



**f66/8.3**

There ought to be a WC *and* a W.C. {?} to each story - & hot & cold water taps, if possible

Won't the Well be very dull?

Ought to show the plans to Mrs. Wardroper & Mr. Whitfield before they go back?

Is there anything to suggest about immovable fittings?

Am I to ask for copies? {written vertically: Now, don't you deceive me about going to the Bennet's}

-----  
 I'll give £2.2  
 I want a large kitchen clock where is Bennet's  
 Cheapside -  
 Do you mean Benham's

**f66/8.3v**

I think I have seen those lines before.  
 Do you always have the same subject at every meeting for 24 months?

Then if it's settled why does it come up?  
 That's certain -

Is there anything that {illeg? His Highness} {illeg?(Fraser)}  
 Have you read it?

{written upside down, bottom of folio:  
 It's life or death  
 It's better to send it  
 complete -}

{archivist's notes: II 13

66/9 F.N. to J.J. Frederick, Esq 30 June 1866

66/10 " " " 3 July 1866

66/11 F.N. to Mrs. Matthew 3 July 1866

66/12 [F.N. to J.J. Frederick 28 July 1866 in next folder]

66/13 F.N. to [Mary Jones] 11 Aug 1866}

Letter, LMA, pen H1/ST/NC1/66/9 black-edged paper

**f66/9.1**

*Private* June 30/66

{printed} 35 South Street,  
Park Lane,  
London, W.

My dear Sir

Our Princess Louis  
has written to me  
to ask help about  
Hospital & Sanitary  
arrangements.

Could you kindly  
forward the enclosed  
by *to=day's* mail

**f66/9.1v**

& oblige

yours sincerely

Florence Nightingale  
J.J. Frederick, Eq.

Letter, LMA H1/ST/NC1/66/10, pen Black-edged paper

**f66/10.1**

*Private* July 3/66

{printed} 35 South Street,  
Park Lane,  
London, W.

My dear Sir

I confess I feel  
a little uneasy at  
my packet having  
gone *by post* to  
Hesse Darmstadt  
on Saturday.

It was not the  
sort of letter I should  
have written, or should

**f66/10.1v**

like, to fall into the  
hands of the enemy  
- not for the sake  
of a very ordinary  
person, like myself,  
but for the sake of  
Princess Louis.

I have now simply  
written a letter of

**f66/10.2**

enquiry, which I shall  
be very much obliged  
to you, if you will,  
according to your very  
kind proposal,  
send by Foreign Office  
Messenger tomorrow.

If they have not  
received my  
Saturday's packet,  
at Darmstadt, I will then try to  
write it again, & send

**f66/10.2v**

it by your kindness.  
But indeed, in this  
war, one knows not  
what a day may  
bring forth.

Yours most faithfully  
Florence Nightingale  
J.J. Frederick Eq

Letter, LMA H1/ST/NC1/66/11, pen black-edged paper

**f66/11.1**

PRIVATE July 3/66  
& *Confidential* 35 South Street, {printed address}  
Park Lane,  
London, W.

Dear Madam

[14:1022]

I assure you I had not waited for your note which I received on Saturday - to endeavor to take advantage of the proposed re-modelling of the Patriotic Fund for your sake. I communicated with

**f66/11.1v**

the War Office on the subject when the discussion took place in the House of Lords - and again, when our Ministers resigned. And again, on Saturday, before the Meeting of the Patriotic Fund Commissioners at

**f66/11.2**

Westminster.

I find that it is quite final: - viz. the resolution (on the part of the War Office) not to do what it was my object to attain - as the quickest way viz. that the Secretary of State for War should, on account of Surgeon Major Matthew's eminent

**f66/11.2v**

services, recommend  
your case (as from  
himself) to the  
Patriotic Fund as a  
SPECIAL one:

It is a long story -  
which I should  
have to tell you -  
And perhaps it is  
hardly worth while  
to tell it you now -  
But I do not despair.

The Secretary of State

**f66/11.3**

for War (and I tell  
you this in the  
strictest confidence)  
has obtained the  
Queen's permission  
to remodel the  
Commission - An  
Act of Parlt= will  
be necessary for that  
& his successor  
must go on with  
the Act which is  
now drawn.  
Under that Act - *he*

**f66/11.3v**

says - you will  
become eligible.  
I do hope & believe  
that you will receive,  
either for yourself,  
or thro' endowments  
for your children,  
what your case so  
entirely deserves -  
The working members  
of the Patriotic Fund  
Commission are  
and always have

**f66/11.4**

been in your favour -

And you may  
depend upon it, if I  
live, that I shall be  
on the look-out for  
you.

At the same time,  
as my life is so very  
uncertain, it is  
quite as well that  
your other friends,  
Officers, Military  
& Medical, who were

**f66/11.4v**

friends of your  
admirable husband  
should watch to  
bring forward & urge  
your case when  
opportunity offers  
under the new Act.

With my sincerest  
& kindest wishes  
always the same,  
pray believe me,  
dear Madam, ever  
yours

Florence Nightingale  
Mrs. Matthew {Please  
burn  
this.}

[end 14:1022]

Envelope

Letter, LMA H1/ST/NC1/66/13, pen, black-edged paper

**f66/13.1**

Aug 11/66  
{printed:} 35 South Street,  
Park Lane,  
London, W.  
Dearest friend [Mary Jones]  
I am so very glad to  
hear that you have  
those dreadful Cholera wards in  
the E. I envy you -  
And I only wish I were  
with you -  
I don't wonder that  
you are `tired & anxious' -  
But I think you ought

**f66/13.1v**

not to be over = anxious  
about your `children',  
when it is so clear a  
call (and a *privilege*)  
from God -  
I only wish I were  
with you, I say again.  
God for ever bless  
you -  
ever yours, living or dying  
F.N.

{archivist's notes: II 14  
 66/12 F.N. to J.J. Frederick, Esq. 28 July 1866  
 66/13 F.N. to Mary Jones 11 Aug. 1866]  
 66/14 F.N. to [Mary Jones] 17 Aug. 1866  
 66/15 F.N. to Dr. Pattison Walker 3 Sept 1866  
 66/16 F.N. to [Mary Jones] 23 Sept. 1866}

Letter, LMA H1/ST/NC1/66/12, pen black-edged paper

**f66/12.1**

*Private & July 28/66*  
*Confidential* 35 South Street, {printed}  
 Park Lane,  
 London, W. [15:618]

My dear Sir

I have to thank you  
 for very many kind  
 offices - as well as  
 for sending (for me)  
 letters, so frequently  
 to India & to the  
 Continent.

The letters which you  
 were so kind as to  
 send for me by post  
 to Princess Louis reached  
 her quite safely. And

**f66/12.1v**

I should have troubled  
 you again but that  
 she & the Crown  
 Princess of Prussia  
 (for I have always  
 tried to serve all  
 sides who would  
 desire my poor  
 services) - in directing  
 me to send them  
 some farther information,  
 - gave me Buckingham  
 Palace as the means.  
 And accordingly I have

**f66/12.2**

followed their directions.

I am much interested  
in a Committee for  
the relief of Sick &  
Wounded of *all* sides,  
on which I serve.  
We give a Concert on  
Monday evening at  
which Jenny Lind  
sings. Would you  
allow me to enclose  
you a ticket? - I  
would gladly have  
sent you two, but

**f66/12.2v**

have not two (*together*) left.

If, however a *lady*  
liked to avail herself  
of this ticket, she might  
do so in perfect comfort,  
for the three neighbouring  
tickets I have given  
to connections of my  
own - whom I know -

[end 15:618]

Pray believe me  
My dear Sir  
Yours Sincerely  
Florence Nightingale  
J.J. Frederick Eq

Letter, LMA H1/ST/NC1/66/14, pen

**f66/14.1**

**[8:173]**

Aug 17/66  
{printed} 35 South Street,  
Park Lane,  
London, W.

Dearest friend, [Mary Jones]

I send you a brace of  
grouse in their mountain  
heather - the only ones I  
have had this year -

I have staid on in  
London - partly because  
I could not get through my  
work - partly because I  
could not bear to go while  
the Cholera was so bad -  
tho' I could do no good.

But I feel, IF I did  
not go to morrow, I should

**f66/14.1v**

probably never leave  
London again. And  
my mother we think  
failing.

I cannot tell you how I  
grieve at leaving London  
without seeing you, my  
dearest friend - But if  
it makes you come to  
Embley to see me, I  
shall not grieve -

God bless you  
ever yours  
F.N.

Letter, LMA H1/ST/NC1/66/15, pen

**f66/15.1** Acknowledged [12]-10-66

Sept 3/66  
[printed] 35 South Street,  
Park Lane,  
London, W.

My dear Sir

I am extremely obliged to you for your kind letter & for your valuable Report on Ventilation. This first report is admirable - and we now eagerly await the results of your trials.

I hasten to send you the first copy of our Algerian Report - The French in Algeria appear to have been going in the right direction - The important

**f66/15.1v**

- *most important* - result has been that they have proved in Algeria the effect on health of cultivation *per se*, & of cultivation & drainage together.

Could not the Indian Authorities try the effect of completely improving the drainage, water=supply & sanitary conditions of two or three stations in the manner recommended by the "Suggestions" of the

**[9:885]**

**f66/15.2**

War Office Sanitary Commission?

These are quite in conformity, so far as drainage & water = supply are concerned, with what the French have done - of course, independently.

[end 9:885]

I would just mention, casually, that it will be seen from the account given of the Sanitary administration in Algeria, that they have found necessary an organization much more complete than the simple inspectorial service contemplated in

**f66/15.2v**

India. At the same time I doubt not that a better & more efficient system might be framed for India than the French have framed for Algeria. What do you think?

Pray believe me

My dear Sir

Yours ever faithfully & gratefully

Florence Nightingale

Jas=Pattison Walker Eq MD

Letter, LMA H1/ST/NC1/66/16, pen

**[15:418-19]**

f66/16.1

BURN Embley Sept 23/66

Romsey {printed} ~~35 South Street,~~  
~~Park Lane,~~  
~~London, W.~~

Dearest friend [Mary Jones]

This is not to answer  
 your dear letter, but merely  
 to beg. You will think I  
 never write but to beg.  
 The enclosed will tell you  
 all I know myself - [I wish  
 I knew more. I do wish  
 men & women had the  
 least notion of business -  
 in their letters.] If you can  
 help, it will be a blessing -  
 There is no class wants more  
 help or gets less than  
 Soldiers' Wives -

I don't know which will

**f66/16.1v**

give you most trouble - to  
 answer thro' me - or to  
 write to Mrs. Daniell  
 who, you see, only gives us  
 her address till Tuesday,  
 or to write to Sir H. Verney,  
 Who is Mrs. Daniell's  
 uncle & who encloses the  
 letters.

I have an impression that  
 you have been applied to  
 before about this.

I wish that some of the  
 members of the War Office,  
 from whom I could obtain  
 more exact information,  
 were in England. But they  
 are not. So I can only  
 tell you generally what I  
 know.

**f66/16.2**

The Soldiers' Wives Hospitals are half under the War Office & half under the "Regimental" ladies. The accounts & reports usually (unknown, to them,) come before me [Some Regulations I have got passed - amongst others that they should, if possible, get their Midwives from your school. But nothing would do any good in enforcing Regulations but to have ~~an itinerant~~ a responsible Supt= Genl Had Mrs. S. Stewart been other than she is, she would have been the person. But oh! dearest friend, if you knew what my trials are with her, you would pity me. A second time

**f66/16.2v**

*Burn*

I have only just averted a public trial. Some Nurses informed against her for assault. And, she writes word direct to the Secretary of State that she *has* "beaten Nurses", "to make them subordinate", tho' not *those* Nurses.] !!!!

To return to the Aldershot Hospital. I have long since been certain of the drunkenness of this "Mrs. Taylor", but we were always told she was perfect. [We did not appoint her.]

-

There has been a terrible out=break of Scarlet Fever at Aldershot, as I dare

**f66/16.3**

say you know - Then we did  
 send some good men down,  
 who investigated the whole  
 case. In every instance it  
 was the result of the  
 shameful state of the  
 ground or hut - And in  
 no one case could it be  
 said to be "carried". It  
 was in the most various  
 parts of the Camp -  
 Dearest friend - I will  
 write in a day or two - But  
 I can't bear to ~~speak~~ hear  
 you speak so despondingly -  
 tho', with you, I am sure it  
 is chiefly physical - I think  
 you have had so large a  
 measure of God's blessing -  
 tho' I am afraid at great  
 personal cost to yourself.

[end 15:419]

**f66/16.3v**

Do not you remember what  
 St. Teresa said? -  
 "Seigneur mon Dieu, qu'il  
 paraît bien que l'on ne  
 vous rende point de service,  
 sans en être récompensé  
 par quelque grande peine;  
 & que cette peine serait  
 agréable à ceux qui vous  
 aiment véritablement,  
 s'ils connaissaient d'abord  
 quel en est le prix!  
 "Mais nous n'étions pas alors  
 capables de le comprendre -  
 x x x Je ne désespérais  
 néanmoins de rien, tant  
 j'étais persuadée que tout  
 ce qui nous arrivait était pour  
 notre avantage x x x  
 "Lorsqu'il y a le plus de  
 difficultés à surmonter  
 dans le semblables entreprises,  
 Dieu qui connaît ma

**f66/16.4**

"faiblesse m'assiste et me fortifie x x au lieu que dans les entreprises, qui ne sont point traversées, il ne me dit rien."

I think however, it is a good joke my quoting St Teresa to you. For, if any body ever did want her advice, it is I.

I am going to write you a long letter in a day or two. I came down here, (the first time for 9 years) & am considerably the worse for it, as you may suppose - but I am glad I came - I think it has been a comfort to my dear mother. I find her but little altered, except her memory. But I find the talking she likes

**f66/16.4v**

quite too much for me, *besides* the current business I am obliged to carry on. It seems as if lungs & heart could not carry on for 20 minutes talking without spasm - Nothing would do me any good except going somewhere where I should not have to speak - & having a housekeeper who would take the details of life entirely off my hands - And I am afraid the same thing may be said of you - I have not been out of bed since I came, except once to receive Holy Communion - I do hope you will come down here, if only for a week, this autumn. I will write again about this, to urge you to make it possible -  
 God bless you -  
 ever yours, whether writing or silent  
 Burn Florence Nightingale

{archivist's note: II 15  
66/17 F.N. to [Mary Jones] 7 Nov. 1866

Letter, LMA H1/ST/NC1/66/17 pencil

[3:452-57]

**f66/17.1**

*Private Burn*

Nov 7/66

Dearest, very dearest friend [Mary Jones]

I do feel so much for you & all your troubles - I am always thinking of you - And yet I can do nothing. I feel you are so heavily tried -

But I don't believe any good work was ever established but with the martyrdom, the long suffering & humiliation of all its first supporters -

And, in after times, when the work becomes prosperous, how often it loses all its first purity of heart - how often it becomes a mere instrument of the ambition of men -

[People say - it is not so with the R.C. Orders - How little they know! - I assure you, that the much vaunted order of the Sisters of S. Vincent de Paule is little better now.]

But, I cannot remember, in any experience or history, either R. Catholic or Protestant - any instance where people have not had to tread

**f66/17.1v**

in the steps of our Great Master in suffering, humiliation & apparent failure - not only in a passing way but throughout their whole lives - in doing any good thing -

Indeed I believe that the only blessing - but that is the best blessing of all - vouchsafed on earth to this peculiar path is - a conviction that we are called to it & that we are led in it.

Mlle= v. Rantzau, the foundress of Bethanien, near Berlin, (the Deaconesses) told me that she never would have embarked in it, had she known what it would be - She died in it - She had the same difficulties with her Chaplain that you have - But she had difficulties of every kind. Even the King did not pay up his subscription, while he ostentatiously visited the Hospital - And she sunk her whole fortune in barely maintaining the beds.

Poor Madame Fliedner, after having struggled her whole life at Kaiserswerth - with ill health, with poverty - finds herself now a widow - and the

Direction vested in the hands of their son-in-law  
who, tho' entirely brought up & MADE by Pastor  
Fliedner & herself, is going against all her  
husband's plans, & alienating the Deaconesses -

**f66/17.2**

She told me that, if it were not for the conviction she had that it was God's will she should continue in her post as "Mutter", nothing could induce her to go on -

But you must BURN this letter, please.

For I promised Madame Fliedner I never would tell this to any one -

Do you remember what Madame de Brécharde, one of the earliest companions of Madame de Chantal, says: - [French not verified]

"Il ne nous faut plus attendre aucun appui ni en désirer, c'est le moyen d'engager, cette souveraine et toute aimable bonté à nous prendre en sa très spéciale protection et conduite. Il a bien fallu que je me sois résolue à cela parmi les extrêmes peines et afflictions que j'ai rencontrées ici et *d'âme vivante, Dieu permettant que celles de qui je pouvais le plus espérer ont aidé à combler mon ame d'amertume* x x x x

"Quand le secours des créatures nous manque celui de Dieu ni nous manque pas, il est alors plus prêt." x x

**f66/17.2v**

But - about this terrible business of the Chaplain I do feel for you on the knees of my heart I most earnestly hope that he will go away and I feel it quite necessary. I hope the Council will tell him so.

But - I cannot but ~~think~~ hope - if you can get rid of this man & are then furnished with another - that he will not be the "Master". The very name is a misnomer. The Chaplain should never be the Master of a female order or Society - The services of our Church are inestimable comforts & benefits - But the less intercourse (from man to man / woman) between Chaplain & "Sisters", the better - If indeed a Chaplain were a spiritual physician, if he really had insight into our moral diseases, & could help us to find the strength & the remedy we lack - how gladly would we run to him -

But who is there now, in any Church, who answers to this description? -

I should be afraid that you would think me almost irreligious - at least, not alive to the religious wants of women - especially of women living a religious life in community - were it

**f66/17.3****Private** [2]

not that the view I have just mentioned is that of all the real old, hard-working female orders of the R. Catholic Church.

You know I have lived among them, sleeping under their roofs, working among them - not as the R. Cath. female laity work among them but as they work among themselves -

And I believe scarcely any one knows them as I do - [at least I am always astonished at the ignorance of such persons as Lady {G.?} Fullerton, Dr. Manning, Lady Herbert &c. &c. about their real principles & practices - Of course *they* think that it is *I* who am ignorant. But I hold my tongue]

I speak now of the real genuine good Saints - [3:273] not of the new-fangled devotees which Dr. Manning is introducing. [He says he is inaugurating "a new era" for the Church - a "new era" with a vengeance. You know that he has turned my nuns - the nuns who worked so well in the Crimea - out of their Hospital in Gt. Ormond St., closed their Hospital, turned the Patients out into the street - one of whom died before she could reach home - He said "he would provide for them", of course

**f66/17.3v**

and, of course, he never did. And all this to bring the ultramontanes, the "Sisters" of S. Vincent de Paule into the Hospital. But in this he has not yet succeeded. We are still fighting the battle for the old nuns - But we shall fail.] **[end 3:273]**

Of these new=fangled practices I say nothing. But I do assure you that the view I hold about the Chaplain is that held by all genuine nuns & Supérieures about the Confessors.

The very best & cleverest & most devout person I ever knew in all my life - a French nun in a cloistered Order at Rome - said to me: -

*ma confession! elle ne dure pas 5 minutes [French not verified] quand elle est faite, elle est faite - Ce qu'il (le Confessor) me dit et ce qu'il me conseille, je ne le fais pas -*

You would find that all the best Supérieures, of every Order, discourage, both in themselves & their nuns, any approach to anything like a conference, under any pretence, or even a voluminous confession, between Confessor & themselves. The bare confession, of course the

**f66/17.4**

duty of their Church, is all that takes place.

The Superioress is herself the main guide of her nuns. *She* directs their work & their minds.

The Confessor, if he is a sensible man, understands this position perfectly.

It is true there is a Director - But he is generally a very experienced & superior man. He is only used for emergencies - He comes perhaps once, at most four times a year. He is consulted upon great difficulties & not at all in the little peddling way Protestants & new-fangled R. Catholics suppose - He may be consulted on the change of a Confessor -

But, in general, it is the Superioress herself who chooses the Confessor, with due regard to the voices of her nuns - where the Confessor is not the priest of the Parish -

And, if you have a Chaplain, you ought to choose him *yourself*.

[The great thing which is now pulling down the "Sisters" of S. Vincent de Paule, to be mere tools for absolutist domination, is their connection with the Lazarists - none can go anywhere without a Lazarist with them.]

**f66/17.4v**

The Lazarists take the same part in education among the poor that the Jesuits did among the rich. They pull down every thing to the level of a certain absolutist ignorance - just as the Jesuits raised everything to the level of a certain absolutist science.]

Of course, the very heads of Convents who practice so nobly what I have been describing would themselves deny it.

Because it is not a Rule but a Practice. But it is none the less true, for all that - It is the real genuine good sense of the *un* controversial hard-working R.C. orders - And they shew also their good sense in not parading it

Because it is so easily misconstrued: -  
 jealousy (of power) in the Superioress -  
 fear of spiritual flirtations between  
 Confessor & nuns -

It is nothing of the sort.

You may think that the connection between Dr. Pusey & Miss Sellon is an exception to my rule - But it is not. It is Miss S. who manages

**f66/17.5**

*Private* [3]

Dr. P. - not he her.

And, dearest, they have dragged down each other.  
And this I say with the deepest regard for  
Miss Sellon -

Dr. Pusey used to be a Saint. He is now a  
cunning fellow & nothing better -

The only exception to my rule I have ever  
known, in *any* Church, is Pastor Fliedner - But  
then - he was not the Chaplain, he was himself  
the Founder - He was rude, uncouth, harsh &  
rough to a most uncommon degree - But he  
had, to an unexampled degree the power of  
inspiring warmth, zeal, purity of heart,  
trust in God & regardlessness of themselves  
in his Deaconesses - And his sermons! After  
having heard nearly all the celebrated  
preachers all over Europe - I still remember  
his sermons, rough & unattractive as they were,  
as the only *real preaching* I have ever heard.

His Ministry was truly the centre of his  
Institution. His pulpit the lever of his work.

But, if a Chaplain is not *that*, his work  
ought to be limited to the offices of our  
Church

**f66/17.5v**

And Fliedner stood alone -

He has no successor.

His assistant in the ministry, who has been at Kaiserswerth ever since I can remember, & is there still - has nothing of his mantle.

No more has his son-in-law tho' he is perhaps an abler man than Fliedner.

Therefore my best prayer, my most eager hope for you, is: -

let the present Chaplain be got rid of -

let no future Chaplain be anything more than a Chaplain

and, if you could, choose him yourself -

What I say here would be told you, if they spoke the truth, by all the Supérieures of the best orders in Europe.

Nobody in the world talks so much about her Confessor as St. Teresa - But you see that she was perpetually choosing & changing them - & that she actually governed the Order of the reformed Carmelites (men) as well as her own.

I am not advocating *that*. But I merely mention it as a strong type.

**f66/17.6**

With regard to your wish to retire, if difficulties go on increasing - what can I say, dearest friend? -

I am sure you will not think of it, unless you see unmistakeable signs of the will of God shewing you that way - such as would be, as you say yourself, the expressed or unexpressed feeling of the Sisters -

But it is just the contrary -

As far as I can see, your difficulties point all the other way - viz. that your remaining is necessary to the Sisters, necessary to the existence of the Society.

But I don't feel any call to preaching - And I am sure you will say, quite simply -

Behold the handmaid of the Lord -

Be it unto me according as *thou wilt*.

(as St. Catherine Mary Magdalene de Pazzi puts it)

**f66/17.6v**

I do feel for you with all my heart. You can hardly doubt that - I have so wished that, poor as my help would be, the time might come, when I could come & stay 3 months in your house every year as a "Sister", - but that seems less & less likely every month of my life.

My health has been worse this year than it ever has been at all. And worse these last 2 months than all this year -

And I am more & more overwhelmed with business -

You may fancy that, since Sidney Herbert's death, I have constantly asked myself: - Is it, after all, God's will that a woman should stay in these Government offices?

But my way has been so clearly shewn me that I dared *not not* see it.

I can truly say that, for the last 5 years, I have worked "sans consolation" (ni "appui") "d'âme vivante."

At this moment I am working for the Poor Law Board in the question of a complete organization for London Workhouse Infirmaries - And, after working diligently (for the former Poor Law Board), from February 1865 to July 1866, I am now beginning all over again (with [13:593])

**f66/17.7**

*Private* [4]

the present Board) at exactly the same point where we began in February 1865 - And yet I am thankful that the point is being discussed at all. [end 13:593]

In the India affairs in the same way: - a Despatch of Sir John Lawrence of January 20 - which he sent a copy to me of (in his own hand) in order to get me to hurry the answer - was first lost by the India Office - then delayed - *and is still unanswered.*

Every thing is going wrong at the War Office

I am so worried besides by having to answer attacks (a pure waste of time & strength) from letters being published purporting to be letters of mine. Sixteen mortal hours of correspondence *that* Garrett=Stewart affair cost me. How often I think of your: - "do they care to know the truth?" - What *do* you think was the letter from which Dr. Stewart asserted, at the Social Science Meeting, that he "had", in my "own hand=writing", my "statement" that &c. &c - - - - It was a letter from my Committee to the Weekly Board

**f66/17.7v**

of the Middlesex Hospital, which I had never seen - !!

Dr. Stewart also stated that he knew, "from his own experience", that you had "but 2 `Sisters'."!! But still I feel that it is *such* a blessing to have been *called*, however unworthy, to be the "handmaid of the Lord" - as St. Teresa says, "Ah mon Dieu, une si grande faveur doit elle etre si peu estimée?" - I see women so far better & cleverer than I, wasting their whole lives, not, in improving but in deteriorating their own families - I feel so ungrateful & so wicked not to give the return I ought to God - the return of wishing for absolutely nothing but the accomplishment of His holy Will - And yet I never feel tempted to say, like poor Mlle= de Rantzau, "if I had known what it was I would never have undertaken it." [But she was faithful to the end] I have never felt tempted to *refuse God any thing*. However unworthy, I have always felt, I could live 1000 lives to prove to Him how inestimable the blessing I think it to be "called."

God bless you **[end 3:457]**  
ever yours (living or dying) F. Nightingale

{archivist's note: II 16 66/18 F.N. to [Dr. Acland & Capt. Galton?] 19 Nov.1866}

Letter, LMA pen H1/ST/NC1/66/18

[6:363-64]

**f66/18.1**

My dear pair of Dominican victims

It is NOT *your business* "to enquire".

No more it is at Rome or in Spain.

I am delighted.

Amen

says F.N.

Dr. Sutherland feloniously made away with Dr. Acland's paper to Dr. Acland & with Sir R. Watson's to you - But he has told me (or says he has) their contents, & also his conversation at the W.O.

My dear victims: -

1. there is no chance of bringing over the Dominicans (I mean the Doctors) whether in or out of the P.L. Board, to right views.

[of course, as I am addressing Dr. Acland, I except him.]

**f66/18.1v**

The positions taken by them are just those taken by all opponents to improvement. How can you accept their votes, founded on what they choose to put forwards as their *opinions*? -

Sanitary Reform in Civil Life & in the Army has been won, so far as it has been won, by appealing from *opinions* to *facts* - to carefully ascertained facts.

If you are to improve Workhouses & Workhouse Infirmarys, you must - either call in the aid of past experience - or - appeal anew to facts, disregarding all mere opinion.

And, if these men still stop all enquiry - very wise men they are! - & still choose to rest their Report on pre-conceived views & opinions, what can you do - you pair of *gone* 'coons? - [you are on very perilous duty. The forlorn hope is nothing to it] You must refuse to sign any report, not sustained by positive irrefragable evidence.

**f66/18.2**

I have not seen a single alledged fact [I call them all assertions] put forwards by them, which does not require the most careful sifting.

2. What they ask you to do is this: - for centuries many of the most able men, physicians, surgeons, architects, publicists, statesmen, have been engaged in ameliorating the condition of the sick poor in Hospitals.

Formerly, Hospital Mortality was: - 25 per cent. & upwards, of Admissions. At present, 6 or 7 per cent. can be had.

But *this* is too much.

The reduction (of Mortality) has followed slow augmentation of cubic space, & improved nursing & management. The men you have to deal with are trying to go back, & to drag you back into the exploded Medieval system of Hospitals - ignoring all that has been done.

**f66/18.2v**

3. The first thing is: - resistance to this.

Ask for proof of every opinion. Without casting doubts on what they advance - you must be satisfied as to the facts, before you commit yourselves to the Report.

*They* appeal to their experience as Hospital physicians.

Do, *you* appeal to Mr. Paget, e.g., & Dr. Parkes & others.

You are not there to confirm the views of the Medical Members.

You are there to bring out the truth

Insist on the Registrar - General being the Statistical referee.

[I am an old cove (an "old man", the Psalmist says): But I never did see public business done before in such a way, no, not since I retired into Public Life.]

**[end 6:364]**

**f66/18.3**

[2]

4.

Dr. Watson's paper is founded on assumptions & opinions. [8:176]

Deal with it in the same way.

E.g. he says there have been remarkably few deaths from Puerperal fever in Marylebone Workhouse -

Enquire why there have been any.

This Infirmary has been compared with Queen Charlotte's Hospital.

At Marylebone there are about 12 lying-in beds.

At Queen Charlotte's there are -

how many? - 50 or 60? - Q. Charlotte's is a special Hospital - & every body knows (except Hospital Physicians) that the danger to Lying-in women increases directly with the number of occupied beds - also with

the badness of construction & ventilation, quite apart from cubic space -

At Q. Charlotte's, 2000 cub. ft. per bed is a necessity - But, if you enquire you will find other causes of Mortality,

**f66/18.3v**

And you will do good by getting them removed.

The present facts do not prove

Marylebone to be healthy -

They prove the great preventible

Mortality at Q. Charlotte's.

**[end 8:176]**

5.

Dear Auto: da:fés: -

Insist on enquiry.

You are ordered not to inquire.

If they *won't* (enquire) - enquire for yourselves - & report separately.

- *Or with draw, because they won't.*

6.

We know: -

**[16:728-29]**

that the Workhouse system is

decided upon. *It is to be continued.*

If you sign the Report - you virtually

lend your authority to the *continuing*

the present system -

(even if you are satisfied on the questions in the Report.)

**f66/18.4**

The 13 Printed Questions were "*nuts*" to me.

What a very fine thing a future (reforming) President of the P.L. Board might make of them in the Ho= of Commons!

Here have been all these exposures - all these reports - all this *row* - And it has been fully proved that all the evils proceeded - not from this or from that - but from - what? - gross mismanagement of the sick - gross administrative management - not from want of cubic space & the other questions in your paper. These are subsidiary & have only been mentioned as subsidiary, till now. But now - all the mismanagement is to be ~~put~~ ignored or denied.

What a very fine thing the next

Minister might make out of this! -

If you were able to reply to all the

**f66/18.4v**

questions, you would still have this gross mismanagement left untouched - And you will be smashed, by "*Times*" & Commons, who will say that the questions at issue were - simply mistaken.

I hear (from the very highest authorities) two things: -

1. that this Commission will be sacrificed
2. there is no disguising, on the other hand, that, if it reports *unanimously* it may put back the reform for years.

Therefore, don't sign the Report at all or, if you do, put in a special proviso that you give no opinion as to whether the sick should or should not be left under present management.

**f66/18.5**

[3]

N.B. Dr. Sutherland desires me to give quote my "authority" - as to cost of Chorlton Union Workhouse - against Mr. Corbett's contradiction.

I have not the Clerk of the Guardians' letter to me here -

But Sir Harry Verney writes to me: -

"I passed a good hour at Chorlton Oct. 16 Union Workhouse Infy= for 500 Inmates. It seemed to me an admirable Institution - rough, to be sure, but airy, clean, sweet, comfortable, roomy. At present about 140 or 150 beds are occupied - The expense has been £47 per bed. But it ought to be reckoned at £50."

Here we have an instance of common sense avoiding all "patch-work" & creating an establishment *de novo* -

**66/18.5v**

Do set your faces against all patching in the Metropolis.

My afflicted reformers,  
I wish you a good afternoon & well  
out of it - [end 16:729]  
& am affectly yours  
Florence Nightingale  
Nov. 19/66

{archivist's note: II 17  
66/19 F.N. to J.J. Frederick, Esq. 25 Nov. 1866  
66/20 F.N. to Dr. Acland 25 Nov. 1866.}

Letter, LMA H1/ST/NC1/66/19, pen

**f66/19.1**

Embley Nov 25/66

Romsey ~~35 South Street,~~  
~~———— Park Lane,~~  
~~———— London, W. {printed}~~

My dear Sir

I cannot tell you how grateful I am to you for your kindness in making me two copies of the India Memo:

May I trespass still farther upon you by asking you to send (by tomorrow's India mail) the two enclosed letters to

Mr. Ellis, of Madras  
& Sir John Lawrence -

I have no time for more - in great haste,

**f66/19.1v**

for I have not even time to thank you for your very kind note

ever yours faithfully  
& gratefully

Florence Nightingale  
J.J. Frederick Eq

Letter, LMA pen H1/ST/NC1/66/20

[6:364-66]

**f66/20.1**

Private Embley Nov 25/66

Romsey ~~35 South Street,~~  
~~\_\_\_\_\_ Park Lane,~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ London, W. {printed address}~~

Dear Sir [Dr Acland]

I am afraid you will  
think it an impertinence in me  
to write to you in this  
uncalled for manner -

But I do so at the request  
of Dr. Sutherland, who passed  
on to me your valuable paper  
on "Question I". (with his  
Notes on it).

I need hardly say that  
I think it a most important  
well-considered document,  
tho' there are some points  
on which an old Nurse's  
experience does not agree  
Dr. Acland

**f66/20.1v**

with you.

But, as you would not care for my praise, I pass on at once to a general point.

And this is: -

Your Committee & the Association of Mr. Hart (whom you quote) & others are not proceeding on the same ground.

One of the earliest reforms proposed in Workhouse management was: - a classification of the inmates somewhat as follows: -

1. Sick
2. Infirm, Aged & Invalids
3. Insane & Imbeciles {"lunatics"  
"Epilectics"}
4. Children

-----  
I would rather do away with the word "Incurables" if I could. Old age is of course

**f66/20.2**

incurable. But other kinds of Incurable-ness are year by year more & more limited by good treatment & nursing

-----  
It is understood that this was never carried out on account of oppositions (or contemplated oppositions) from the Parishes. But you are aware that, for the last 30 years, this has been, more or less, entertained by the Poor Law Board.

The cases which have turned public opinion into public indignation lately were cases of neglected sickness - neglected, to a great extent, because of the want of classification.

They were subjected, more or less, to the current treatment of the Workhouse class generally.

The extent to which this

**f66/20.2v**

prevailed may be learnt from an instructive Table x presented to Parliament last session, which, amongst other things, proved - if any thing could prove - the absolute necessity of classification of Workhouse inmates.

Simultaneously with this came the "Lancet" enquiry, which ~~was~~ reported simply a corollary of the Table. And the practical result, as might have been foreseen, was the advocacy of separate administration for "Sick", (more or less acute) i.e. separating "Sick", more or less acute, from other inmates, & dealing with them as sick are dealt with in Hospitals.

-----  
 x which you doubtless have

**f66/20.3**

[2]

[You must truly ask various questions "as to the kind of illnesses included in the term "Sick"]

But, inasmuch as it would be enormously costly to do this for every Parish & Union - especially as many of the Workhouses did not admit of the Sick being classified - the Association proposed to construct half-a-dozen new Hospitals for "sick" alone.

Keeping this in view, it will be evident that the 1000 c. ft. advocated by the Association referred, not to the existing buildings in which "Sick" & Invalids & bed-ridden are

**f66/20.3v**

mixed up together, but to special Sick Hospitals.

[You justly say: there is no answer to the question= -

"what cubic space is wanted for a Sick person in a Workhouse?"]

But your Committee ~~has~~ was engaged for an enquiry of quite a different character

The mixing up of all classes of ailing (except 4) in the same building or wards ~~is~~ was still contemplated - And the question proposed to the Committee ~~is~~ was : to decide the cubic space required for the average class of ailing inmates.

This is really the weak point in the enquiry. For it appears to be certain that,

**f66/20.4**

however the question is solved on this basis by the present Committee, there will be another enquiry before very long to decide on the consolidation of the Hospital wards into separate establishments with separate administrative arrangements. And then will come all the questions of space & area, as applicable to this class of buildings.

[You truly say: - that your Committee "cannot avoid" "indirectly" "these large administrative questions."]

There will probably be an enquiry also as to the best construction of buildings

**f66/20.4v**

for Infirm & Invalids -  
 And then the space required  
 for these will come under  
 discussion.

Supposing your present Committee  
 to come to an unanimous  
 decision - unless you appoint  
 a separate & specially  
 qualified Master for the  
 sick wards - unless you  
 appoint a separate &  
 specially qualified Matron  
 & staff of Nurses - & also  
 provide the means of  
 training Nurses - [for the  
 Nurses don't exist] the  
 whole matter will be left  
     very much where it  
     is now.

**f66/20.5**

[3]

We ought not to forget that  
 the public decision against  
 the Workhouses - altho' resting  
 in some cases, on deficient  
 space - in all, or nearly all,  
 was *chiefly* founded on bad  
 administration - clearly  
 traceable to the fact that  
 Workhouse masters had  
 no knowledge of sick -  
 & were trying to suppress  
 pauperism by oppressing  
 the sick.

Pray believe me  
 ever your faithful servt  
 Florence Nightingale

{archivist's note: II 18  
 66/21 F.N. to [Dr. Acland] [25 Nov. 1866]  
 66/22 F.N. to Mrs. Matthew 30 Nov. 1866  
 66/23 F.N. to Dr. H.W. Acland 7 Dec. 1866}

Draft letter to Dr Acland, LMA H1/ST/NC1/66/21, pen [6:355-57] note in lying-in]

**f66/21.1**

A few trifling notes \1  
P.1 on Dr. S.'s note.

And these cases, called "Incurable", (but on which the Death rate is low.) *might* not be Incurable.

To the word "Incurable" I would always add: -

yes: "Incurable", as they are treated.

"Sore legs", e.g. are always "incurable" in a Workhouse atmosphere.

----

P.2 3rd Para= from bottom

"80 sq. ft."

I think this the minimum for each bed - *not* including "fire-places" x &c" - And this in a Pavilion ward.

-----  
x I don't quite understand the "space" "allowed" for the

**f66/21.1v**

P.3 - Dr. S.'s first note at top.  
I am always terribly afraid of  
entering on the "1000 cub. ft" by  
itself.

Remember that Dr. Markham's  
60 sq. ft made practically  
953 cub. ft.

Now it is manifest - this  
will not do.

Also: - tho' (say) 80 sq. ft &  
960 cub. ft.  
might do for a ward of 12 beds,  
- for a ward of 24 beds, -  
960 cub. ft. would *not* do  
for 80 sq. ft. You must  
have greater height.

-----  
"doors." Tho' I am quite delighted that each of  
the "doors" should have its bed space of "80  
ft.", because it all comes in for the Patients,  
yet, in a Pavilion ward, we have a door  
at each end - And the four corner beds  
have the same space as the others. (there  
must only be *one* bed of course between window &  
corner) And the "doors" are not taken into  
account at all

**f66/21.2**

P.4

Dr. Brodie's Remark upon  
Lying=in women.

I entirely agree -

If a Lying=in woman has a  
home at all, she is safest  
in that.

Put two lying=in women  
together - you more than double the  
danger -

Put three together - you  
more than treble it.

Indeed, it would not be  
too much to say that  
the danger increases as  
the *square* of the number.

But I entirely demur to the  
verdict in favour of Queen  
Charlotte. It is notoriously  
unhealthy.  
The Mortality at the Maternité

**f66/21.2v**

at Paris is something horrible.

Lying=in Hospitals are  
generally destructive to life ~~things~~.

Tho' Marylebone may have  
a low Mortality, thanks to  
its small number of beds &c &c  
- why does it have puerperal  
fever at all? -

A Lying=in woman ought  
never to die, except from  
unavoidable accident.

**f66/21.3**

P.5. 1st line

Why "strange"?

Who was there to give the "evidence"?

The Medical Officer? -

By his own shewing, he has  
not time to attend even to  
the worst cases. The grossest but

The Nurses? *wholly* unavoidable  
There are none neglect was proved  
- unavoidable.

The P.L. Inspector? i.e. without any  
blame to the

He does not know Medical  
Officer  
who can't

make 12 hours into 24.

Also: - the Committee *have*  
been going upon "opinions,"  
*not* facts.

In the Crimean War, this  
"direct evidence" was given  
by the large majority of the  
Senior Medical Officers: - viz.  
that there was nothing to shew

**f66/21.3v**

the cause of the prevailing  
Hospital Gangrene at  
Scutari (we lost 30 consecutive  
cases out of 40 of  
amputation of the thigh)  
except that the climate (or air)  
for a radius of 3 miles round  
Scutari was unfavourable  
to the recovery of wounds!!!  
Nearly the same "evidence"  
was given as to our Cholera there!!!

---

p.6.

There is no reason why  
"statements" as to "retardation  
of recovery" should be  
"only opinion."

The point may be ascertained  
by Statistics.  
Workhouses keep no Statistics.

**f66/21.4**

How can they? -  
 How can these over-loaded  
 Medl= Officers keep Statistics?  
 How can their "Statements" -  
 be anything but "opinion"? -

P.5. Paras 2,3,4.  
 admirable

---

P.5. bottom  
 Remember that Dr. Markham's  
 60 sq. ft made 953 cub. ft.

---

P.8 Para 11  
 I do not agree - for reasons  
 given before -  
 That Marylebone Lying=in  
 Ward is far better than Q.

**f66/21.4v**

Charlotte's, I am sure I don't  
 deny - which is only saying that  
 it is better than a  
 notoriously unhealthy Hospital

--

*p.8 Para 12*

I agree, with all my might

-----

Please ask Capt. Galton for a  
 case where a Regimental  
 Surgeon put Orderlies to sleep  
 with Patients - desiring the  
 former to breathe only 600  
 cub. ft.

Unless, by Act of Parlt., you can  
 prosecute cases for breathing  
 more than their share, or  
 for rendering more than their  
 space of cubic air  
 impure, by their  
 emanations - you  
 cannot assign different cubic spaces  
 to different cases -

**f66/21.5**

P.8. Para 8

This following is hypercriticism 3  
 "86 sq. ft" are not desirable for  
 "administration" only - but for  
 "administration " & health also.  
 It is rather dangerous to allow  
 people to suppose the former.

Beds should be put at, at  
 least, 6 inch. distance from  
 wall.

This, of course, diminishes  
 "gang-way" by 1 ft.

But, as I say, this is  
 hypercriticism, because, if  
 I get a ward 24 ft wide,  
 tho' I prefer 26 ft, I ought  
 to be more than satisfied.

-----  
 I may just remark: - (P.4: "2nd=")  
 Every case at St. Thomas' Hospital costs  
 three shillings (3/0) a day - Personally,

**f66/21.5v**

I have not the slightest doubt that  
 this money would be much better  
 applied (& Mortality much  
 diminished) if it were given to  
 treating every Patient at his, or  
 her, own home.

But, in Workhouses, many Patients  
 have no homes - no Patients - can  
 command all Surgical appliances at home &c  
 Also: we must have Medical Schools  
 & Nurses' Schools - A Hospital  
 is the only place where Doctors  
 & Nurses can be trained.

The problem seems to be: -  
 to bring the conditions of a Hospital  
 to the closest possible approximation  
 to the best Vital conditions -  
 to keep the Patient the *shortest*  
*possible time in Hospital* -  
 and to free him from "les influences  
 nosocomiales" - a happy word for

**f66/21.6**

the special risks to which sick  
are exposed by the mere fact of  
their being removed from  
their own homes to Hospitals  
- for "improved (?) treatment" -

Letter, LMA H1/ST/NC166/22, pen with photo

**f66/22.1**

*Private*

Dear Madam [Mrs Matthew] [14:1022-23]

I lost no time after  
reading your sad note  
of Oct 4, in enquiring  
of the Patriotic Fund  
Commissioners.

I learn that Mr.  
Myford's note was  
written during the  
absence of the Secretaries  
But it is undoubtedly  
true that it "was  
"founded upon a decision  
"of the Committee that  
Mrs. Matthew

**f66/22.1v** {corner of folio torn out}

given them by  
missioners did  
not extend to the length  
"supposed."  
I received an answer  
& explanation at very  
great length - together  
with two books of their  
new Regulations - which  
we should interpret  
to give "almost unlimited  
"latitude to the Committee".  
The whole question depends  
upon whether certain  
words are not intended  
"to include education."

**f66/22.2**

"without excluding  
"Maintenance."

*We say they are.*

But the question is -  
what is to be done? -  
I have been advised to  
memorialize the Commissioners.  
And this I feel inclined  
to do - not simply for  
an allowance for the  
maintenance of each  
child. "but also for  
the widows - after the  
"widows distinctly recognized  
"as those of the war -  
"they standing next in

**f66/22.2v**

"legal claim in "virtue  
"of the service" of their  
"husbands in the Crimea  
And I feel inclined to do  
this

I also feel inclined to  
write to Lord Grey.  
Lord Grey was in the chair  
when the resolution was  
discussed.

He understood the resolution  
to include "maintenance."  
Capt. Fishbourne stated  
(at this meeting of  
Commissioners) that you  
would have the  
allowances first stated

**f66/22.3**

to you. And no objection was made in the Commission.

I am told that nothing will be done till there is a meeting of Commissioners - & that there will not be any, before November, if then.

I have therefore time to obtain advice about My Memorial.

You are quite sure that I shall do all I can. But I am never sanguine since Sidney Herbert's death five long years ago,

**f66/22.3v**

we have not had one Secretary of State for War to be depended upon. About *this* matter: - an Act of Parliament was hurried through the Houses, without letting any one know, who could have given an opinion as to the value of the words - It does not make the necessary provisions. And I am told that a new Act must be obtained, before any thing really is done -

**f66/22.4**

I cannot help thanking  
 you for the beautiful  
 photograph of my dear  
 friend, your lost - noble  
 husband. It is the  
 very best I ever saw  
 of any one. [I think  
 photograph likenesses  
 sometimes so painful.]  
 Can you tell me whether  
 it was done, from  
 himself or from a  
 drawing of him? -

**[end 14:1023]**

Pray believe me  
 dear Madam  
 with great truth, ever  
 your faithful servt  
 Florence Nightingale

envelope black-edged  
 Mrs. Matthew  
 Gothic Villa  
 Marine Walk  
 Tunbridge Wells

Letter, LMA H1/ST/NC1/66/23, pen **[16:693]**  
 f66/23.1

Dec 7/66  
 {printed} 35 South Street,  
 Park Lane,  
 London, W.

Dear Sir,

I received a verbal  
 message from the War Office  
 to day that you had  
 telegraphed some days ago  
 to the W.O. for a copy of  
 my paper & forms for  
 Hospital Statistics.

Altho' a telegram, plus  
 a verbal message, is  
 quite sure to involve a  
 double mistake, I beg  
 to enclose the paper, as  
 H.W. Acland Eq MD

**f66/23.1v**

finally adopted by the  
Internat=Stat=Congress -  
and a filled up report  
of St. Bartholomew's  
Hospital, in which the  
method is substantially  
adopted.

The whole is however given  
in the last Chapter of  
my "Notes on Hospitals",  
Third Edit= Longmans.

If this is not what  
you wanted, but  
something else, perhaps

**f66/23.2**

I might still be able  
to serve you - if I knew  
in what.

**[end]**

Believe me  
your faithful servt  
Florence Nightingale

{archivist's note: II 19  
66/24 F.N. to Harry [Bonham Carter] 16 Dec. 1866}

Letter, LMA H1/ST/NC1/66/24, pen

**f66/24.1**

Dec 16/66  
{printed} 35 South Street,  
Park Lane,  
London, W.

My dear Harry [Bonham Carter]

I am sorry that I have  
kept your pamphlet so  
long - especially as I have  
very little to say about it.

I think it will do very  
well now.

If you put in any Appendices,  
I think you should put in  
both.

I see no objection to your  
adding "Secy to the &c" to your  
name.

Mr Michael Smith is  
not likely to know much  
about Nursing, or how to

**f66/24.1v**

enquire about it, or how to  
estimate what he hears.  
His authority is nothing in  
such a question. If you  
have direct proof of  
want of success in St.  
John's House, it should  
be stated to Miss Jones.  
I should think it a duty  
to do it, if you would tell  
me - that is, to do it at  
some proper time.

I should have a great deal  
to say about Dr. Ogle's  
pamphlet, if I had but  
the time. It is written  
from the extravagant  
Dissenter point of view.

[3:458-62]

**f66/24.2**

It is really nothing but  
running=a=muck against  
Sisterhoods - there is not a  
word about Nursing in it  
which any sane woman  
would listen to. The running  
a muck is like giving a  
heading to Beer. You pour  
your Beer from a height  
to give it a head. That is  
just what Dr. Ogle has  
done. But his Beer is  
quite as worthless, for all  
that.

You see he & Miss Garrett &  
Dr. Stewart & many others  
would reduce Nursing to  
exactly the same principle  
as keeping a shop. x They say: -  
not God but Mammon. Now  
I am all for Mammon myself -  
But then I say: - train yourselves  
to serve God so well that you  
x And they make the froth to this Beer: - the  
Protestant dread of Sisterhoods.

**f66/24.2v**

will command Mammon

*not* serve Mammon.

The religious orders have - tho'  
not nearly so generally as is  
thought- made this great  
mistake - of taking the  
factitious circumstances viz  
ability to serve God *without*  
*pay* as the test. I remember  
Mr. Clough saying that the  
ability to serve God *with pay*  
was a better test. In which  
I fully agree.

But I don't want to join the  
run against Sisterhoods at  
all. Every 7 years I think  
there is this sort of "row" -  
a stream against, a stream  
for religious orders - a stream  
against, a stream for "Lady  
Nurses" -

As far as I am concerned, I

**f66/24.3**

[2]

shall steadily keep out of the controversy - I shall say: - in regard to Nursing with or without Sisterhoods, F.N. has nothing to say to any such controversies except in as far as they bear on good nursing & administration.

[Even with regard to organization, unless I am asked special questions, as I was with regard to Liverpool, Lincoln, Bath, Derby &c, I will give no opinion]

F.N. has nothing to do with calling the head Matron, Lady Supt=, Mother Superior, or what you please -

If a religious head of a religious order has undivided authority over a Hospital, it will be badly nursed.

**f66/24.3v**

If a Medical Staff has undivided authority over Hospital Nursing, it the Hospital will be badly nursed.

Otherwise, it matters not whether the Nurses are lay=women, Anglican or any other "Sisters", Nuns or what not, the one essential thing is that they be trained good Nurses, who will not allow any scruples, *religious or irreligious* x, to interfere with the faithful discharge

-----

x I put the religious scruples of "Sisters", neglecting their duty for their *devotions* on a par with the *irreligious* scruples of Nurses neglecting their duty for their *drink*. As I put Dr. Ogle's irreligious scruples against the Church on a par with Deaconess religious scruples refusing Chloroform to the Doctor

**f66/24.4**

of their duties.

F.N. has nothing at all to do with such questions as to whether Nursing be a "Church duty" or not -  
- Nor as to whether it is well or ill to have "Sisterhoods" with all their "reputed evils" in order to secure good

Nursing. x

x If I had been a R. Catholic in a R. Catholic country, I should probably have devoted the N. Fund & myself to training nuns to be good Hospital Nurses - As I am what I am I wish to train lay or religious women Church, Dissenters (or R. Catholics, if they would come to us) Hindoos, if we get to India.

- any woman of good character & qualifications - of any class - of any denomination. It is obviously impossible in *this* country to go upon any other principle. I might as well try to institute a new form of Government as to change the character of the "Briton", which is individuality.

**f66/24.4v**

In Dr. Ogle's pamphlet, there are the views of Mr. Capes on the one side, & of Dr. Ogle on the other; - if we were to follow either the one or othe other, any progress would be simply impossible.

All we wish is: that every body on either side, who wishes to nurse, should do the work *well*.

N.B. I would just say that there are gross blunders in Dr. Ogle's every page. E.g. P.32, Note 2. I happen to know there were no "Sisters of Mercy" in the Danish War. I know exactly what "Sisters" went, both R. Catholics & Protestant. If it were possible for me to call people to account for every blunder, I would ask him to say what he means by this statement

about the Bibles. It

could be easily "verified".

P. 22 Note 3. I should call Miss Jones' attention to this, only that she has no time

P. 28 Note 6. "Rev'd Kemble" is absurd.

**f66/24.5**

[3]

Unless the Matron of the Hospital is the Supt= of the Nurses, how can she train them?

Miss Jones, of King's Coll=Hospl, is almost the only person who has seen this principle -

Pastor Fliedner turned it inside out. For *he* would have no other authority in the Hospital but his & hers.

-----  
I have put it in print, that the *highest* AVERAGE good Nursing is secured by a religious society and a secular government in a Hospital. This is fact & experience, not opinion.

We must never forget that, from 20 - 10 years ago, the average Nursing

**f66/24.5v**

of Paris Hospitals was 20 times higher than the average Nursing of London Hospitals - tho' there were many first=rate Head Nurses in London Hospls=

[People who have not lived in Hospitals as I have don't know however how exactly alike a good Hospital Nurse is all over the world - whether she is Soeur de la Resurrection of the Augustinian order at the Hotel Dieu or Sister George of St. Thomas' Hospital.]

In Prussia & Austria & all over Germany, the character of the Nurses was so very low,

**f66/24.6**

(lower than in England), that there arose & spread, with a rapidity unparalleled even in the R. Catholic Church, Pastor Fliedner's Order of Deaconesses - But what, curiously enough, no one seems to know (& what I certainly shall never tell,) is that it had the worst faults of the most bigoted Order in the R. Catholic Church or of the most exclusive Order in the Anglican. There was no secular government in the Hospital whatever. The religious principle over=ruled every thing - even the Medical treatment. The Nurses were *not* good Nurses. And, certainly, the (Head Quarters) Hospital

**f66/24.6v**

was very much worse nursed & administered generally than the worst London Hospital 20 years ago - But, such was the amazing want of Nursing of good character in Germany that they were eager to take the Deaconesses on any terms - & such was the practical good sense of Pastor Fliedner (so unlike in *this* to our *exclusive* Anglican orders) that he was willing to give them for any good work - And so it happened that, when they came in contact with secular Hospital government. All over Germany they nursed extremely well.

I question very much whether the average of London Hospital Nursing is even now up to that of

**f66/24.7**

[7]

Paris.

But let that pass.

I am certainly not going to  
advocate Sisterhoods -  
Indeed I have nothing to do  
with it:

I might call for "Sisters". But  
would they come when I did  
call for them? -  
Not they.

It does seem to me so  
absurd this cry against  
Sisterhoods & ladies -  
as if there were the  
slightest danger of "ladies"  
crowding into our Hospitals  
to the exclusion of those  
who have to earn their  
bread -  
as if there were the slightest  
danger of "Sisterhoods"

**f66/24.7v**

monopolising the Institutions  
of England.

It is a pure imaginary cry.  
Just wait till we see an  
army of "Sisters" at our  
gates -  
But what I feel - & feel  
most seriously - about  
Miss Jones & King's Coll=Hospl=  
is this: -

She is the only Superior of  
any religious society of any  
Church out of the Church  
of Rome who has clearly  
& candidly carried out the  
one great principle of  
honestly co-operating with  
a secular Hospital government  
- of honestly making herself  
the Matron of the Hospital

**f66/24.8**

- of honestly placing herself  
& Training-School within  
a secular Hospital.

All Saints has *not* done this  
in University Coll=Hospl=. As  
I could shew - But I should  
be a dirty bird to foul my  
own nest.

No other of the Anglican  
orders has even attempted  
it.

Pastor Fliedner expressly  
disavowed the possibility  
of it. So did Bethanien.

So have the most numerous  
order in France & Europe -  
the "Sisters of Charity".

So have countless others.  
Miss Jones has had King's  
College Hospl= barely 11 years.

**f66/24.8v**

That her society has, as yet,  
taken no great development,  
is no great wonder -

Yet I know that she has been  
importuned by many Hospitals  
to undertake them.

If you ask me, whether her  
"Sisters" are equal to the  
best Hospital Head Nurses  
in London, I say: - No, &  
probably never will be.

Yet, in one year, she had brought  
the average of King's Coll=Hospl=  
Nursing higher than the  
average of any London Hospl=,  
except St. Bartholomew's  
& St. Thomas'. [For St. Thomas  
was not then what it is  
now. It had a few first=rate

Head nurses - And

it had Mrs. Wardroper

But Mrs. Wardroper of then was  
not the Mrs. Wardroper of now.]

**f66/24.9**

[5]

I do not scruple to say that the Nursing of St. John's House under the *present* training is superior to that of the "Sisters of Charity", the most famous order in Europe but which never, in my experience, has produced one really good Nurse - just because it has always shirked the principle of union with a secular Govt=.

And at this moment especially no word should ever pass our lips tending to embarrass St. John's House - owing to an abominable lying Chaplain & a malicious Archdeacon; - they are down in the world just now - And they are

**f66/24.9v**

persecuted just for their *non*=ecclesiastical propensities. One of the causes of the persecution is: - the dismissal of an inefficient, tho' ecclesiastical "Sister" - the other cause is: the utter inefficiency of the Chaplain, who has revenged himself by her.

{pencil to end of letter:} I shall do every thing in my power (which is little enough) to enable them to out=ride this storm: - If they cannot, then I shall say: - Sisterhoods are impossible in the Ch. of England, not from the fault of the women, but from that of the priests - It *is* impossible for a priest of the Ch. of Eng=d to understand the sound principles of independence, of

**f66/24.10**

non-interference in 'good'  
 administration upon which  
 the best female orders in the Ch. of  
 Rome are protected from  
*their* priests.

Priest-craft (in the Ch. of Rome)  
 is held at bay *only* in  
 religious Sisterhoods - In these  
*alone* has the priest no personal  
 power = Confession is more  
 carefully guarded, the *personal*  
 influence of the priest is far  
 more barred out *than it is in*

whether Dissenting or Ch of England)  
*any highly Evangelical or highly*  
*High Church FAMILY x in England.*

This is also true as to St. John's  
 House - there is *no* priest-craft  
 in it. [I wish they did not go  
 to St. Albans - But then *they*  
 might just as well say: -

I wish *you* did not go to  
 hear Spurgeon.] x There is nothing like  
 the worship of a Pusey, a Liddon,  
 a Close, a Spurgeon, *by families,*  
 to be seen in any "Sisterhood"!

**f66/24.10v**

It is even true with regard to Miss Sellon's x: - but then there are other fatal evils in her Order, resulting from exactly the same principle of autocracy which Pastor Fliedner adopted. X Miss Sellon manages Dr. Pusey - not he her - Also - there is *quite* as much difference between the Orders of Ste Martha & St. Augustin, which have 8 of the 9 great General Hospitals of Paris - & the Order of the "Sisters of Charity" which has *one* - *quite* as much difference as between Pusey's & Spurgeon's following - The "Sisters of Charity" are convert=seekers, frantic "bigots", tools not of priests but of a {Pro??}> of a Papacy - The Ste Martha & Augustinian "Sisters" are nothing

**f66/24.11**

[6]

but good religious Nurses.

All this makes P.p 8 to 15  
(Dr. Ogle's pamphlet) so enormously  
absurd that it would really  
do quite as well for Honolulu  
as for anything in England or  
Europe - Whoever wrote it is  
simply writing ~~about~~ from the  
"depths" of his "innermost" Ich" -  
as the German did about the  
Camel -

-----  
P.11, Note 6. P.14 Note 8'

If these Notes are by Dr. Ogle, they  
are simply disingenuous. E.g.  
Note 6 - Every Medical man  
knows that "insanity" is most  
"common" among - whom? - the  
Quakers.

Note 8. "Why should they obey any  
one but the Doctor?" -

I once had a long correspondence

**f66/24.11v**

P.13

What "public establishments" are  
"dependent on Sisterhoods"?  
Even in Paris they pay the "Sister=  
hoods," who are just as much  
making the bread of *their*  
Society as the "Devonshire Sq -"  
Nurses are of *theirs* - (tho' on different  
principles)

P.15 - Note -

It is difficult to believe the writer  
honest or to believe him  
serious - He cannot be both:

-----  
with Dr. Ogle - And I have it in  
his own hand that he *entirely*  
*subscribes* to the principle that  
Nurses must be (for discipline,  
training, internal management  
&c.) *entirely under the* SUPERINTENDT  
whose business it is to see that  
the Doctor's orders as to treatment  
shall be obeyed -  
[I should like to shew him his own letter].

**f66/24.12**

The second Article (in Dr. Ogle's pamphlet - p.p. 16-29) is simple sound common sense & a good recommendation of Mr. Rathbone's Liverpool system - tho' somewhat superficial.

But why has Dr. Ogle disfigured it with those ridiculous notes, which have little, if any thing, to do with it? -

With regard to the "Additional Remarks," (p.30 to end) - I have said my say - They are monstrous, stupid, ignorant - but not more so than Mr. Capes - And ~~they~~ neither is any business of mine.

Remembering as I do the long correspondence forced upon me

**f66/24.12v**

by Dr. Ogle - & the letters I have from him, I must add that I think them also disengenuous.

[illeg] I cite the last Para=of P. 35] unless they are nothing but the heading to his Beer - Does he really suppose us to believe that he *believes* that we *believe* that there is the least danger of "our public Institutions" being taken possession of - or ourselves "nursed" by "*secret societies*".

It is too ridiculous -  
ever yours sincerely  
F. Nightingale

**f66/24.13**

[7]

...NB. In relation to what I said about the disgraceful conduct of the "filles de salle" at Paris, we must never forget that R. Catholic Sisterhoods expressly disavow the possibility of their being expected to train (or even to look after the *conduct* of) *lay - women*, - whereas Miss Jones, of K.C.H., makes it the express business of St. John's House - to train *lay = women as Nurses* -

That makes all the difference. [end 3:462]

F.N.

{archivist's note: II 20

66/25 F.N. to Mary Jones 20 Dec. 1866}

Letter, LMA H1/ST/NC1/66/25, pencil

**f66/25.1**

Private Burn Dec 20/66

{printed:} 35 South Street,  
Park Lane,  
London, W.

Dearest, very dearest friend [Mary Jones]

It has always happened that my troubles have reached their climax at Christmas - very serious troubles, out of which I can see no way - as to the India Public Health Service - as to the re-organization of Workhouse Infirmarys - as to the Army Medical Deparment= &c &c &c -

But, believe me, no trouble weighs more heavily upon my mind than yours.

1. I am sure you were perfectly right to attempt the removal of

**f66/25.1v**

this Chaplain - Otherwise, all good administration comes to an end - Upon any other principle, it is nothing but saying: - we are *not to try* for progress.

I wish I could do anything for you - Is "Lord [illeg Stanley]" going "to move" AGAINST you? - Are you sure? - I think I could ensure any plain statement of *facts* being laid before him so as to command his attention thro' my brother-in-law (Sir H. Verney) - if you like it - I believe I could ensure the same thing with the Bishop of London, who has always rather patronized me, if you

**f66/25.2**

liked it.

No one dislikes more than I do this kind of private meddling - [tho' I did it for the sake of St. Elizabeth's Hospital.] And I would take no step without your desire - But I think a great principle at stake.

Don't you observe that every few years there is this out-cry against "Sisterhoods", which is like giving a heading to Beer. [They pour the Beer from a height to give it a froth -] But the Beer, if worthless, is quite as worthless for all that.

There are a great many pamphleteers now trying to reduce Nursing to exactly the

**f66/25.2v**

same principle as keeping a shop - And they make ~~the~~ a froth to this Beer: - viz. the Protestant dread of Sisterhoods. They say: - not God but Mammon. [Now I am all for Mammon myself But then I say: - let us train ourselves to serve God so well that we shall *command* Mammon - *not* serve Mammon].

The religious orders have - tho' not nearly so absolutely as is generally thought - made, I humbly think, a great mistake: - in taking the factitious circumstance, viz. ability to serve God *without pay* as the test - [A man of great wisdom & religion once said to me: - that the ability to serve God *with pay* was a better test] †  
[line struck out illeg]

**f66/25.3**

[2]

as far as I am concerned, I shall steadily keep out of the controversy, except in as far as it bears on good Nursing & administration. I shall say I have nothing to do with calling the head:-Matron, Lady Supt=. Lady Superior, Mother Superior, or what you please. If a religious head of a religious order has undivided authority over a Hospital, it will be badly nursed. If a Medical Staff has undivided authority over a Hospital, it will be badly nursed. It matters not whether Nurses are lay=women, Anglican or other "Sisters", the one essential thing is that they be trained good Nurses, who will not allow

**f66/25.3v**

any scruples, *religious or irreligious*,  
to interfere with the faithful  
discharge of their duties.

If I had been a R. Catholic in a  
R. Catholic country, I should  
~~pro~~ have devoted myself to  
training nuns to be good Hospl=  
nurses -

It is obviously impossible in *this*  
country to go upon any such  
principle - I might as well  
try to institute a new form  
of Government as to change  
the character of the Englishman  
which is individuality -

[We may have to train Hindoos.]

If we were to follow the views  
of Dissent on the one hand or  
of the High Church, on the other,  
any progress would be simply

**f66/25.4**

impossible.

All we wish is that every body  
on either side, who wishes to  
nurse, should do the work  
*well*.

I am afraid you will think  
me irreligious.

But I have gone thro' a  
great deal this autumn in  
hard work, (not ~~only~~ for your  
sake, but for God's sake,) in  
disproving the absurd silly  
arguments against Sisterhoods  
which have flooded England  
this autumn -

The highest AVERAGE good  
Nursing is secured by a  
religious society & a secular  
government in a Hospital.

**f66/25.4v**

This is fact & experience, not opinion.

We must never forget that from 20-10 years ago, the average Nursing of Paris Hospitals was 50 per cent better than the average Nursing of London Hospitals - tho' there were many first-rate Head Nurses in London Hospls= [A good Hospl= Nurse is very much the same all over the world - whether she is "Soeur de la Resurrection" of the Augustinians at the Hotel Dieu, or "Sister George" of St. Thomas' Hospl=]

In Prussia & Austria & all over Germany, the character of the Nurses was so very low, (worse than in England)

**f66/25.5**

[3]

that there arose & spread, with a rapidity unparalleled even in the R. Catholic Ch., Pastor Fliedner's Order of Deaconesses.

But what no one seems to know (& what I certainly shall never tell) is: - that it had the worst faults of the most bigoted order in the R. Catholic Ch - or of the most exclusive order in the Anglican. There was no secular government in the Hospital whatever The religious principle over-ruled every, even the Medical consideration. The Nursing was *not* good Nursing. And certainly, the (Head Quarters) Hospl= was very much worse administered than the worst

**f66/25.5v**

London Hospital 20 years ago -  
 But such was the amazing  
 want of Nurses of good character  
 all over Germany - that they  
 were eager to take the  
 Deaconesses on any terms -  
 & such was the practical good  
 sense of Pastor Fliedner (*here*  
 so unlike the most exclusive  
 Anglican Orders) that he was  
 willing to give them for any  
 good work - And so it  
 happened that, then they  
 came in contact with secular  
 Hospital government all  
 over Germany, they nursed  
 extremely well -  
 I question very much whether the  
 average of London Hospl= nursing  
 is even now up to that of Paris.

**f66/25.6**

But I will not go into that.  
 It does seem to me so absurd  
 this cry against Sisterhoods &  
 "ladies" -.  
 As if there were the slightest  
 danger of "ladies" crowding  
 into our Hospitals to the  
 exclusion of those who have  
 to earn their bread -  
 as if there were the slightest  
 danger of "Sisterhoods" taking  
 possession of all our "public  
 Institutions", - of all our Nursing,  
 public & private - with  
 their "secret societies"!!!  
 [This is what we are seriously  
 told by pamphleteers will  
 happen!!!]  
 But what I feel - & feel more  
 deeply every day - about  
 you & Kings Coll= Hospl= - is this: -

**f66/25.6v**

you are the only Superior of any religious Society out of the Ch. of Rome who have clearly & candidly carried out the one great principle of honestly co-operating with a secular Hospital Government - of honestly making yourself the Matron of the Hospl= as well as the Supt= of the Nurses - - of honestly placing, yourself & Training - Schools within a secular Hospl= -

[All Saints has *not* done this in Univ=Coll=Hospl.]

No other of the Anglican orders has even attempted it. Pastor Fliedner expressly disavowed the possibility of it: So did Bethanien So has the most numerous order

**f66/25.7**

[4]

in France or Europe - the "Sisters of Charity" - So have countless others.

You have had K.C.H. barely 11 years. That your society has, as yet, taken no great development is no great wonder.

Yet you have been importuned by many Hospls. to undertake them.

In one year, you had brought the average of K.C.H. Nursing higher than the average of any London Hospl., except perhaps St. Bartholomew's & St. Thomas'.

[St. Thomas' was not then what it is now - It had a few first rate Head Nurses - And it had Mrs. Wardroper - But she was not the Mrs. Wardroper of now.]

LMA 1

**f66/25.7v**

I have no scruple in saying that the Nursing of St. John's House under the *present* training is better than that of the "Sisters of Charity" - the most famous order in Europe - but which never, in my experience has produced one really good Nurse - just because it has always shirked the principle of union with a secular Govt.

Now I fancy that you are suffering for your *non*=ecclesiastical principles. I fancy that one of the causes of the persecution by that Cardinal - (I mean Archdeacon) is: - the dismissal of an inefficient, tho' ecclesiastical

**f66/25.8**

"Sister" - The other cause is: - the utter inefficiency of a rascally Chaplain, who has revenged himself by lies. If I could do anything in my power (which is little enough) to help in the least degree to out-ride this storm, *pray, pray* tell me -  
If you succumb

**f66/25.8 [begins here with Daniel's last lot of transcription]**

If you succumb, then I shall say: -  
- Sisterhoods are impossible in the Ch of Eng., not from the fault of the women but from that of the priests. It *is* impossible for a priest of the Ch. of Eng. to understand the sound principles of independence, of non interference as to administration upon which the best female Orders in the Ch. of Rome are protected from *their* priests.  
Priest craft (in the Ch. of Rome)

**f66/25.8v**

is held at bay *only* in religious  
 "Sisterhoods". In these *alone*  
 has the priest no personal  
 power. Nothing can exceed  
 the care with which confession  
 is guarded, with which the  
*personal* influence of the priest  
 is prevented. The *personal*  
 influence of the priest is *far*,  
*far* greater in any highly  
 Evangelical, (whether Dissenting  
 or Ch. of Eng.) FAMILY in England.  
 It is far greater in any extravagantly High  
 Church FAMILY in England -  
 [No one seems to know this] A Pusey,  
 a Liddon, a Close, a Spurgeon, a Manning is *worshipped*  
 in families as they never are in Sisterhoods-  
 I believe, as to St. John's House,  
 that there is *no* priest craft  
 in it - & that you are "Suffering  
 for righteousness's sake".  
 [We may deplore that you like to

**f66/25.9**

[5]

goto St. Albans - But then you  
 might just as well deplore  
 that Anglicans like to go to  
 Spurgeon's.]

These people who profess to be so  
 knowing, who write pamphlets  
 upon pamphlets for fear  
 we "should" imitate the R.C.  
 "Sisterhoods" don't know that  
 - - - there is *quite* as much  
 difference between the Order  
 of the "Sisters of Charity", which  
 has one of the 9 great  
 General Hospitals of Paris -  
 & the Orders of Ste Marthe &  
 St. Augustin which have 8 -  
*quite* as much difference as  
 between Pusey's & Spurgeon's  
 following - The "Sisters of Charity"  
 are convert-seekers, frantic "bigots",  
 tools (not at all of priests but) of

**ff66/25.9v**

a Papacy & a Propagandism - The  
 Ste Marthe s & Augustinians  
 are nothing but good religious  
 Nurses.

[But anything that Englishmen  
 ever wrote about religious  
 orders might just as well  
 do for Honolulu as for Europe]

Another, tho' a very different thing,  
 which we should never forget  
 is: - that R. Catholic "Sisterhoods"  
 expressly disavow the possibility  
 of their training *lay-women*,  
 in the way that you do -  
 The consequence is, that the  
 abominations among *their*  
 "filles de salle" are quite as  
 great as they were among  
 the Under Nurses of London  
 Hospitals 20 years ago.

**f66/25.10**

Dearest friend  
 I have written this long  
 letter, which please *burn*,  
 to show you my views, as to the  
 great work you are doing,  
 as to the principles on which  
 it should be carried through  
 the present persecution -  
 & to offer most eagerly, if  
 there is anything I can do,  
 to do it.

I know you won't agree  
 with my views. But I  
 think you will at least  
 believe that nothing lies  
 deeper in my heart than  
 you & your work, & that  
 there is nothing I would  
 not do to help, if  
 only I could - God bless you -  
 ever yours F Nightingale

{envelope addressed to: {arch. note: 20/12/1866}  
 PRIVATE Miss Jones with 1 Pheasant  
 Lady Supt= 2 Rabbits  
 Kings' College Hospital 1 Wood=cock}  
 {arch. note: II 21  
 67/1 F.N. to [Mary Jones] 8 Jan. 1867}

Letter, ff67/1.1-67/1.10, pen **[3:468-69]**  
**f67/1.1**

*Private* Jan 8/67  
 7. A.M.  
 {printed:} 35 South Street.  
 Park Lane.  
 London. W.

Dearest friend,  
 I do not like to lose an  
 hour in answering your  
 letter, tho' indeed I am  
 pressed for time.

It has made me very  
 sad.

But what I want to say  
 is, that, of course, whether  
 you go or stay (as Members  
 of St. John's Ho=) you will  
 make it perfectly clear  
 to your Bishop *on what*  
*grounds* you go or stay -  
 This ought to be done both  
 for your own sakes & for

**f67/1.1v**

his. He knows nothing  
 about the principles  
 of a Sisterhood. His  
 "Charges" shew that.  
 No one can advise you  
 how to put the case  
 before him. For no one  
 can do it better than  
 you -  
 If you could convince him,  
 probably the matter  
 might be settled still.  
 If you can't, still if you  
 were to write 7 letters,  
 it ought to be done -  
 for the sake of the work.  
 Let it be all in writing.  
 tho' there ought to be an interview *besides* as soon  
 as possible.  
 It is *quite, quite, quite*  
 impossible (and it is not

**f67/1.2**

only my experience but  
 that of all Christendom)  
 for the discipline, the  
 internal management,  
 of Sisters & Nurses to be  
 in any other hands but  
 those of *ONE female* Head -  
 No man can or ought to  
 interfere with it. Nothing  
 but indiscipline can ensue.  
 [I don't like the word  
 discipline, because it  
 makes people always  
 think of drill & flogging -  
 but, if they would but  
 associate it with the  
 word disciple - - - - - .!]  
 Women are never governed  
 by a man, except to their  
 own detriment. When the  
 government of the man

**f67/1.2v**

interferes with that of the  
female head, all goes  
to ruin.

If the female head does  
not exercise the power  
entrusted to her with  
judgment & discretion,  
then it is she who  
ought to go. But the  
man ought never to  
have been there.

The whole reform in Nursing  
both at home & abroad,  
has consisted in this: -  
to take all power over  
the Nursing out of the  
hands of the men, &  
put it into the hands of  
*one female trained*  
head - & make her

**f67/1.3**

[2]

responsible for every thing  
(regarding internal  
management & discipline)  
being carried out.

Usually, it is the Medical  
staff who have injuriously  
interfered as "Masters".

How much worse it is  
when it is the Chaplain!

It appears to me that  
what your Chaplain is  
doing to the Nurses is: -  
the worst caricature of  
gossiping confession -  
(for this kind of confession  
does exist in the R.C.  
Church - tho' *not* in the  
active orders - to the  
destruction of soul & body)

But your Chaplain's is worse -

**f67/1.3v**

for there is not even the  
 seal of sacredness or duty  
 about it. If one thought  
 it one's *duty* to go &  
 make a bow to Grosvenor  
 Gate at 3 every morning  
 foul or fair, the ridiculous  
 act is invested with a  
 kind of sacredness. But  
 here there is none.

Scarcely a week of my life  
 elapses that I have not  
 to assert this principle,  
 (in answer to counsel  
 sought,) to some Institution  
 or other -

I cannot say that I should  
 very deeply regret it,  
 if you & the Sisters &

**f67/1.4**

*all the Nurses* were to,  
 secede from St. John's,  
 keeping *King's Coll:* & Charing  
 Cross Hospitals. The spirit  
 would be saved, tho' the  
 body would be lost. But  
 I suppose this is impossible.

But I should think it  
 the greatest calamity  
 that had ever happened  
 in all my unfortunate  
 life if you & the Sisters  
 seceded, *leaving the Nurses*  
 & *King's Coll:* in the hands  
 of St. John's -

It seems to me as if it  
 would peril the whole  
 reform -

I don't speak of  
 "popular clamour"  
 (tho' I don't quite agree with  
 you that there is *nothing*

**f67/1.4v**

but "popular clamour" to alledge  
 against St. **Alban's** -  
 think St. Albans is *fanciful*  
 - nor do I think there  
 is *nothing* but "popular  
 clamour" to alledge against  
 Sisterhoods) but I speak  
 of the real deep principles  
 of how to serve God in  
 nursing. I think  
 these would be perilled  
 by your secession - *not*  
 from St. John's but from  
 King's Coll:

Do you think the life  
 of the Sisters is "hard &  
 harassing"? YOURS is, my  
 poor dear, to the  
 last degree -  
 But I know I should have

**f67/1.5**

[3]

thought that to nurse a Hospital  
 ward under you was  
 the height of earthly ambition. **[end 3:469]**  
 Dearest friend, you know **[13:92-94]**  
 how I always long to see  
 you. In January we are  
 always so driven with work  
 that I should have said -  
 it was quite impossible -  
 but that this is such an  
 emergency. Not that I  
 have any counsel to offer -  
 nor would I, if I had -  
 But, perhaps, next Sunday  
 or perhaps some other  
 day, if you could spare  
 time to come for 1/2 an hour  
 - - - ? -

**f67/1.5v**

I will now say ~~over~~ some little unimportant things -

1. Sir Harry Verney did write to Ld Ebury about Charing Cross - Ld Ebury acknowledged that he had "interested himself about" it - but such is the ignorance with which people interfere, that Ld Ebury ~~either~~ does not know (or else he pretends not to know) that the St. John's of King's Coll= is the St. John's of Charing Cross. Sir Harry, who is his friend, will see him about it - But alas! my dearest, if you are going to secede, it matters little one way or another.

**f67/1.6**

You are not *in* Charing Cross yet, are you? -

2. You will receive a letter from the R. Berks Infirmary, asking you to *recommend* them Nurses - [I have told them your Rules.] Perhaps the letter will only bother you. I would send you the two letters I have received from the R. Berks Infirmary, if it were not that I fear it would be only another straw to break your back just now -
3. Could you tell me, without trouble, whether £30 a year covers all the Patient's cost in your

**f67/1.6v**

Lying-in beds - i.e. independent  
of Nursing & Medical  
attendance, rent, or rather  
interest on money &c. -

And, roughly, do you think  
it a fair average for  
*general* beds, (independent  
of all these things) -

It is a question I am  
constantly asked by  
Provincial Hospitals  
of (about) 100 beds -

Alas! poor little Midwifery  
school. I shall not  
leave it there, if you go.

But it seems to me a  
misfortune too great to  
be true.

LMA H1/ST/NC1/67/1 letter to Mary Jones 8 January 1867:

**f67/1.7**

[4]

N.B. The Bishop thinks  
Kaiserswerth perfect -  
Since Pastor Fliedner's  
death, there have occurred,  
(as I mentioned), exactly  
the disagreements (in  
which Madame Fliedner  
was always right) between  
her & her son-in-law,  
the new Master, that  
are - - - *inevitable*.

**[3:469-70]**

The Bishop thinks the  
N. London Deaconesses  
perfect. No good  
trained Sister can remain  
with them a year, because  
of Chaplain Pelham Dale's  
constant interference -  
[I am sure *I* would not]  
- even in the internal

**f67/1.7r**

management of Nursing in  
 the Gr Northern Hospl- -  
 This is not gossip - I never let  
 any of the Sisterhoods gossip  
 to me. But my advice  
 was seriously sought by  
 the best Sister they ever had -  
 which I could but give  
 in one way - And she seceded.  
 She is much better occupied elsewhere - now  
 But, all these things I cannot  
 tell to any one - much less to the  
 Bishop -  
 It is perfect nonsense to say  
 that there must be  
 tyranny, if there is one  
 female Head only -  
 The only way to prevent  
 tyranny & to ensure order  
 & progress is this: -  
 Vest the charge of the finance  
 & general supervision &

**f67/1.8**

the whole administration  
 of the Hospital in the Board  
 {in pencil} Vest the sole responsibility of the  
 Nursing, of the internal  
 management, of the discipline  
 of Sisters, Nurses & all other  
 women in one FEMALE Head.  
 If there is any interference on  
 either side, it is confusion  
 twice confounded.  
 As poor Madame Flidner  
 herself said to me: - it is  
 nonsense to say that this is  
 interfering with the Chaplain's  
 spiritual functions -  
 No one wants to interfere with  
 the Chaplain's spiritual  
 functions.  
 And, in the best R.C. orders,  
 the line is much more  
 clearly marked  
 than in ours.

**f67/1.8v**

The "Supérieure" (matron) does not  
want to administer the  
Holy Communion.

Don't let the Chaplain  
want to make himself Matron -

Don't let the Doctor make  
himself Head Nurse -

*There is no worse matron  
than a Chaplain*

It is so odd that practical  
Englishmen cannot see this,  
without being told -

God bless you  
ever yours

[3:470]

F Nightingale

I am writing against time.

**f67/1.9**

[3a]

4. I have been asked to ask  
you what is the *superficial*  
area (*square feet of floor*)  
you consider necessary *per*  
*bed* for good Nursing &  
ward administration -

King's Coll: - is put down at  
105 square feet per bed -

Is that so? And do you  
consider it what it should  
be?-

You will observe the question  
refers ~~more~~ rather to the *floor*  
space necessary for good  
Nursing than to the *cubic*  
space necessary for health.  
But the one follows the  
other. Don't

**f67/1.9v**

answer this question if it  
involves any trouble.

**f67/1.10**

[5]

*Pray,*

Be sure & see your Bishop  
in a personal interview  
(*besides* the writing to him)  
before you take any final  
step -

You cannot tell how ignorant  
he may be of the things  
which you only could  
set before him - & which  
perhaps you could only  
set before him clearly in  
a personal interview -  
The writing is  
necessary for FN.  
permanence.

{archivist note: II 22

67/2	F.N. to [Mary Jones]	12	Jan.	1867
67/3	" "	"	14	Mar. 1867
67/4	" "	"	15	Mar. 1867}

Letter, ff67/2.1-67/2.3, pen **[13:93-94]**

**f67/2.1***Private* Jan 12/67

35 South Street. {printed address}  
Park Lane.

London, W.

Dearest friend, A  
thousand thanks for  
your letter, just  
received.

I am pressed to that  
degree by the Poor Law  
Board (a state of  
pressure you know too  
well) & by other things,  
that I will only answer  
now: -

**f67/2.1v**

1. about the Midwy= School: -  
    wherever you go,  
I should go - Where you  
went, provided it  
were only possible  
for you to have the  
Midwy- Sch:, it would  
go. Where you stayed,  
it would stay. If  
you were anywhere  
where it could not  
go, it would be abolished.

**f67/2.2**

I know pretty well all  
the Lying=in Establishments  
in London, & would  
have nothing to do with  
any - &, *certainly* NOT with  
St. John's - without you.

    If there are ANY  
modifications you  
would wish made, in it,  
please tell me at  
your own time.

2. if at any time you  
    "must get some one  
    "else to communicate  
    "with the Bp of London",

**f67/2.2v**

my brother-in-law (Sir H.V.)  
would any time take  
a written statement  
from me to the Bishop  
& explain it in a  
personal interview,  
if you wished it.

3. As for your Chaplain  
& St. John's, I have  
long felt that, if you  
are to continue working  
"for St. John's, matters  
"must be greatly  
"altered."

**f67/2.3**

And I have long felt  
that, if St. John's chooses  
to keep its Chaplain  
& to let you & all the  
Sisters & all the Nurses  
go & keep K.C.H. &  
Charing X in your own  
hands the loss would  
NOT be on YOUR side.  
May God bless you -  
    in haste.  
    ever yours F.N.

Letter, pencil LMA H1/ST/NC1/67/3

[13:446]

**f67/3.1**

March 14/67

{printed:} 35 South Street.

Park Lane.

London, W.

Dearest friend

Miss Emmy Rappe has written to me, (asking what she ought to do, as to payment or otherwise) - a very pretty little (thankful to you) letter, for her stay at K.C.H.

She fears that she has intended, & that she ought to have asked this before -

But this is my fault, not hers -

I hope you will kindly tell *me* & let *me* settle it - &, if she asks, merely tell her that this is all settled, as I shall do.

**f67/3.2**

2. Did I tell you that, altho' I wrote for the Bishop a ~~& put~~ letter which I put into the hands of Sir Harry Verney, yet afterwards I reserved it, as I found a Committee was appointed to consider the question.

As I wrote the letter at your desire, it is for you to decide whether you wish it (or something similar) to go now or at all

3. The same about the Committee -

Mr. Bowman asked me to prepare a sketch of the "organization" desired - (for him & the Committee.)

But I declined - It is

**f67/3.3**

[2]

for you to say what  
organization you will  
accept - not for any  
one else -

I should have written about  
these 3 things & many others -  
but we have been so busy -  
day by day, about this  
Metropolitan Poor Bill - &  
other things  
and I have never suffered  
so much in health any  
winter as during the last  
6 weeks -  
I wish I could hear that you  
were better & also your  
affairs -

God bless you  
ever, dearest friend, yours  
FN

Do you know those Delhi people

**f67/3.4**

(the Revd- Cowie & others at  
Brighton) have begun again  
about their Mrs. Browne? -  
They are trying by main  
force to make me take  
her at St. Thomas! And,  
as they are all at sixes  
& sevens among themselves,  
it is a rare trouble -

FN

{envelope addressed to: Miss Jones  
14.3.67 Lady Supt.:  
Kings College Hospital  
W.C.

Letter, pen LMA H1/ST/NC1/67/4

[13:90-91]

**f67/4.1**

March 15/67

{printed:} 35 South Street.

Park Lane.

London, W.

My dearest friend

I think I mentioned  
to you that the Delhi lady  
(Mrs. Browne) & her  
Committee are *at us*  
again.

[It is now Miss Hudson  
(of Brighton) who writes]

What they want of us  
is: -  
to take her now simply  
for training as Nurse,  
but with leave to  
attend certain Medical

**f67/4.1v**

lectures, which, it seems,  
she is attending now.  
I have no heart to ask  
you to re-consider your  
decision.  
For, indeed I feel I ought  
not to trouble you.  
"IF WE are" exceedingly  
unreasonable, "& require  
9 months", why, they  
will let her stay  
9 months!!! they say -  
and they ask for her  
to be admitted at St.

**f67/4.2**

Thomas' on these terms.

I think, as I thought before, that, if it is to be done at all, you will do it much better than we shall.

I admit that I think it objectionable to allow any Probationers to attend lectures elsewhere - it must necessarily interfere with the discipline & regular work -

I understand (*not* from them) that Mrs. Browne's certificate as

**f67/4.2v**

Accoucheuse is not worth much - And I am told (*not* from them) that she had much better go thro' the course at K.C.H., with some additional time in your other wards, if you permitted it. H. Bonham Carter would communicate with you, if you thought fit to reconsider your decision. If not, I will try to see what we can arrange at St. Thomas'. But,

**f67/4.3**

indeed, it is not a  
 matter on which I  
 wish to urge or trouble  
 you at all.  
 For they themselves seem  
 to be all at sixes and  
 sevens about it: [And  
*THEY do not even propose that  
 she should have your Midwifery  
 training.*]

-----  
 We have got more out  
 of Mr. Hardy for our  
 Workhouse Sick than  
 I expected.

God bless you  
 ever yours  
 F.N.

{archivist's note: II 23  
 67/5 F.N. to [Mary Jones] 5 Aug 1867  
 67/6 F.N. to Mrs. Phillips 2 Sept. 1867}

Letter, ff67/5.1-67/5.2, pen **[8:196]**

**f67/5.1**

Aug 5/67  
 35 South Street, {printed address}  
 Park Lane,  
 London, W.

Dearest friend

You will guess how  
 excessively I am driven  
 just now, from my  
 not having answered  
 your note of 1 Aug.

About the P.M. theatre,  
 I concur with you -  
 (as when do I not?-)

let them try.  
 in regard to the cutting  
 off of the P.M. room, &  
 the proposed Students'  
 regulations, let them try.

They are evidently  
 frightened. And that is

**f67/5.1v**

a good thing.

Let them do their best  
to remedy the evil.

And then we will see.

I am sure you well know  
that I as well as you,  
think of all the patients  
in the Hospital & not  
only of the Lying=in=cases.

And therefore I rejoice  
that the thing is taken  
into consideration for  
the whole Hospital.  
Otherwise I admit that, ever  
since I saw you that  
Sunday, I have felt  
that I wished our Lying

**f67/5.2**

in School were *well out*,  
under you, in a Workhouse.  
However, it is well to try if  
~~that~~ the sad experience  
can be so made use of  
as not to be repeated in  
future.

I think "Matilda Biddle"  
may, if you approve her,  
be quite safely taken.  
And I will tell H. Bonham  
Carter so -

I am so overworked with  
the India Public Health  
Service just now (the  
{illeg.Missa?} terrible disaster,  
like your P.M. theatre

**f67/5.2v**

has given us a hold upon  
 them & a favourable  
 opportunity) that I  
 can only say - I have  
 been in treaty lately  
 with a Bombay Parsee  
 Nowrazjee {illeg.Surdoonjee?},  
 about Nurses' Institutions.  
 And I ventured to give  
 him a pencil introduction  
 to you - to see not only  
 the Midwifery concern  
 but your Institute generally.

**[end 8:196]**

God bless you  
 ever yours  
 F.N.

Letter, ff67/6.1-67/6.3, pen

**f67/6.1**

London September 2 1867

**[14:1025]**

Dear Mrs. Phillips

I am extremely glad to be able  
 to comply with your request - & to  
 say that, after having looked over  
 all my Memoranda & consulted by  
 letter two or three ladies who were  
 immediately over you at Scutari  
 more than I could be myself, I  
 am able to give you the highest  
 character as to respectability,  
 steadiness & the best conduct that  
 befits a woman in a very difficult  
 situation, such as we must admit  
 was that of all the women in the  
 Crimean War.

And I sincerely trust that  
 your husband, Colour Sergt. Phillips

**f67/6.1v**

of the Coldstream Guards, will obtain the appointment he desires in Her Majesty's Yeomen of the Guard - and if your good service counts towards it, as it deserves.

I was myself so many months of the time that you were with us at Scutari absent in the Crimean Hospitals that, before writing this, I have communicated with the ladies under whom you were at the time. And I am only the more satisfied of what I have here stated namely, that there is nothing to say but the highest praise of your conduct during the time that you were at Scutari in 1855, & afterwards in 1856 that you were in our Hospital as Assistant

**f67/6.2 + f67/6.2v** {blank}

**f67/6.3** {in pencil} JS hand:

I hereby certify that Mrs Phillips wife of Col. Sergnt Phillips 1st B. Coldstream Guards was assistant nurse under me at Scutari. She served at a time when I was mostly in the Crimea & before writing this I have communicated with the Ladies under whom she was at the time. The result of these enquiries is that I am satisfied that she bore a high character that she was a respectable steady woman & was one of the best conducted in her station who served under me.

I shall be glad if ~~at a~~ her good service counts towards her husbands appointment in Her Majesty's Guard.

**[end 14:1025]**

{archivist's note: II 24

67/7 F.N. to [Mary Jones] 14 Oct. 1867

67/8 " " " 7 Dec. 1867}

Letter, ff67/7.1-67/7.2, pen

[8:178-79]

**f67/7.1**

Oct. 14/67

{printed:} 35 South Street,  
Park Lane,  
London, W.

Dearest friend

I should not have troubled  
you by writing but that I  
have a message to you from  
Dr. Shrimpton, of Paris.

[I should tell you that I know  
nothing of Dr. Shrimpton - never  
saw him - but have by  
his desire, corresponded with  
him occasionally for some  
years on "professional" matters.  
In a letter, received this  
morn=, on such matters, he  
asks me to "plead his  
cause" with you - Now I  
cannot do this: - I am  
quite sure that I could  
bring nothing before you

**f67/7.1v**

which you have not already  
maturely weighed  
& that I could  
not suggest any reasons  
which would influence you.  
Therefore, I will only transcribe  
what he says on your  
subject: -

"Our little Hospital here  
stands at this moment  
in great peril."

[I had not hitherto known  
that he had anything to do  
with it.]

"Hitherto it has been most  
admirably managed and  
administered by Sister  
Frances, Miss Wylde, of  
St.John's. The Council,  
under the pressure of Miss  
Jones, I am persuaded, has

**£67/7.2**

"decided on withdrawing their Sisters and Nurses from the Hospl. Miss Jones has undoubtedly very good reasons for being dissatisfied. The Hospl. still remains in the hands of Messrs. Galignani, and as long as this continues we must have the same difficulties to encounter. If Miss Jones should however persist in her determination, the Hospl. must be closed. This would be a very great misfortune. I saw Miss Jones a few weeks ago, soon after the decision of the Council. I called twice after this at St. John's, when unfortunately Miss Jones was out of town.

**£67/7.2**

"I can't think any Establishment in Europe can be more needed than our little Hospl. is in Paris. The good it has done already is incalculable - I do not allude so much to the treatment of patients as to the moral influence it produces on the English population in Paris. If you would plead our Cause with Miss Jones, I think she might be induced to take us again under her protection."

I will not add another word, except to say that I entirely believe what he says above is true. **[end 8:179]**

I shall be quite anxious till I hear how Miss Osburne does under you - ever yours F. Nightingale

Letter, ff67/8.1-67/8.11, pen

[8:184-89]

**f67/8.1**

Burn 7 Dec/67  
{printed:} 35 South Street,  
Park Lane,  
London, W.

Dearest friend [Mary Jones]

I have gone over the Rules for  
1865 which you sent me -  
combining them with what you  
told me - not because I  
hope to do any good but  
because you asked me.

What appears to me to  
flow from this consideration is  
this: -

the rules of 1865 are as  
autocratic on every thing  
except the details of Nursing  
as can well be.

Looking at them on the  
legal side, the Mother Superior  
has nothing to do at all  
except to provide for

**f67/8.1v**

efficient exercise of Nursing  
duties in Hospitals,  
private families &c.-

There is a jealous guardianship  
over everything religious.

There is also control over the  
general efficiency of the Nursing,  
whether in Hospitals or in  
private families.

All the possible work in  
St. John's House is exercised  
exactly on the same terms.

What can be done by the  
Sisters in Hospitals is precisely  
what can be done by them in  
the other duties of the House.

The rules show entire  
liberty for the Superioress in  
all details of Nursing - but  
the most absolute control  
by the Council in everything else.

**¶67/8.2**

The idea is that, on these terms, the Council will enter into arrangements with Superior & Sisters but on no other terms than these.

The rules are a very distinct "*constitution*" with rights on both sides strictly defined - & which can only be departed from (being & remaining as I see them in black & white) by secession on one side or the other. [that is, as you tell me that you "do not wish to make any proposition as to altering them or any of them."]

I simply lay before you the cold legal view of the thing. You know that I would give my heart's blood to alter, ~~it~~ if I could, the present disastrous state of things.

**¶67/8.2v**

You say: - why can't they take our work exactly as the Hospitals do? -

Simply because they might just as well take the R.C. Mother Gonzaga's work or the R.C. Soeur Supérieure's work as yours, if on those terms.

I will allude to this (with regard to the Revd. Mother of Bermondsey)

farther on

They have `gone in' for being flesh, & you ask them: why they can't be fowls? - at the same time that you say you "do not wish to propose any alteration" from the flesh state.

I do not say which is right or which is wrong. I am simply trying to lay before you what *is*.

You know I think Councils should have nothing to do except

**£67/8.3**

[2]

with finance & the general supervision (such as, that no work should be undertaken without their control - which of course also includes the dismissal, upon dissatisfaction)? All these powers are ~~much~~ still more autocratically & vexatiously used against R.C. communities than here. And you would not find a single gentleman in England who would stand up as responsible before the public for your finance without having such control. Do you think I could ask e.g. Sir Harry Verney to assume before the public the responsibility of my Fund & not allow him any control? You see

**£67/8.3v**

what All Saints is - They do exactly what you suggest. And I can only say, IF Univ.Coll. is satisfied, it is thankful for small mercies. I am not speaking at random. You perhaps do not know that they applied to my Council (not to me) to do something for us, as you are so good as to do. And I would not let the proposition even be entertained. I should just as soon think of entrusting any public money in the hands of All Saints as in the hands of those "British Nursing Associations" which are always applying to me for "advice"]  
There

is an Institution (not a Hospital) which Miss Sellon has had for some years on the same kind of terms that All Saints has Univ Coll:-and then she writes to me, after having had it for years, to give her a certificate with the Secular Management, as if she had been a servant under suspicion - You know *that* is a humiliation I

**f67/8.4**

would not submit to for one moment. But such things must always happen where there is not a lay Council -

2. You say that the Bishop would let you have any Chaplain independent of him - but that you don't want to be independent of your Bishop -

Dearie, does not that mean that you must have the appointment of the Bishop as well as the appointment of the Chaplain?-

You want to be "dependent on" the Bishop. But then the Bishop is to think what you think.

Take it the other way:- suppose the Sisters were Irish Protestants & the Chaplain a Ritualist Chaplain, whom the Bishop wished to make "conditions" with?- - - - -

One must consider the subject every way - & not

**f67/8.4v**

only as regards the life-time of one person.

You say: - that I "would not accept such a position myself."

My dearest: - if the Bishop were to write to my Chaplain & make it a "condition" with him that I should not look out of window - & that he should prevent me -

I should say: - I didn't wish to look out of window - but you may sign 20 promises, if you like it, that you will prevent me from looking out of window - As I was not going to do it, what harm does that do me?

**f67/8.5**

[3]

3. [This is a very small matter - And I really have hesitated a great deal whether I should give you one extra little harass to your many & great harasses - But I think that you & I know each other enough before God for you to trust me that it is from the overwhelming importance of the great subject (which to my mind, as you know, concerns nothing less than whether Sisterhoods can exist or not in the Ch. of Engd) - that I mention what otherwise would be a trifle:-]

Just as R.C. communities are, in one direction at least, getting out of formalism, we seem to be falling into it.

**f67/8.5v**

Funds are entrusted even now by Protestant Boards to R.C. communities. And, of course, in R.C. countries, the relations of business between the Superiors of communities & secular Institutions & secular individuals are innumerable. No one in the world can have had the opportunity even of seeing so many of these relations as I have - of being concerned in so many - of receiving so many letters from Superiors of every country, which I do, even to this day. I have never seen any letter or paper, not even from Orders in Italy, (the most formalistic of any country,) where the Superioress did not sign with her own

**f67/8.6**

name. Of course the document would not be legal without.

To me they might write with only their religious name - but *this* was at full length - & only in a private letter - & except in the very closest intimacy, followed by their own name. Nay, more, I have had to read & forward letters from men=Superiors to Mother=Superiors - And the own name of the Mother Supr has always been given at full length, whether with or without the religious name before it.

I think the rule is a very simple one: - let the Mother Superior be or call herself or sign herself anything she likes *with her Sisterhood*. But with the world without,

**f67/8.6v**

whether religious or secular, let her sign with & use her own name - with any title appropriate to seculars, e.g. Matron or Superintendt= Genl= or whatever she *actually* is *in fact* as regards the world without.

The hieroglyph of Ch= of Engd= Superioresses (tho' I never knew Miss Sellon use any such) - to say nothing of its affording no evidence as to who the writer is - sets many a "Parson" or "Low Church Doctor" against the poor woman who bears it on her certificate - And many excellent & religious persons are deterred by the "High Style".

Believe me, I do not speak the words of your Council.

**f67/8.7**

[4]

Dearest - I wish I had anything  
to give you but my poor prayers  
& my poor experience of  
things of which ~~my~~ circumstances  
have given me an experience  
which no one else can have  
had.

If perhaps it may please God  
to take me before the end of  
this winter, I shall leave you  
with a sad heart, tho' I cannot  
do you any good.

Mrs. Herbert, who does not usually  
say anything so true, poor thing  
said to me: - All the other  
Ch= of Engd. Sisterhoods are  
nothing but poor apes'  
imitations of R.C. Sisterhoods.  
Miss Jones/ alone has a principle,  
a foundation, a solid meaning  
of its own -

That is just my feeling. And if

**f67/8.7v**

yours fails, if yours becomes  
like the others, (tho during your  
life you will keep it up) I  
shall feel that this all-important  
question is decided in the negative.  
(viz. whether Sisterhoods can exist in the Ch. of Eng.)  
Univ: Coll: Hosp: Sisterhood  
"recommended itself to the  
attention" of my Council in  
these words: that it was  
on the same footing as yours.  
That is just what it is not.

While you live, you will keep  
up the work to what it is now.

And, while I live, I shall be  
able to make my Council  
accept anything that you are  
(personally) so good as to do  
for us. But there is not  
one of my Council who would  
not resign at once, if I  
attempted to put any part  
of our work in the hands of a

**f67/8.8**

Sisterhood without your  
present form & without  
your personal guarantee.

Take again the case of accepting work on the terms you wish-

As far as I can be supposed to

know any one who has been  
so good as to live under me  
for nearly 2 years, almost  
in the same room, & with  
whom I am in constant  
communication, (the Revd Mother

of Bermondsey, Mrs. Moore,

R.C.,) I could absolutely

guarantee the propriety of

committing to her any part

of the Fund i.e. that

whatever she undertook she

could & would faithfully & honestly

perform. [Of course this is

quite out of the question. I

could not possibly offer a

R.C. to my Council.] Yet this is the

way you wish your Council to take you.

But, when she goes - (SHE is a

Saint-) I should feel the same

**f67/8.8v**

absolute positive certainty

that her successor could not be

trusted as that *she* could -

I only mention this, because I feel

so strongly that personal

guarantees are nothing - that

Sisterhoods depending on the

life of one person are nothing

- & that when you once leave

the firm path, tho' a very

stony one, with all its rubs

& inconveniences, of a religious

community on a secular basis,

you know not into what

quags & thickets & marshy land

it will ultimately land the

Community, even if it does

not bring it to an end -

as with your life may possibly

be the case.

**f67/8.9**

[5]

And now dearest I have let a day or two pass over, because I am only able to write at intervals. But there is no interval in the ceaseless anxiety with which I think of & pray for your future - It is worse than death.

I am sure you will believe me when I say that I have tried to lay the case before you - not from the side of your Council but from the side of my own life's experience - just as I have tried to lay the case before Mr. Bowman, not from your side but from the side of life's experience of all countries.

I should be a very unfair & unfaithful friend, if I did not.

**f67/8.9v**

No word of this is suggested by Mr. Bowman or by any thing I have heard from or about either Council or Bishop. [I have always told you quite frankly: - *this* is what I understand your Council or Bishop says - *this* is what I suppose your Council or Bishop would say.] Believe me now when I say that *this* is written entirely from myself - tho' after giving every moment of consideration night & day, which I could command, - consideration before God - to the points raised by yourself & by him Mr. Bowman & by the Council generally & Bishop.

Still, you know you said

**f67/8.10**

yourself that "no one could understand the real points of difference between yourself & Council."

That is just what I feel - I do not understand them. I do not at this moment know the real reasons why you resign. I don't understand your grievances against the Council - nor theirs against you.

And as, on a point which I do not exaggerate if I call it one of vital importance to the Ch. of Eng. that is, to know whether your Sisterhood, the only one on a sound basis, can stand or not - it is surely worth while that there should be at least a clear understanding what the points or points of difference are.

**f67/8.10v**

I therefore venture to suggest that there is one thing yet to be done - And that is, that you & the Council should each set down in a series of distinct propositions all the grievances you have against each other.

It surely is worth while [It would not take long to do what must be so very distinct in your mind.]

It would then be possible (what is not now possible) to see whether, by each side giving up any point which they do not consider essential - by rubbing a little off one angle & a little off another angle, the wheels could not

**f67/8.11**

[6]

be made to move again -

And the whole machine  
which has done *so much*  
good be made to go on  
even better than it ever  
has done.

{pencil: } Believe me, this not advice - [see]  
which I would not tender if I  
could - & which you would not  
take if I did.

It is simply trying to lay the  
case before your own firm &  
clear mind - perhaps the  
firmest & clearest mind I know  
- & certainly the greatest courage  
I know - either in men or women.

God for ever bless you -  
ever yours

F Nightingale

{archivist's note: II 25

67/9 F.N. to [Mary Jones]	9 Dec 1867
68/1 " " "	25 Jan 1868
68/2 " " "	5 Feb 1868}

Letter, ff67/9.1-67/9.2, pen **[8:189-90]**

**f67/9.1**

Dec 9/67

{printed:} 35 South Street  
Park Lane,  
London, W.

Dearest friend [Mary Jones]

To my great surprise,  
(and after I had quite &  
completely done my letter to you)  
Mr. Bowman called & asked  
to see me

Nothing but the feeling  
that perhaps it might be  
ordered by God made me  
admit him. [For I had  
had 3 business interviews.  
I was racked with cough  
& pain & congestion & fever  
=ishness]

The result of our  
interview was this - (and I  
am sure you would not

**f67/9.1v**

think that I had spared  
him if you knew  
what I have said  
& written to him -)

that, if you only would  
ask whether any suggestions  
of yours to modify the  
position of the Sisterhood  
in St. John's House  
would be entertained  
and fairly considered,  
terms, satisfactory to both  
sides, - that is, as satisfactory  
as anything can be in  
this world - might be  
arrived at -

Your suggestions would  
be received with the

**f67/9.2**

greatest respect -

[You *must* know how  
extremely anxious they  
are to retain the Sisterhood.]

I think, do you know?  
that they have swallowed  
a good deal of humble pie  
- not that I have the  
least objection to their  
swallowing a great deal  
more - still I think you  
have given them a good  
dose - and it has done  
them good.

I am writing before day=  
light in the morning  
& can only add, I am sure  
that, if you have any real wish

**f67/9.2v**

to continue with your Council,  
it would be possible now  
to make such terms as  
would constitute you an  
"independent Sisterhood,  
employed under an  
Agreement."

And you know that I have  
never taken the part of your  
Council - never advised  
& never would advise you to accept any  
interference on their part  
except in financial matters  
& what this involves - [in pencil]

God bless you

ever yours

F Nightingale

Letter, ff68/1.1-68/1.2, pen

[13:601-02]

**f68/1.1**

Jan 25/68

{printed:} 35 South Street,  
Park Lane,  
London, W.

Dearest friend,

I cannot help writing one  
line in answer to your kind  
little note

The whole matter, in all  
its relations, & hearings, of your  
severance from St. John's &  
K.C.H. is so excessively  
painful to my mind that  
I will not say another word  
about it. We can't forget  
but we may be silent.

I would say, then, first,  
in answer to your note, that  
I think the first necessity  
for you is absolute rest. I  
think if I may say so, it is  
your first duty for the moment.

**f68/1.1v**

And next: a little country  
 air, and this  
 will be taken with  
 more rest for you, in which  
 I am sure the Sisters will  
 agree with me, if you go with  
 only one Sister, or even  
 quite alone, if this is  
 possible.

I could manage this, if  
 you would allow me, either  
 at Embley where my mother  
 will soon be quite alone -  
 or at Combe, near Wimbledon,  
 where my Uncle & Aunt &  
 their daughter, Mr. Clough's  
 widow, live, but will, I  
 believe, soon be absent.  
 I know you are in no want  
 of places to go to. But  
 Lea Hurst will be vacant  
 in March. The quieter you

**f68/1.2**

are, I am sure, the better.

Next: - I entirely agree with  
 you that the first calls are in to  
 London for duty. Later,  
 you could always detach  
 Sisters to the country, as  
 you did to Paris, if there  
 is an obvious opening.

Also: although I regret  
 more than anything I can  
 tell you your having given  
 up two London Hospitals,  
 & altho' I trust you will  
 always have London Hospital  
 work, yet it is undeniable  
 that the crying necessities  
 of London Workhouses are  
 far beyond those of London  
 Hospitals - the cry for aid  
 from the sick poor in  
 Workhouses far more urgent.

[I have sometimes wished  
 that I could shew you Miss

**f68/1.2v**

Agnes Jones' letters from Liverpool Workhouse (said to be the best managed in the kingdom) - they reminded me of nothing but what I have myself seen in War=Hospitals].

But - I will not dwell upon these matters now. You say truly that *what* you will accept must require the most intense consideration. And when the time comes, I hope you know that, if I could be of the least use in considering Rules & Conditions & Contracts with you, or with the Poor Law Board, or in any way, I shall always find time & strength for THAT.

God bless you again & again  
ever yours

[end]

F. Nightingale

Letter, ff68/2.1-68/2.4, pen

**f68/2.1**

*Private* Feb 5/68  
{printed:} 35 South Street,  
Park Lane,  
London, W.

Dearest friend

I only write one line now  
(more of enquiry after you  
& Sister Frances than  
anything else.)

In reply to what you  
say:-  
how could you "learn"  
"about our London Workhouse  
"Infirmary System"-?  
there *is no* "System"-  
St. Pancras' visiting would  
tell you no more about

[13:602-03]

**f68/2.1v**

Poplar Workhouse Infirmary or vice versa, than a visit to Kamschatka would tell you about Dublin.

2. all that you could learn would be as well done by using your own name in a visit to any Workhouse with the Matron as any other way.

M. Husson, whom you know, of Paris,

**f68/2.2**

came twice to London to visit the Workhouses. Mr. Villiers was then in office, with whom it was said, I could do anything. At my request he saw M. Husson himself - & at my request sent Mr. Farnall about with M. Husson himself - This was the only way of obtaining admittance for M. Husson. And even so, M. Husson was refused at one Workhouse.

Now - Mr. Villiers is out - Mr. Farnall is exiled.

**f68/2.2v**

And Lord Devon, at  
this crisis in Poor Law  
affairs, spends his  
winter at Nice &  
Rome & is not yet  
returned!!!

3. But it is absolutely  
certain, that something  
will be done about  
the Metropolitan  
Workhouse Sick this  
year - & possibly some  
amalgamated Workhouse  
Infirmaries be formed.

How I hope that you  
may have a hand in it.

**f68/2.3**

I do not conceive, that  
there is any way of  
*preparing* oneself for  
Workhouse Nursing -  
~~anything~~ way but bodily  
walking in to a  
Workhouse with a  
Nursing Staff, as Miss  
Agnes Jones did at  
Liverpool, & taking  
possession of the  
sick. She has now  
1350 sick. But oh  
if I could tell you what  
her life has been - how  
terrible the trial -

**f68/2.3v****[8:201]**

Dearest friend - perhaps  
you know that the K.C.H.  
people are worrying us  
~~without~~ about the  
Lying=in Ward.

Could you without the  
least trouble lay your  
hand on a letter which  
I wrote to you in June  
containing the  
comparative Statistics  
of Death=Rate I had  
collected (in consequence  
of your information)

**f68/2.4**

about Lying=in Wards  
in Workhouses, Hospitals  
&c. in London & Paris?

But do not, I beg  
of you, give yourself  
the least trouble about  
finding this letter,  
(I took no copy of it.)  
I had rather never  
hear from you again  
than give you trouble -  
I can reproduce it.

The K.C.H. people  
have missed the point.  
Could you conceive all

**f68/2.2v**

the wards in K.C.H.  
filled with Lying=in  
Women, probably not  
one out of two would  
come out alive!

May God bless you  
ever yours

F. Nightingale

**[end 8:201]**

I send you the last of the  
game - possibly Sister  
Frances may fancy it.

1 partridge

1 rabbit

{envelope: Miss Jones 5.2.68.

Supt.

5 Mecklenburg St.}

*To enquire*

*a verbal message*

{archivist's note: III 1

68/3 F.N. to [Mary Jones] 20 Feb. [1868]

68/4 " " " 6 Mar. 1868

68/5 F.N. to Francis Hicks, Esq. 19 Mar. 1868

68/6 F.N. to Dr. Pattison Walker, 3 Apr. 1868}

Letter, f68/3.1, pen

**[13:603]**

**f68/3.1**

35 S. St.

Feb 20

Dearest friend

Agnes Jones of the  
Liverpool Workhouse, is  
dead. Her life was  
trembling in the balance  
till yesterday. But still  
we hoped. Yesterday  
she died.

With *her*, it is well.  
But for us it is terrible.  
Please return thanks for  
*her* - as you have prayed for  
her.

You can't think how  
much good your letter of  
divine sympathy for her  
did me.

All the Head Nurses

**f68/3.1v**

have behaved nobly.

Pray for us -

You were so kind as to ask  
whether you "could do anything."

We are in the hands of  
the Vestry.

Of course a good many  
arrangements fall upon me.

It is something like,  
saving from a wreck.

But - it is God's work.  
I will let you know what  
befalls.

I should be so very glad  
to hear that Sister Francis  
was better - & that you  
were pretty well, & that  
*you were going into the  
country to rest.*

Letter, ff68/4.1, pen

**f68/4.1**

35 South Street, W.

March 6/68

Dearest friend

I feel so very anxious  
to hear of you - and also  
of Sister Frances (who,  
I hear, was prayed for  
at St. Albans) that I  
cannot help writing to  
ask, tho' I have literally  
not two minutes.

I wish I had anything  
cheering to tell you.  
But indeed I sometimes  
feel that we might  
say with St. Paul:

**f68/4.1v**

All they (which are of Asia)  
 are turned against us -  
 No man stood by us -  
 All men forsook us -  
 But God is with us -  
 God bless you  
 ever yours  
 F. Nightingale

Letter, ff68/5.1-68/5.2, pen

**f68/5.1**

March 19/68  
 {printed:} 35 South Street,  
 Park Lane,  
 London, W.

My dear Sir

I am exceedingly glad  
 to hear that the Queen  
 has consented to lay  
 your "first Stone."

I congratulate you  
 with all my heart. It  
 will be a source of  
 satisfaction to all sides.  
 And it certainly is a  
 most legitimate occasion  
 for the Queen to show  
 the interest which, we  
 know, she really feels  
 in your new Hospital.

I am extremely obliged  
 Fras= Hicks Eq  
 &c &c

**f68/5.1v**

to you for your kindness  
in thinking of me on  
the occasion - and in  
inviting me to be present-  
I am afraid it will be  
quite impossible for  
me. I am still a  
prisoner to the room  
where I had the  
pleasure of seeing you  
and I had not been  
out of it for 13 months  
up to last Christmas.

I look forward with the  
greatest interest to the

**f68/5.2**

progress of your great  
work - the new Hospital.

Pray believe me

my dear Sir

ever your faithful servt=

Florence Nightingale

{envelope: Francis Hicks, Esq &c &c  
13 St. Thomas' St  
S.E.}

Letter, ff68/6.1-68/6.2, pen **f68/6.1**

Rec'd 7-5-68 35 South Street  
Park Lane  
London W.  
April 3/68

My dear Sir,

It is long, very long [10:44]  
since I heard from you -  
And I was almost afraid  
that your health was worse.  
But I received some few  
mails ago a tin cylinder  
which could not have  
come but from you, I  
think, - & which gave me  
a very great deal of  
pleasure, - containing a  
wonderful photograph of  
the Ganges Canal, with  
that exquisite bridge, of  
which the construction with  
J. Pattison Walker Eq MD

**f68/6.1v**

its 3 beautiful arches is  
worthy of the Ponte della  
Trinita' at Florence - & its  
two magnificent lions. It is  
a most characteristic picture  
- and the executing of such  
a work with such very  
grand architectural art is  
worthy of India. [end 10:44]

I was much interested too  
in the Foundry List of  
Tools - &c - in the 1866 papers  
of Examination of the Thomason  
College, & its Report; - (which  
you were so kind as to send  
with the photograph). They  
are one of the most important  
works of the age. the {illeg.Roorkee?} works

I delayed thanking you,  
hoping to receive a letter

**f68/6.2**

from you. But, as none such has come - & as one feels a little uneasy about the health of one's friends in India when one does not hear from them, I will not delay any longer.

You know that I have still some Commission "Proceedings" of yours, which I ought to return to you.

I will not enter now upon the immense subject of how Indian Sanitary subjects are progressing (or *not* progressing) at our end, till I hear from you.

[10:44-45]

In December I had the pleasure of seeing Dr. Norman Chevers, for a few minutes, just before he started for Calcutta, tho' I was obliged to receive him on my couch.

**f68/6.2v**

He gave me some news of you. I have always regretted so very much that your health prevented your remaining at Calcutta. It seems to me that to give the native professional young men some idea of Sanitary Science, as you were so ably doing - & & which it appears they are not at all slow to take in is the only way really to civilize India in physical things.

[end 10:45]

Pray remember me most kindly to Mrs. Walker.

I have had a very bad winter as to over-work & ill health - & do not find myself able to do the work I used. Believe me ever sincerely & gratefully yours  
Florence Nightingale

[archivist's note: III 2

68/7 F.N. to [J.J. Frederick, Esq.] 4 Apr. 1868  
 68/8 " " J.J. Frederick, Esq. 6 Apr. 1868  
 68/9 " " " 9 May, 1868  
 68/10 F.N. to Dr. Pattison Walker 10 Aug. 1868}

Letter, ff68/7.1-68/7.2, pen Newspaper clipping re hospital nursing attached

**f68/7.1**

April 4/68 [13:47-48]  
 {printed:} 35 South Street,  
 Park Lane,  
 London, W.

My dear Sir,

About your poor Candidate  
 for the Incurables: -

if I voted for any one, it  
 certainly would be for yours.

But I have been forced  
 to make it a rule, in  
 subscribing to any Institution,  
 to subscribe anonymously  
 & *not* to have a vote.

If I did not do this, my  
 whole time would be taken  
 up with applications.

The Incurables' Committee  
 I desired to take my name  
 off. And they positively  
 refused to do so.

What can I do?

**f68/7.1v**

I think, however, that Voting  
 Papers are not now sent  
 me.

I am in such straits to  
 find Probationers to train  
 for the numerous situations  
 of Hospital & Workhouse  
 Head Nurses & Matrons  
 that are offered us.

Since the death of my  
 dear friend & pupil,  
 Agnes Jones, Lady Supt.  
 of the Liverpool Workhouse  
 Nursing, my time is  
 quite taken up with this  
 search.

**f68/7.2**

And we have applications  
 from India & the Colonies.  
 [We have lately supplied New  
 South Wales] for Matrons & Head  
 Nurses - highly paid situations.  
 If you could help us, I  
 would venture to send you  
 our Regulations for training.

For gentlewomen as well as  
 for a lower class of women,  
 we give the training free  
 of expense, IF they cannot  
 pay, & even give them a  
 moderate salary during the  
 year of training -  
 in haste

ever yours sincerely  
 with many thanks for all  
 you have done for me  
 Florence Nightingale

**[end 13:48]**

Letter, ff68/8.1-68/8.2, pen

**f68/8.1**

April 6/68  
 {printed:} 35 South Street  
 Park Lane,  
 London, W.

My dear Sir,

It is very good of you  
 to interest yourself in finding  
 for us Candidates to train  
 as Nurses for Hospitals  
 & Workhouses - & as Matrons.

In compliance with  
 your kind request, I send  
 you two copies of the Rules  
 for Nurses while training -  
 also two copies of the Rules  
 for gentlewomen offering  
 themselves as candidates  
 ("special Probationers") for  
 Matronships.

And may I add to these  
 last that the Committee are

**f68/8.1v**

enabled at the present time  
to admit a few gentlewomen  
*free of expense* - that  
we have applications  
from Institutions in want  
of Superintendents or  
Matrons - for Hospitals  
in India, for provincial  
Hospitals in England, &  
for a large Workhouse  
Infirmary - And, should  
any such Probationer  
after a month's or  
somewhat longer trial  
afford satisfactory evidence

**f68/8.2**

of prospective fitness for  
such appointments, the  
Committee would be  
prepared to allow her  
a moderate salary  
during the year of  
training.

Pray believe me

ever yours faithfully

Florence Nightingale

J.J. Frederick Esq

Letter, ff68/9.1-68/9.2, pen

**f68/9.1**

May 9/68

*J.J. Frederick Esq.* 35 South Street, {printed:}  
Park Lane,  
London, W.

My dear Sir

I am extremely obliged  
to you for the trouble you  
are taking to get us our  
much-wanted Probationers.

I think that Mrs. Parry  
had better make an  
appointment to see  
Mrs. Wardroper  
Matron  
St. Thomas' Hospital  
Newington  
S.

And then, if nothing comes

**f68/9.1v**

of it, it need, as Mrs. Parry  
desires, go no farther,  
and nobody need know any  
thing about it

It must turn much on  
health & strength.

I will in the meantime  
apprize Mrs. Wardroper  
of the case, which I heartily  
hope will be successful on both  
sides

Mrs. Parry must not be  
disappointed if Mrs.  
Wardroper does not make

**f68/9.2**

an immediate appointment,  
 as this is a very busy  
 week on many accounts  
 at St. Thomas' Hospital.  
 But Mrs. Parry states  
 that she is not in a hurry.  
 I retain her note for the  
 present. Her address is  
 104 London Road,  
 in case you do not  
 remember it, & are so  
 good as to let me keep  
 her letter - in haste  
 ever yours sincerely  
 Florence Nightingale

Letter, ff68/10.1-68/10.4, pen [good letter, must use]

**f68/10.1**

Private 35 South Street  
 Recd. 11/9/68 Park Lane  
 London W.  
 August 10/68

My dear Sir

I cannot tell you (tho'  
 I should be very ungrateful  
 if I did not try) how much  
 pleased & touched by your  
 most kind, interesting &  
 entertaining letter of May 10  
 I felt.

[10:45-46]

In the first place, as  
 Napoleon said of the 'états  
 de situation' of his troops,  
 I read even now in my  
 old age all details of  
 Sanitary matters & even  
 "Memoranda" on accommodation  
 "required" with as much  
 eagerness as a girl reads  
 her first novel.

In the next place, we

**f68/10.1v**

had had some questions with  
very insufficient data referred  
to us at the India Office -  
And your details, especially on  
the Meteorology & temperature,  
day by day, of {illeg.Chukrata}, just  
filled up the Missing Link.  
The details of your "dinner=parties"  
also - don't laugh - were most  
important. When people  
can feed themselves well that is the  
best proof of our Military  
power to hold the country.  
There was no Crimean bungling  
here - And I shall always  
believe that we have a firm  
tenure there where we can  
give a dinner under difficulties.  
Add to this, your letter was as  
amusing to me as White  
of Selbourne - as touching  
as Sterne - And you are as  
zealous as Mr. Chadwick  
himself on Sanitary matters  
with a poetry & humour quite  
beyond Mr. Chadwick.

**f68/10.2**

And now, I am afraid I shall  
make but a very poor return  
for your most kind letter, I  
am so overworked, & so  
constantly ill - I feel now  
how much the enormous pressure  
of work, & often of disappointing,  
always of harassing work,  
for the last 18 months has  
told upon me - And when  
the Parliamentary Session  
was over, I 'disappeared' &  
would not give my address -  
[I told the War Office I was  
going to Ephesus, because  
I much preferred fighting  
with the wild beasts of  
Ephesus to fighting with the  
War Office wild beasts.]

I dwell gratefully upon the  
encouragement which your  
kindness gives me at a time  
I will not say of despondency  
but a solemn time to me  
(every life has its solemn times,  
if people would but mark them)

**f68/10.2v**

X For this week in August I saw,  
15 years ago, my first  
undertaking of the Matronship  
of a Public Institution -  
12 years ago, my return  
from the Crimea home,  
since which time I have  
not revisited this home,  
& have never had 10  
minutes' leisure -  
- 7 years ago, the death of  
the best friend & fellow=  
worker man or woman  
ever had, Sidney Herbert,  
the War=Minister, whose  
labours in the administration  
were the highest good as  
his too early death was the  
deepest loss the Army - I  
had almost said the country  
- ever had.  
5 years ago, we finished the  
Report of the R. India  
Sanitary Commission which  
has, praise be to God &

**f68/10.3**

X [2]

thanks to your labours & those  
of Sir John Lawrence & many  
others, borne good fruit  
both for natives & Europeans  
in India - altho' we  
must all of us feel, as  
people do whose idea is  
higher than human power  
of performance, that the  
work in India might  
have progressed more  
rapidly. [I will return to  
this.]

It is also 11 years this very  
day since I was taken ill  
with the illness from which  
I have never risen again.

You see how much I have  
to thank God for who has  
indeed led me by a way  
which I have not known.

At the same time He has  
seen fit to send me trouble  
& trials, like waters wh: one

**f68/10.3v**

X

could not cross, were one  
to look down into them.

I am almost the last survivor  
of my fellow workers in  
England, men, some of them  
but little older than I.

And this very year has even  
the death of the best &  
dearest of my pupils, my  
"Una", who was many years  
younger than I.

I enclose a little sketch of her  
which was published in  
"Good Words" for June, which  
may possibly give ten minutes'  
interest to you & Mrs. Walker  
who have given me so much.

**[end 10:46]**

Now my "Una" is gone, I cannot  
think how I could ever be  
unhappy, when she was  
doing God's work so  
gallantly at Liverpool  
Workhouse.

**f68/10.4**

X

Life, under this discipline,  
loses - shall I say? or gains -  
all its value. It becomes  
but as a part of eternity. And  
past & future would seem  
almost more a reality & a  
presence than the present -  
were it not for pressing duty.

I don't know that I ever  
wrote so much about my own  
things before - But your  
kindness encourages me -

But I must leave off now -  
For indeed I am driven by  
business.

I thank you again & again  
for all your kindness which

Believe me my dear Sir  
makes me truly & always  
your & Mrs. Walker's

faithful & grateful

Florence Nightingale

Dr. Pattison Walker

{archivist's note: III 3

68/11 F.N. to M. Mohl, 22 Sept. 1868.

68/12 F.N. to [Mary Jones]. 19 Oct. 1868.}

Letter, ff68/11.1-68/11.3v, pen

**f68/11.1**

Lea Hurst Sp 22/68 15  
 {printed:} ~~35 South Street,~~  
~~Park Lane,~~  
~~London, W.~~  
 7.30-a.m-

Dear M. Mohl

Many thanks for all  
 your notes - & for the  
 information about  
 Deutsch & Delecluse [?]

I am more proud of  
 being crowned "Empress  
 of all the Scavengers" by  
 your hand than  
 Napoleon I of his Coronation  
 by Pope Pius VII.

Ought I to have a medal  
 struck? -

I shall certainly come to

**f68/11.1v**

London within  
 this fortnight -  
 & I trust that you  
 will not prove  
 unmanageable & perverse  
 before then - I shall  
 certainly turn you into  
 No. 35. Sir B. Frere is  
 come back - And it is he  
 who advises me what to  
 do in this provoking India business.

[9:611-12]

The great point is: to get  
 a Sanitary administration,  
 including towns, villages,  
 Bazaars &c established  
 before the end of Sir John  
 Lawrence's reign. It is  
 not so difficult as  
 people think - For, as

**f68/11.2**

you know much better than  
I, the village organizations  
are there, ready to our  
hand. But of course  
it would not do for us  
at this end to advise  
a great sweeping uniform  
measure over that  
(small & compact)  
country we call India.

There is a great want  
of ability - somewhere.

The three Chief Presidency  
Sanitary Commissioners  
(whom we established)  
keep sending us home schemes  
& plans on paper. But  
they still ignore the real  
practical matter: viz.

**f68/11.2v**

who is to do the duties  
laid down - and  
who is to find the money -

Each is almost as great  
as the other on the subject  
of looking after other  
people - but neither  
the one nor the other have  
pointed out

who these other people are  
to be

what they are to do  
not

who is to pay for it.

To sweep India would  
be after all an easy matter  
if they had the least  
ability in dealing with  
these simple questions.

But, in "Sanitary" things,

**f68/11.3**

a "Masterly inaction"  
 does not do - on the  
 contrary, they require  
 the most energetic action  
 not to get worse.

These things don't settle  
 themselves - or, like  
 Talleyrand's letters,  
 answer themselves -

But - you are engaged in  
 less dirty subjects -

[end 9:612]

I am sure you would write &  
 tell us if you could come  
 down here - I am afraid  
 it is scarcely worth your  
 while to take so long a  
 journey from Saturday  
 till Monday -

When I have the pleasure  
 of seeing you,

**f68/11.3v**

[Here I was just going to  
 send a most grateful  
 message of acceptance to M.  
 de Tourgueneff for dear  
 Hilly's oil-sketch  
 when a fabulous official  
 mail came in &  
 interrupted me -

I assure you that all  
 experience confirms my  
 proposition - that the  
 greatest malefactor of  
 the human race, *after* the  
 man who invented writing  
 at all, was: - Sir Rowland  
 Hill.]

ever dear M. Mohl your  
 unfortunate Scavenger  
 but pining after you

FN

Letter, ff68/12.1- 68/12.2v, pen

**f68/12.1**

35 South Street, Oct 19/68  
 Park Lane, {printed address}  
 W.

Dearest very dearest friend

I felt the deepest pleasure  
 at seeing your dear hand  
 again. I had been very  
 uneasy at not hearing from  
 you & should have written  
 to one of the Sisters, but  
 that I saw your beautiful  
 clear handwriting ~~again~~ on  
 the re-direction of a letter  
 to me from Miss E. Anderson.

You say: - it is hard to  
 forgive & be silent. I  
 feel just as strongly as you  
 do - & just as strongly as  
 I did last miserable  
 Christmas - that it *is* hard  
 to forgive & be silent -

And this not the less

**f68/12.1v**

becaus

e, as you are aware,

I venture to differ from  
 you on some ecclesiastical  
 points. -

I am glad you have taken  
 parochial work. I do  
 not feel surprised at your  
 not feeling spirits or  
 health for 'Hospital work'  
 'at present'. But I hope  
 that will not last. And  
 I could very much have  
 wished that you had  
 taken a few months', or  
 even weeks', thorough  
 holiday - somewhere -  
 before this 'August' -  
 which I think would

**f68/12.2**

probably do more than  
 anything else to change  
 your feeling of body & mind  
 about `Hospital work.'

In Workhouse Infirmeries  
 especially, there is so  
 much to be done - so  
 few, (*none* like you,) to do  
 it.

I am well aware that *you*  
 will find `enough to do'  
 everywhere - whether in  
 Hospital or out of Hospital

I do not at all admit  
 your plea (except for  
 India) of "too old."

A real tried & experienced  
 spirit, that is, one who

**f68/12.2v**

is used to work, does  
 better work {in pencil:} for God between  
 50 & 70 than during  
 the whole of her previous  
 life

I write in haste - a mean  
 acknowledgement of the  
 pleasure seeing your hand  
 again has given me -  
 I am, as usual, so driven.

I had been away - but it was  
 too much for me - And  
 I have come back worse  
 than I went -

God for ever bless you  
 Pray for me - ever  
 yours

F. Nightingale

{archivist's note: III 4

68/13 F.N. to Wm. Rendle, Esq., 17 Nov. 1868  
 (enclosure "Una and the Lion.")

Letter, ff68/13.1-68/13.2, pen  
**f68/13.1**

35 South Street [printed] 17/11/68      **[13:48]**  
    Park Lane,  
    W.

Dear Sir

I have never thanked  
you for your kind note  
& its enclosure (a paper  
by yourself of June 29) -

I believe you know, as  
I do, what it is never  
to have 10 minutes' leisure.

I hope that you  
look forward, as I do,  
to the Election of  
1868, bringing still

**f68/13.1v**

more & still greater  
reforms in its wake,  
social reforms,  
administrative reforms,  
- especially in our line,  
the Sanitary state,  
the dwellings, the  
education of the poor,  
- than even its great  
predecessor of 1832  
has brought -

I venture to send you a  
little sketch of the best &  
dearest of my pupils, "Una",  
in "Good Words" for June -

**f68/13.2**

& a copy of the of the last Edition of  
my little "Notes on Nursing".

**[end]**

Pray, dear Sir,  
believe me ever  
Your most faithful servt.  
Florence Nightingale.  
W. Rendle Esq

{archivist's note: III 5

68/14 F.N. to [Wm. Rendle] 1 Dec. 1868

69/1 F.N. to J.J. Frederick, 14 Jan 1869

69/2 F.N. to WM. Rendle, 28 May 1869

69/3 F.N. to [Mary Jones], 12 Sept. 1869}

Letter, ff68/14.1-68/14.2, pen

**f68/14.1** {archivist's note: 1/12/1868 This is with reference  
to {illeg.Damils?}}

"Sunday School Teacher"

{printed:} 35 South Street,  
Park Lane,  
W.

Dear Sir

I return with many thanks  
the scrap you have been kind  
enough to send me -

The very beautiful little  
poem if I can see any way  
to do anything with I will  
let you know -

I trust that you will  
take some care not to  
overwork yourself again.  
We have none too many  
workers.

For me the caution comes  
too late - But an overworked

**f68/14.1v**

brain is not the best way  
of doing God's work in the  
world -

I would send you a photograph,  
if I had one, as you desire. But  
I have not. I never had  
one done, except once by  
command. I have a  
superstition, as far as  
myself am concerned, against  
'images made with hands' -  
& would rather leave no  
memorial of myself either  
of name or anything else -  
but only of God, whose

**f68/14.2**

unworthy servant I am -

But I only say this for  
myself. It may be a  
mere superstition.

Pray believe me

Yours most faithfully

Florence Nightingale

Dec 1/68

Letter, pen LMA H1/ST/NC1/69/1

[8:209-10]

**f69/1.1**

*Private*

35 South Street, Jan 14/69  
Park Lane, {printed:}  
W.

My dear Sir

First, let me thank you for so kindly sending me the tracing of the Colchester Heat plan - the answers to various questions concerning the working of that Lying= in Hospital and many other things.

All that you were kind enough to undertake arrived in time for the Crown Princess of Prussia - and she begged her sincere thanks to be J.J. Frederick Esq.

**f69/1.1v**

conveyed to all those who had so kindly contributed to forwarding her views. She has (very wisely) returned me some of the plans & papers - to be forwarded to her at Berlin when we have arrived at some= thing satisfactory in the way of a (single=bed ward) Lying=in Hospital plan for 36 wards (or beds) at which the War Office is now working - and of which we are to send

**f69/1.2**

her a copy.

I mention this only to  
shew you that your trouble  
has not been in vain.

Next= I have to thank you  
for the Motto for 1869  
which I have received.  
Have you any great distress  
in your district this  
winter?

Pray, dear Sir,  
believe me  
yours sincerely  
Florence Nightingale

Letter, ff69/2.1-69/2. pen

**f69/2.1**

*Private*

35 South Street, May 28/69  
Park Lane, {printed address}  
W

Dear Sir

It is not, I assure you,  
from want of interest  
that I have not answered  
sooner your too interesting  
letter of May 15 & its  
contents.

I have been thinking  
what is to be done. And  
I confess I do not at  
present see, tho' with  
sorrow of heart, that  
there is anything to be done  
- by me.

**f69/2.1v**

I am sure that you will agree with me that it is the same conditions reproducing the same state of disease which are the cause of these repetitions of cases of Fever.

The *locality* is to blame in the cases adduced.

[American statements are all in favour of Contagion - And it is quite certain

**f69/2.2**

that, if their supposed facts were logically acted on, Typhus would still take its course.]

In London, as your wide & well worked-out experience will tell you better than I, - who am merely a gatherer from the rich fields which you have sown, you & your peers, - Typhus & Cholera are simply *local tests* of bad Sanitary conditions -

I shall rejoice if, on any occasion, I can help to bring your

**f69/2.2v**

experience more prominently forward.

In the meanwhile  
pray believe me

My dear Sir  
ever your faithful servt.

Florence Nightingale

W. Rendle Esq  
&c &c

Letter, ff69/3.1-69/3.3, pen [where?]

**f69/3.1** {written horizontally along the folio}

Embley

Romsey Sept 12/69

Dearest, very dearest friend

I have been unable to write -

But, if I were to write as often as I think of you, I should be always writing -

I did not take those letters in the newspapers as referring to you -(I think I only saw one) -

But I hope indeed that you do know that, where there is enough for me, there will always be enough for you - & that I shall be "the first person" you will come to -

"Poverty" indeed is a sacred thing - & very dear to me I wish I had not to live as I do now. I could not die so,

**f69/3.1v**

but I have long since made a *written* stipulation with a dear friend of mine that, *when I am past work*, she will take me & "ward" me in St. Thomas' Hospital. You must not however breathe a word of this, please - God knows what the end will be - *He will provide.*

I must be back in London for business before Michaelmas -

I came here to be with my dear mother during my father's absence - & hardly know how to leave her - he not being returned.

I am not better - I am worse -(as you are so good as to ask - ) having such a multitude of details referred to me -

Do you remember some time ago asking me whether Miss Sellon was gone to Calcutta? - I wrote to India & asked, without result. Quite lately, I have had a beautiful note from her - written from "Foreign Mission House"-I. of Wight-where she says she has been *for a year*-but was just going elsewhere (in England) she speaks

**f69/3.2**

of her health as hopeless. She mentions no India mission.

God bless you - so many thanks for your two  
 dear notes - yours in true love & honour  
 in life & death  
 F Nightingale

{archivist's note: III 6

70/1 F.N. to J.J. Frederick 3 Jan. 1870

70/2 " " " 29 Jan. 1870}

Letter, pencil LMA H1/ST/NC1/70/1

[13:613-14]

**f70/1.1**

35 South Street, Jan 3/70  
 Park Lane, {printed}  
 W.

My dear Sir

Could you kindly help me,  
 by means of your extensive  
 connection with members  
 of Benevolent Committees,  
 in the following search: -  
 - - - you know perhaps that  
 we have undertaken to nurse  
 the new Workhouse Infirmary  
 at Highgate.

Miss Torrance, a lady who  
 has been in training with us  
 for 1 1/2 years & who seems to  
 promise to be a second Agnes  
 Jones ("Una"), has already been  
 J.J. Frederick Eq

**£70/1.1v**

in the building preparing it  
for Patients for a fortnight  
as Matron -  
To-morrow she takes in her  
kitchen people -  
On Thursday our 9 Trained Head  
Nurses - & 170 Patients this week,  
we hope -  
She was allowed by the  
Guardians to choose the  
under servants, which is  
very important.  
But we have not as yet been  
able to make up her number.  
Of course we have plenty of  
applications - too many - but  
not of the right sort.

**£70/1.2**

We do not want to take  
women who "would never  
be anything much better  
than Scrubbers" - Miss Torrance  
herself has both capacity  
& experience for training  
young women - and we  
would gladly help her to  
good material -  
We still want: -  
3 Ward Assistants  
1 Kitchen "  
1 Laundry "  
wages from £13 to £15 -  
- every thing "found" -  
- lodge in the Infirmary -

**f70/1.2v**

The Ward Assistants may expect to rise to be Nurses -

I do not think it would do, at least at first, to send her very young girls or quite raw girls - And they must be, of course, of *unimpeached* character -

As Miss Torrance says: - she would like to "make something of them" -

Could you kindly help us? Allow me to thank you for your New Year's ticket - May I, during the present year, rise to possess the priceless treasure contained in its words. And with best New Year's greetings believe me, yours sincerely  
Florence Nightingale

Letter, f70/2.1, pencil

[13:614]

**f70/2.1**

35 South Street, Jan 29/70  
Park Lane, {printed: address}  
W.

My dear Sir

Miss Torrance *has* one ~~more~~ vacancy of Ward Assistant to fill - still -

I have sent her your kind note -

But, if you do not hear again from me, will you kindly send the young woman you speak of to Highgate for Miss Torrance to see?

Miss Torrance  
Highgate Infirmary  
Upper Holloway  
N

**f70/2.1v**

There is no danger of Miss

Torrance being out.

Should she fix an hour, I  
will, if you please, send you  
word - however

I think I had better say that

I will pay the young woman's  
Omnibus fare -

**[end]**

in great haste

ever yours sincerely

Florence Nightingale

J.J. Frederick Eq.

{archivist's note: III 7

70/3 F.N. to Miss Mary Jones 5 Feb. 1870}

{envelope: Miss Jones

Superior

27 Percy Circus

W.C.}

Letter, pen LMA H1/ST/NC1/70/3

**f70/3.1**

35 South Street, Feb 5/70 **[8:640-43]**

Park Lane, {printed address}

W.

Dear friend

I have been so ill all the  
winter, & have had such difficulty  
in fulfilling the most pressing &  
indispensable business, that I  
could not before answer your kind  
& welcome letter - But I think  
I am writing within "the month"  
that you gave me for the

Emigration & Training Ship questions: -

1. The "Chichester" Training Ship in  
the Thames was the one I spoke  
of. This has about 200 boys on  
board & trains for the Merchant  
Service & Royal Navy. Most  
of the boys on board are street  
"Arabs" who offered themselves of

**£70/3.1v**

their own accord. [Of course they cannot take any but those who have the physical power to become sailors.] I believe the Training Ship to be remarkably well managed.

This is the property of a private Society called "Refuges for Homeless & Destitute Children", of which the office is at

8 Great Queen Street  
Lincoln's Inn Fields

& the Secretary is

William Williams Esq.

They are very poor & are always asking for subscriptions - tho' I believe they are good economists -

**£70/3.2**

Each boy or girl costs them about £15 a year.

They have 4 other Refuges where they bring up both boys & girls, both in the country & London, to trades, farm labour, & service &c.

But you will see this is only a drop in the ocean. And even this is hindered, so far as apprenticing to trades is concerned, by the Trades' Unions.

2. My own belief is (& has long been) that ~~the~~ Emigration, & the Emigration of children, is the only thing which holds out the least hope of touching the distress of London & of the great towns & of diminishing pauperism. But - they must be educated in the Colonies to

**£70/3.2v**

which they are sent - & not at home. It is found that the mere removal to another moral atmosphere is as good for them as a good 10 years' Education here. The whole problem resolves itself into devising proper Homes, Industrial Homes & Training=Schools for them in the Colonies.

[Old & miserable creature as I am, I think that any amount of leisure, if I had it, I would devote to furthering this - But - I have it not -]

Some years ago, a Cabinet Minister told me in confidence, Melbourne (Victoria) offered to organize & support any number of Industrial Homes for children of both sexes, if the Government

**£70/3.3**

Private [2]  
{printed:} 35 South Street,  
Park Lane,  
W.

would send out children "before  
"they had become confirmed  
"in pauperized habits."

Of such children there are  
between 100 000 & 150 000  
("street Arabs") in London  
alone - ~~who~~, whatever their  
sins are, poor things, they  
are not sins of "pauperism" -  
since they *can't* be caught &  
housed.

But - the Government refused.  
[Within the last few days, I  
proposed some plan of this  
kind to the President of the  
Poor Law Board. But - I  
know not whether he will  
take it up -]

**£70/3.3v**

My own opinion is that it will be left to private hands to do.

Of these private hands the only one who has put her own hand to the plough is - Miss Rye.

She may not be an agreeable person. But she has done what no one else as yet has -

She has taken out 90, 100 *little* girls "out of the gutter" with her to Niagara in Canada, kept them there in a Home, then placed them out with Canadian poor families who *offered* to receive them,

**£70/3.4**

upon contracts containing all proper conditions (which I have seen) signed - & witnessed by the local authorities - with all proper supervision secured by the Ministers & Mayors of the place -

Miss Rye is not yet come back.

When she is, she will be the best authority for you to ask. But 30 000 children of each sex ought to be emigrated every year to make any impression on the distress of the country. The Pauper Union Schools here are now, many of them, as good as they can be. And - *they entirely fail in teaching their*

**£70/3.4v**

*pauper children to maintain themselves* in after life. For this, are to blame 1. the pauper atmosphere  
2. the Trades' Unions.

Music ("bandsmen" in the Army)  
is the only trade that succeeds.

Miss Rye says that she can get more families in Canada than she wants to take the children - & as much money in this country from private subscription as she wants to take them out.

But then - she is *only one*.  
And her success is mainly due  
1. to her taking them out herself.  
2. to the children not being ingrained paupers.

[The R.Catholic "Sisters" have entirely failed in their Irish

**£70/3.5**

[3]

{printed:} 35 South Street,  
Park Lane,  
W.

Workhouse girls at Quebec -}  
Of other Emigration agencies there are: -

- a. "Clerkenwell Emigration Club"  
Revd. A Styleman Herring  
45 Colebrooke Row  
City Road N.

Part of his work is to send out a few little orphan girls to Brantford in W. Canada.

A penny Tract of his: "Emigration for poor Folks" [J.W. Partridge  
9 Paternoster Row]

is good.

- b. "National Emigration League"  
120 Salisbury Square  
Fleet Street E.C.

**£70/3.5v**

A Tract, called "State Emigration"  
by Edward Jenkins  
[Stanford 6 Charing Cross]  
issued by the "League"  
is worth reading.  
Their object is rather to help  
the unemployed workmen  
to emigrate - & to press  
the matter on the Government.

c. the British & Colonial Emig:  
Society" (15 Cockspur Street  
Charing Cross)

Their object is to assist the  
unemployed to emigrate -  
& to grant money (when they  
have it) to Emigration Clubs.

**£70/3.6**

There are many more of  
these "Societies" & "Emigration  
Clubs for Workmen".  
All are extremely in want  
of funds.

With all honour to these  
noble unemployed workmen,  
who will pinch & save to  
help themselves out, &  
afterwards their families,  
to the Colonies - & whom I  
have always helped where  
I could - I do not conceive  
that to help these is the  
main want of our country.  
These are the men who would  
do well anywhere. If Emigration  
is only practicable in this way,  
you may almost say that it is

**£70/3.6v**

only practicable as far as it is unnecessary.

It is the children who *can't* help themselves - the young girls, not yet vicious, who can't go abroad *virtuously* without Chaperons - the hundreds of thousands of young recruits ever waiting to swell the tide of pauperism & vice - the ever increasing ~~bide~~ tide- who ~~would~~ might be happy & industrious & virtuous & good in a new country - who are almost predestined to sin & misery in the old - it is these who want our help. But then - they want: industrial training, as distinguished from reading & writing, (tho' not without reading & writing -) to

**£70/3.7**

Private [4]  
 {printed:} 35 South Street,  
 Park Lane,  
 W.  
 make them do well in the Colonies.

To all the above-named Societies I have been a contributor according to my means. But I have never recommended to any either children or emigrants, knowing how many of these poor things went to them of their own accords & how short ~~of~~ were funds to help *these* But if, dear friend, you should have a particular applicant for any of these, I hope that you would let me contribute for you as far as I could.

**£70/3.7v**

You sympathize with the work of  
 God as far as it can be done  
 by whomsoever it is done. And  
 I am sure that you will be glad  
 to hear that it has pleased Him  
 to prosper my little appeal  
 (of "Una") to the memory of my  
 dear, dear, Agnes Jones of  
 Liverpool, in bringing us a  
 far higher class of candidates for nurses -  
 We have occupied both Netley  
 Military Hospital & the new  
 (St. Pancras') Workhouse Infirmary  
 very satisfactorily with our  
 Trained Matrons & Nurses.  
 (tho' I never praise any body till  
 they have been at least 50 years  
 in charge.)

**£70/3.8**

The Matron of the latter, especially,  
 a Miss Torrance (a lady) - I thank  
 God for her every day of my life.  
 She is, I think, worthy to be  
 named in the Book of Life  
 with her who has been taken  
 2 years this month. [I cannot  
 think of her even now without tears,  
 which I have no time to shed.]  
 But it is an anxious business, as you know - Workhouse  
 business - for the sick  
 I have heard several times lately  
 (for a wonder) from Miss Sellon.  
 She is at Manchester!! organizing  
 something there - but no better.  
 Alas! -  
 I must stop.  
 God bless you, dear friend.  
 Pray for me. But I know you  
 do - ever yours  
 F. Nightingale  
 Miss Rye's address is always to be had,  
 I believe, from a Mrs. Fynes Webber, (who  
 has been a "weariness of the flesh" to me)

{archivist's note: III 8

70/4 F.N. to M. Mohl 1-18 April, 1870

70/5 F.N. to "Dearest friend" 18 June, 1870  
(Mary Jones)

Letter, ff70/4.1-70/4.2, pen

**f70/4.1**

35 South Street, April 1 -! 18/70

Park Lane, {printed address}

W.

Dear M. Mohl,

You don't know what a happiness  
& comfort your letter was to me, because  
you don't know what a fright I was  
in, having heard accidentally of  
your illness - But I dare say you  
are tired of hearing of that.

I don't think I have written  
since I have become the ~~dog~~ dog and  
intimate of Sir Robert Napier (Lord  
Napier of Magdala) who is just gone  
out to my great joy as Commander in  
Chief to India. Ah there *is* a man,  
a statesman with more practical  
ability in his little finger than all  
our Ministers have in all their heads.  
What overgrown schoolboys do Messrs.  
Gladstone, Cardwell, Goschen, Lowe &  
Argyle (Duke) appear compared with

**[10:115-16]**

{written in left margin: Too much to do, they say, bars  
progress as much as too little to do. That is my case.}  
{written vertically at top of folio: I don't feel my work  
advance. Yet I feel more & more how much it takes out of me.  
Excuse a worthless scrap of confusion from a woman overwhelmed  
with business & illness = who must send this or nothing *in her*  
*Necessity*}

**f70/4.1v**

such men as Sir John Lawrence, Sir Robert Napier & even Sir Bartle Frere. What they think they say, what they say they do - And all three the thinking, the saying, the doing is the ever increasing result of 30-40 years' well used experience - & not the momentary battledore & shuttlecock work of party. [As for Mr. Gladstone's 2 Irish Bills (the Coercion & the Land) they are each just an apple of legal discord thrown down to that unfortunate Eris. No one will reap any benefit from them but the Attorneys. And perhaps, I don't know Mr. Gladstone wished to conciliate the Attorneys.] (Mr. Maine says that the Sikhs are as litigious a people as the Irish - & that the whole Punjab would have been converted into nothing but one vast litigation by *their* Land Act, if the Attorney's fee had not been fixed at half a rupee. Is that true?)

**£70/4.2**

But to return.

Sir R. Napier & I were like a brace of lovers on our Indian objects or rather passions & even our rages (which - concern - this between ourselves - the things, or many of them, that Lord Mayo has been doing lately - about Finance & Stopping Public Works &c &c &c - Lord Mayo is most anxious & disinterested or, it may be, ambitious. He is always consulting us. He sent a man home (the Sanitary Commissioner with the Govt. of India) on purpose to consult us just now. He writes & writes - and we write & write - and our letters are masterly. And nothing is done. That is, the work always sticks somewhere, generally at some Clerk quite low down. But now Sir R. Napier is gone out, we shall see something done.

It is quite extraordinary, his practical knowledge of & love for the native races. And he knows them in Scinde, Punjab, Bengal, Bombay, Guzerat, N.W. Provinces &c &c - Anglo=Indians all talk of (& to) the native races as we do to children, servants & poor people, with a sort of affected tone of condescension - Not so Sir R. Napier or Sir B. Frere

**f70/4.2v**

When Sir R. Napier & I fell into  
our mutual rages (at Indian doings)  
I felt= `there's sympathy' - `there's more  
sympathy' - (don't you remember Sir  
John Falstaff's letter to Mrs. Ford -  
they both like "sack" - "there's sympathy.")

He actually spent his last morning  
in England with me, starting from  
this house. And I sent away the  
C. in C. to India without anything to  
eat! He said he had too much to  
talk about to waste his time in eating  
I wish I could tell you a little of  
what he said - some day - {pencil:perhaps -}

There is a man in London now, a Hinoo  
Kechub Chunder Sen, the leader of the  
Brahmo=Somaj, a great writer & preacher  
about whom I dare say you know a  
great deal more than I do - Sir B. Frere  
says he is a real true man in earnest. But  
he is made a lion of -

I forgot to say that your Queen of Holland  
came to see me - I liked her even better than usual,  
But - she asked me for my book again. [Sir Harry  
Verney took K.C. Sen, the Hindoo, to see her.]

Now I hope you are near the end of Schah=  
Nameh. *Please tell me.* ever yours F. Nightingale **[end 10:116]**

Letter, ff70/5.1-70/5 pencil

[8:228]

**f70/5.1**

June 18/70

*Lying-in Hospital plan*

Dearest friend

Here I am again - but this time it is only to ask you two or three specific questions before the plan is finally settled.

1. You see a slight modification has been made in the position of the scullery attached to the Delivery ward -  
Do you think this signifies? -
2. The positions of the fire-places in the Pupil Nurses' rooms have been altered from the outside to the inside walls as giving a better position for the bed.
3. Into the Corridor walls recesses a 'a' have been introduced in which either the Galton ventilating grate or Nettleton's open stove could be placed.

**f70/5.1v**

Would you kindly consider these arrangements & also the following points: -

- 1.) Segregation ward *not* to be connected with Main Corridors - ? -
- 2.) Linen Store 21'0" x 9'6" -  
a linen rack 2'6" wide in the centre formed of open batten shelves about 2' apart & carried up to within 6" of the ceiling - at one end a bedding rack of similar construction, a length of 8' of which would store 12 mattresses and the remaining 18" might be made into a bolster rack for 12 bolsters  
Will this suffice? -
- 3.) I confess that there is a certain look of closeness about the two-storied court with buildings projecting into it.  
What do you think? -

**f70/5.2**

[One must take into consideration however that one or more of these Wards (& always 2 Delivery Wards) will be vacant in rotation for cleansing. At Liverpool Workhouse (which has been so successful) they lime-wash every Lying-in Room 3 or 4 times a year - Possibly *this* would be best, viz to have each ward & ~~Delivery~~ vacated for 4 times 10 days every year - each *Delivery* Ward would be of course vacant half the year - in periods of ? days]

They ~~ask~~ (the Draughtsmen) ask us *not to fold* their plan. I accordingly send it between 2 sheets of card-board - & will send for it by 8 o'clock on *Tuesday morning*, with your kind

**f70/5.2v**

permission unless I hear from you to the contrary - But *pray* do not let me hurry you -

God bless you

yours ever & always

F Nightingale

{archivist's note: III 9

70/6 F.N. to Mrs. Cox, 7 Aug. 1870

70/7 F.N. to [Mrs. Cox?], [Aug. 1870]

LMA 1

422

Letter, pen LMA H1/ST/NC1/70/6  
**f70/6.1**

**[15:644-45]**

Aug 7/70

{it is 14 years to to day since

I came back from the Crimea

My dear Mrs. Cox

Many thanks for your  
two most interesting letters - You  
will have seen by this time  
that, if I was represented as  
acting only for the *Prussian*  
"wounded", that was a false  
accusation. I joined the Ladies'  
Association you saw in the "Times",  
with the express understanding  
that the funds raised were to  
be "common", i.e. impartially  
distributed where most wanted  
among both belligerents. (which  
they have been) for the relief  
of the Sick & Wounded - And I  
so joined because that Association  
was first in the field.

**f70/6.1v**

But now, as you will see,  
I have formally joined the Central  
Committee, (of which the Prince of  
Wales is President). And all  
our interest will be given to  
sick & wounded soldiers as such,  
irrespective of nationality.  
France & Prussia will receive our  
**funds** alike. On Thursday  
night the Committee sent off one  
of their Secretaries to place them  
in communication with the  
Convention at Geneva, to return  
to Paris & put them in communication  
with the Central French Committee  
there which sits *en permanence* - would that all this  
had been done 3 weeks ago! -  
This, as you know, is an authorized  
agency, in communication with

**f70/6.2**

every charitable agency at the  
Seat of War - supplies information  
as to what is most wanted - receives &  
distributes the grants, both in  
money & kind. It would be  
little use to the wounded if we were to send  
Hospital supplies to the Seat of  
War, if they were to be seized by  
the enemy. They must be  
neutralized, as the ambulances  
are neutralized. And we must  
all be placed under the "Red  
Cross".

As soon as the London Central  
Committee's arrangements are  
completed - they ought to have  
been so long ago - I will place  
your application before them -

Excuse a hurried note - Since  
my letter (most unwillingly) appeared  
I have been deluged, as you may  
suppose, with applications of all

**£70/6.3**

kinds, including Ladies volunteering  
to go out to nurse at the Seat  
of War Hospitals -  
O that I could go out myself  
to the Seat of War to work,  
instead of all this writing,  
writing, writing! -  
But that is an unresigned wish!-  
I am so overwhelmed with business  
that I must be brief. In 17 years  
I have had 2 weeks' holiday -  
excepting what God gave me in  
Typhus Fever in 1855. I was just  
going to take a third week -  
when this awful cloud of war  
which darkens the world came  
over us - And all that *can* be, how little,  
*must* be done for the sufferers  
by one already overladen with  
business & uncurable illness. How  
willingly would I die to save in any  
portion of this awful misery.  
My kindest regards to Col=Cox - ever  
yours most truly Florence Nightingale

**£70/7**

{archivist's note: Aug '70?} [2]  
3. I was aware, tho' not I  
dare say of all, of much that is saying  
against women nursing in  
War Hospitals -  
I am afraid that many  
women have given cause for  
this.  
I entirely concur & agree  
with all my soul & experience  
that I never once saw or heard a Patient  
in a Military Hospital do  
anything or say anything that  
the purest woman could be  
offended by.  
[It is very easy to discriminate  
*what* women ought & *what*  
women ought not to nurse  
in War Hospitals - easier than  
to put one's discrimination into  
force or action.] ever yours  
(in haste) Florence Nightingale

**[end 15:645]**

{archivist's note: III 10  
70/8 F.N. to W. Blake Atkinson, 7 Sept. 1870}

envelope addressed to W. Blake Atkinson Esq  
Stone Hall  
Wallingford

7/9/70

with printed notice Society for Aid to Sick & Wounded in War  
[FN note] with many thanks to *Mrs W. Blake Atkinson*

for his poetical "Plea" for the unfortunate sufferers  
[FN] Sept/70

Ladies' Committee [lists women beg with Duchess of Northumberland, ends  
Lady Marian Alford

Miss Florence Nightingale [FN crossed out the "Miss" and wrote in  
with 's thanks

then lists Articles Needed

{envelope included - see photocopy}

{archivist's note: III 11

70/9 F.N. to M. Mohl, 16 Sept. 1870

70/10 F.N. to J.J. Frederick,, 22 Sept. 1870}

Letter, ff70/9.1-70/9.2, pen [15:707]

**f70/9.1**

Lea Hurst

Matlock Sept 16/70

Dear M. Mohl

Will it be too much to ask  
you what passed with M.

Thiers. O God, that you

could persuade him to

listen to reason! But how

can our Ministers have regard

to such stuff as he talks? -

They *would* listen, they *would*

listen (& try to mediate) if

only you could make

Thiers speak sense to them

(& to his own Provisional

Govt. afterwards) as a

preliminary -

But this is not my only

**f70/9.1v**

reason for writing. [As if  
 I could do any good about  
 that!!] But I am so uneasy  
 about your {illeg.peritonite?} - Of  
 course you know best  
 what to do. *Please do it* -  
 - even if it is to go on a  
 régime - even if it is to go  
 to bed for a day or two  
 & be fomented, & eat slops.  
 My old Mrs. Legg, tho'  
 past her time, is a good  
 old nurse - & the little  
 cook a good little sick  
 cook - If I dared, I  
 would write to them to tell

**f70/9.2**

them what to do. But  
*do, you, please*, tell them  
 yourself. I *must* preach  
 to you, for I am quite  
 anxious, tho' I am afraid  
 of putting you into the  
 "irresponsibility of opposition".

Ah if we could have  
 peace, it would cure us  
 all! -

**[end]**

in great haste  
 but ever yours  
 dear M. Mohl  
 F.N.

Pray have in, some of those  
 rampageous `boys' - & go to bed.  
 & let them sit by to amuse you -

- just for a day or two - And feed them at 35.

Letter, pen LMA H1/ST/NC1/70/10

**f70/10.1**

**[15:710-11]**

Lea Hurst

Matlock Sept 22/70

7.a.m.

My dear Sir

We cannot thank you enough for all you have done for us nor Mr. Newman Hall for his admirable & deeply felt & deeply thought Sermon of which you have been so good as to send me a copy. [It was read aloud to our household on Sunday night, who were strongly impressed by it - & immediately followed by a collection. This whole neighbourhood is, as perhaps you know, quite a seat of

**f70/10.1v**

Wesley's - And it has worked  
 immensely hard for the Sick  
 & Wounded every body  
 working in common - children  
 giving their pence - mill=girls  
 their spare time - poor women  
 sewing shirts & trousers &  
 refusing payments - collections  
 made in the smallest Chapels  
 in the hills.]

Mr. Newman Hall's Sermon will,  
 I am sure, have a great effect.  
 It is the true doctrine, the heart  
 of the matter - & puts this  
 awful, unspeakable struggle  
 which grieves two great  
 nations & the world in the

**f70/10.2**

true light = The frivolity of  
 the newspapers in speaking of  
 France as if she were a child  
 to be whipped or a blackguard  
 to be flogged has been base -  
 Does not this theatrical Siege  
 of Paris rather recall the  
 words of Christ weeping over  
 Jerusalem? And must we not  
 suppose Him, in human figure  
 of speech, `weeping' far more  
 over that `great city', Paris?

Thank you for your sympathy  
 about the loss of the "Captain"  
 It has been indeed a bitter blow  
 to us. There was not a lad,  
 perhaps, of greater promise in

**f70/10.2v**

England than Reginald Herbert  
- Such an earnest feeling of  
'duty' - such simplicity - such  
silence, such nobleness -  
very like his ancestor, Sir  
Philip Sidney - very like his  
father in many things - he  
is safe, removed to God's  
heavenly service from His  
earthly service which, we may  
thankfully believe, the boy  
performed. But I had  
always thought he might  
in some measure have  
taken his father's place ~~to~~in  
the country.

His poor mother was lying  
dangerously ill at the time

**f70/10.3**

at Wilton - & could not be told  
till ten days after her loss -  
She bore it very well.  
The boy had just gone off his  
watch - Mr May (the gunner)  
said - 5 minutes more, & he  
might have been on deck &  
he might have been saved -  
"Father, Thy will, not ours, be done".

Two or three years ago, when he  
was only 13, he saved a man  
from drowning - He never  
said a word about it. The  
men talked about it afterwards  
- And he was asked why he  
had not mentioned it. He said,  
"it was only my duty".

I only mention this to show  
what manner of spirit he was of.

**f70/10.3v** {pencil:}

I have been trying all day for a moment to finish this note - in vain -

You will know from the newspapers how the money & stores people have so generously given - ~~no~~ are employed. We have very many private letters besides - We have sent off a Trained (German-speaking) Lady-Nurse with a mass of stores yesterday from St. Thomas' Hospl. to Homburg. **[end 15:711]**

I trust Mrs. Frederick continues pretty well -  
ever yours most faithfully  
Florence Nightingale

{archivist's note: III 12 70/11 F.N. to M. Mohl, 4 Nov. 1870}

Letter, pen LMA H1/ST/NC1/70/11

**f70/11.1**

Nov 4/70 **[15:735-36]**

Dear M. Mohl

It was quite a relief to me to hear that you were not ill -

I thought you did not look good for much on Sunday.

I am afraid I must put you off till *Sunday* at 3 - (if that will suit you) or 4 - [I am so busy] - But pray tell me, if it will not suit you - I should be so glad to hear of your going out of this {illeg.} atmosphere, as Londoners do, from Saturday till Monday.

=

Enclosed is a letter which the careful Postman would only give up to me on my assurance that you were a "Professor" - [The Postman must be a Professor himself - Professor of the Post.]

**f70/11.1v**

2

How glad I should be if it brought  
any tolerable news out of Paris.

=

To day it is 16 years since we the females landed  
at Scutari -

Who could have thought that we  
should have lived to see the most awful,  
hideous war mankind has known -  
in 1870!?! - a war compared with  
which the Crimean War was child's play  
with all its sufferings! -

It is not the actual sufferings - dreadful,  
terrible as they are, - of this War which  
so possess one's imagination as: -  
what will come out of it? - what  
but a tyranny, a Chaos more dreadful  
still? -

The Almighty created, it is said, mankind  
& the world out of Chaos - oh but  
that was only a Chaos of warring elements,

**f70/11.2**

3

of earthquakes, hurricanes, fire & storm  
- mild & amenable compared with  
the Chaos of man's warring passions,  
passions ~~offor~~ for tyranny & cruelty & for a  
barbaric, beastly conflict, like bears,  
or wild stags. The Almighty Himself,  
it seems, can hardly make a world  
out of *this* Chaos - He can't make  
man, He can't make *one* man, out of it.  
What *one* man has risen out of all  
this Chaos, compared to whom a stupid  
hurricane, an earthquake, a conflagration  
is not a beneficent Institution? -  
Is it not quite unknown in history  
that a philosophical, a deep-thinking,  
the most highly & widely educated & in  
some respects civilized nation of  
Europe, ~~like~~ the Germans, should  
plunge, head foremost, into this abyss,

**f70/11.2v**

4

called Military Despotism -  
 that they should not see that  
 (soi disant) "German Unity" means  
 only Prussia's aggrandizement -

it appears to me that the real  
 Devil, the real Mephistopholes is: -  
 Bismark - who has besotted not  
 one stupid Faust, not one drinking  
 savage population & "plunged them  
 "into hell" - but a whole Central  
 Continent of the most philosophical  
 peoples in the world -

Give me Russia to rule over me  
 as lief as Prussia under Bismarck! -

**f70/11.3**

5

But I promise *not* to talk 'War'  
 if you will come & see me! -  
 The fact is: it is the reverse of  
 the woman who beat her husband,  
 who said, "it amuses she & it  
 "don't hurt we" - For it *do* 'hurt'  
 me & it *don't* 'amuse' you -

I have just heard again from the  
 Crown Princess of P. - a noble, touching  
 letter - I believe the Cr. Prince is doing  
 all he can for peace - But what can he?

=

[The name of the Wurtemberg Dr., whom

I asked you about, is Hahn -  
 Do you know him? - He is President  
 of the Sanitat's Verein - writes from

**f70/11.3v**

6

"Haslach bei Stuttgart" - wants me  
to look over a book for him  
(which I can't) -  
all yours & ever yours  
F -

Now I won't talk of War any more

**[end 15:736]**

{archivist's note:

III 13

70/12 F.N. to Mrs. Cox, 20 Nov, 1870}

{envelope enclosed}

Letter, pen LMA H1/ST/NC1/70/12

**[15:15:745-47]**

**f70/12.1**

PRIVATE

{printed} 35 South Street, Nov 20/70  
Park Lane

W.

My dear Mrs Cox - my gallant soldier -

How can I thank you enough for  
your most interesting letter about all  
that I care most for? If the deepest  
sympathy, the sincerest admiration  
for all your gallant & efficient efforts  
for the poor sufferers in this most  
terrible of all Earth's wars can give  
you a moment's pleasure, believe me,  
mine is yours more than words can say.

If anything can comfort us for the  
countless horrors of this most  
horrible of all mankind's histories,  
it is that there are Mrs. Cox s.

{written vertically in left margin: I have been interrupted a dozen  
times in writing this. Excuse it.}

=

You ask me to say what they, the  
Hospitals, want: -

**f70/12.1v**

They want: -

- more & better food
- more Medical comforts
- more clothing &
- more Mrs. Cox s.

I think that I may very safely leave your great observation & your solid judgement to be followed in these matters -

=

If you knew the pressing occupations which the sufferings not only of the Sick & Wounded but of the starving, stripped & burnt out peasantry of the districts round Metz & round Sedan have brought upon me - already overcharged with business & a prisoner to my bed from incurable illness - you would pity me & forgive me for writing so poorly in answer to your invaluable letters.

**f70/12.2**

You ask me kindly, to enquire of you for any information: -

- one would like to know
- what is exactly the economy of these Hospitals? -
- i.e. the nature of the bedding -
- the amount & kind of food -
- stimulants
- clothing

and what additions are made in the case of men suffering from exhausting purulent discharges? These are the points for future reference which appear to be of most use -

But you are so observant that *any* thing you write will be most useful. You need no hints.

What an amount of good (I have had the privilege of seeing your former letters to Lady Eyre - which shall be returned to you - but I shall not return your own letter to me - it is too precious, my dear friend)

**£70/12.2**

what an amount of good is being  
(very quietly) done by you -  
what interesting peeps your letters  
give into the Hospitals economy,  
so much so that one regrets that  
you, who fulfil my idea of perfection  
in Nursing matters, have not  
entered more into small detail.

E.g. what an insight into nun=nature  
is that of obliging men dying of  
exhaustion to 'faire maigre' because  
it is Friday -

& not feeding dying men to the last!  
- and their abhorrence of French  
people in the Hospitals! -

These are the kind of index=facts  
that are very precious to put on  
record. I wish you would give us  
many more!

In my experience of French "Sisters of  
Charity" (the Augustinians are much  
better), especially in the Enfants  
Trouvés, - the nuns appeared to  
think it was well for the poor  
things to die & get out of this

**f70/12.2v**

2

"sinful world" Also: one great cause of their high Death rate is that their charges are always underfed. [There is little or none of that great devotion which you often see even in rude English Hospital Nurses, which makes them think it apparently a matter of life & death to themselves to feed up &, by incessant care, give the best chance to the last moment to a poor miserable stranger Patient whom they will never see again.]

I heard that Col= Cox's supplement of stores which he carried himself for the wounded of the battle of Baccon or Couloniers of the 9th & 10th= came just in the nick of time. Col= Elphinstone at Tours telegraphed to our "Aid Society" here for Chloroform, Surgical Instruments, Blankets, warm clothing &c - saying that never were things so urgently wanted - for the 5000

**£70/12.3**

Wounded of that battle And Col  
Lindsay, (our Chairman, as you know,)  
despatched them at once by two  
young English officers via Havre.

The half of our Giant Ambulance  
at Versailles has been fortunately  
sent to Orleans. The other half  
has been recalled. [The Prussians  
had interfered with them.]

Most probably you know much more  
of all these things than I do -  
only we sometimes find that we  
know more in London of *general*  
things than people in France, not  
on the spot -

From private accounts I receive from  
well-informed people at & of the  
German Hospitals before Paris & at  
& of those which existed before Metz  
till the Capitulation, I do not  
hesitate to say that our Scutari  
& Crimean Hospitals, when at their  
worst, which roused all England  
in horror, were better than these

**f70/12.3v**

German Hospitals, especially the  
Typhus ones, when at their best  
& without any particular pressure.

What will it be in mid-winter if  
this frightful, this unparalleled  
struggle goes on - & if it spreads  
to all the nations in Europe?

God in His pity grant to our  
agonizing prayers that it may  
stop. [The Prussian Camp Sanitary arrangements  
are almost *nil*. The Sick & Death rate frightfully high -]  
We have other "Societies" doing what  
they can for the starving, ~~{word crossed out}~~ half-naked  
& burnt-out peasantry round  
Metz & round Sedan - Among all  
the horrors, perhaps their fate is  
the worst.

Also: our "Aid Society" has a new appeal  
& work which it has begun among  
the sick French prisoners in Germany,  
dying of Typhus & Dysentery from  
starvation & exposure. They positively  
arrived so weak that food had  
to be put not into their hands  
~~mouths~~ but into their  
*mouths!!* They lay down dying on the straw  
at their arrival!!

**£70/12.4**

How long, O Lord, how long? O  
when will all these horrors, which  
have not their like in history, cease?

Wherever the English language is  
spoken, from the Princess to the  
poor needle woman, from the  
Peer to the negro, all have been  
ready to bring their gifts, their  
unpaid labour where they could  
not give money or stores.  
[Only yesterday I received from  
two poor congregations of working  
negroes in the island of St. Vincent  
in the West Indies £5. 12. 6,  
sent quite simply through their  
clergymen, desiring that, as they  
had seen my name in a stray  
London paper, in connection with  
the Sick & Wounded, I would apply  
their mite & asking me to write to them]

God bless you, my dearest friend.  
Have you been driven out  
of Amiens? - [I shall send  
this to Lady Eyre] - all yours & ever  
yours in heart & soul

Florence Nightingale

**[end 15:747]**

{archivist's note: III 14  
70/13 F.N. to Henry Bonham Carter, 30 Nov 1870.  
70/14 " " " " " 7 Dec. 1870.}

Letter, ff70/13.1-70/13.2, pencil. 30 Nov. 1870

**f70/13.1**

*Netley Nurses*

[15:220-21]

My dear Harry BC -

I hate to trouble you about these  
at such a moment -

Dr. Sutherland offers to settle it for  
you, on receiving our answers -

I have written my remarks on his  
Abstract (for you) -

He offers to send us the whole  
correspondence -

Do you think it necessary? -

Do you think Mrs. Wardroper should  
see the enclosed paper - & give *her*  
verdict?

Perhaps it would be better -

[It is altogether unsatisfactory - for it

**f70/13.1v**

seems to me that Mrs. Deeble always  
say that *that* Quarter will be the  
"quietest" (for Night Nurses) which  
she thinks at the moment will  
procure most of what she likes for  
herself.]

*Sydney*

Both Mrs. Wardroper & I have heard this  
mail.

Miss Osburn tells us nothing definite - but  
evidently wishes to prepare us for her  
leaving -

Her object in writing is: to ask us to give  
her another appointment -

*I* do not propose to write, (as there is the  
same *qui pro quo* about staying for *my* (!)  
sake.)

But I will write, if you think it right. All

**f70/13.2**

I could say, (in modified language)  
would be:

God bless her - And for her own sake &  
the sake of all under her, may she  
never undertake Hospital *superintendence*  
again.

She proposes to go to Canada to her brother  
(a capital plan, I think) - & wait there  
for another appointment from us - (!!)  
[not liking to trouble you now I sent my  
opinion & the two letters back to  
Mrs. Wardroper - But I am afraid  
you must {words smudged out by time}  
opinion]

[end 15:221]

ever yours

FN

30/11/70

Letter, f70/14, pencil

**f70/14.1**

35 S. St. Dec 7/70

My dear Harry B.C. -

It was a great relief to me to have  
your "Post Card" -

I had felt quite uneasy about you  
all - knowing, about you in particular,  
that you had sat up with dear Fan -  
- & was only deterred from sending,  
to enquire, by the fear of making  
Sibella write a note.

I make an excuse now of sending  
br birds to ask for a verbal message  
of a health Officer -

2. *Netley Night Nurses' Quarters*

I return you your (own) note of  
Mr. Talbot's - & I send one of Dr.

**f70/14.1v**

Sutherland's of Saturday,  
 which please return at your convenience.  
 I wrote to Dr. Sutherland, as soon as I had  
 received yours of Friday - And I sent  
 him yours of Saturday (at noon) the moment  
 I received it - in Sibella's writing) by hand.  
 You will see that the second did not  
 arrive in time -  
 But it appears to be settled as well as it  
 can under the circumstances -  
 God bless you  
 ever yours  
 F.N.

{archivist's note: III 15  
 70/15 } F.N. to Henry Bonham Carter [30 Nov. - 7 Dec 1870]  
 70/16 }

**f70/15.1**

{arch. note: [1870 or 1871] with 30/11/70

7/12/70}

My dear Harry BC

- 1 - The enclosed *Dr. Hahn* is a cousin of M Mohl's  
 I have looked thro' his pamphlet - It seems to me  
 - all generalia - & (not exactly platitudes - but)  
 what are truisms to a Matron organizing an Institution  
 "warm heart", "intellectual power" &c &c.  
 I have written him the Generalia I enclose [He writes  
 to me in English]  
 What I ask is: would you be so good as just to take home  
 & glance thro' his pamphlet & tell me whether you  
 think we can criticize it as a *plan*, as he asks me  
 to do - I really can make little of it  
 =
2. Mrs. Wardroper -  
 is in much distress because Netley does not send  
 for her 2 Night Nurses.  
 =
3. Miss Kilvert -  
 Is she gone? I see Derby Infirmary advertising  
 for a Supt=.

Letter, f70/16, pencil LMA H1/ST/NC1/70/16

[15:747-48]

**f70/16.1**

My dear Harry

Do not read any more of these letters than you like.

[Those from Miss Rumpff to Mrs. Wardroper are the ones you sent me -]

I have made great use of all Miss Rumpff's letters with Capt Galton, Lord Shaftesbury &c - to get stores for the Versailles Hospitals.

And I got her £50 in gold (French) for herself from the Socy= (besides £35 which she has had before & £5 from Mrs. Schwabe

And lo! ~~when~~ I received a note - "have you seen Miss Rumpff's impudent letter (Thursday's `Times')?"

I had not - I looked at it

I can do nothing more ~~for~~ for Miss Rumpff

It is not that the letter is "impudent" but that it is now in the power of every one of our Socy= who has seen these private letters, to put in the "Times" - `this C.R. is a liar - we have at this moment letters of hers, saying that the "Johanniter" are luxurious, idle, selfish, bon-vivants & picknickers - living on the Stores - & that his Prince Pless is a fool" (which he is) -

**f70/16.1v**

"And now she curries favour with them by a letter in the "Times" -

I don't know that our Socy connects "C.R." with Miss Rumpff - except my informant -

I have taken the utmost pains to conceal the fact - tho' I saw Col. Lindsay the very day C.R.'s letter appeared in Thursday's "Times" -

[I had just received a promise from L Shaftesbury that she should have all she wanted from the "Socy="]

I have not yet told any one but you - do you think it would be of any use for anybody (*I will not do it*) to write & tell her that she is of course at liberty to publish any opinions she pleases *for* the Johannites & *against* our Socy= - but *not* at liberty to write two opposite statements - *Both* can't be true -

I am afraid she is a "bad lot" - I have seen a letter of hers to Mrs. Schwabe, abusing the Socy= for *not* giving her "remuneration" - & a letter (of the same date) to the Socy=, proudly "declining remuneration".

**f70/16.2**

Would you tell Mrs. Wardroper  
the heads of the of the above?  
& that she has had £50 more -

**[end 15:748]**

{archivist's note: III 16

70/17 F.N. to J.J. Frederick, 17 Dec. 1870

70/18 F.N. to Mrs. Cox, 24 Dec 1870}

Letter, pen LMA H1/ST/NC1/70/17

[15:750-51]

**£70/17.1**

{printed} 35 South Street Dec 17/70  
Park Lane

W

My dear Sir

As I see that your Anniversary Sermon for the "Surrey Chapel" Benevolent Society is to be to morrow, I cannot help sending you my mite (£2) to put in the plate or use otherwise, as you please.

I wish it were more - But none know better than you how the calls of these dreadful days seem to defy all power of meeting them.

I send you the "National Society's" map - But, faster than we can publish our map, the terrible battle fields of France multiply the centres of misery. You will see on the map but five Red crosses in the miserable "Western district south of the Seine where now we have 17 -!! (each reckoning independent of Paris.)

But this is not all the misery! We, the "Ladies' Committee for the "Widows & Orphans", (whose Post-Card I enclose,

**£70/17.1v**

have joined the "War-Victim's Fund" Society for the starving peasantry round Metz & round Sedan, who are literally stripped of everything. even of corn & other seeds for next year -

I will send you some papers, when I receive more - having given away all I had -

But only on condition that you will not suppose we want the "Surrey Chapel", which has already done so much, to do more -

I heard the most interesting account the other day of the peasantry in the Ardennes from Mr. Bullock, the gentleman who raised what is called the "Daily News' Fund", another fund for these poor people - He is gone out again to continue the distribution - & in a few days pursues his errand among the villages round Paris which are, we hear, in an almost worse state of misery & starvation

**£70/17.2**

He described the peasantry of the Ardennes, half agricultural, half manufacturing, as living in an almost ideal state of industry, frugality, morality & religion - Now they are stripped of all - And pillage & burning seems to have been inflicted on them, even beyond the necessities of an invading Army. But no one murmurs - No one begs - Their savings are all gone, even to the last franc. They seemed quite surprised that any should have come to help them. "England has been to us like Providence", some said.

And so she has! God bless her! She has given not only of her superfluity, but of her poverty & even of her necessity. So many instances of this have come within my own knowledge - Congregations of very poor working negroes in the West Indies have clubbed together their pence, & sent the sum to me "for the sufferers in the present War".

**£70/17.2v**

National Schools have given up their only feast in the year; & begged that the money might be sent to "children who are poorer than we are".  
God bless them all.

England's "generosity & magnificent charity", as the Crown Princess of Prussia (who has worked as hard as any body) truly writes to me, we may thank God for-  
And "all for love & nothing for reward".

May I ask the prayers of your Congregation not for myself, not only for myself, but for all the sufferers, the miserable men, women & children in this awful War, the most frightful of Earth's histories, the innocent women & children, helpless & almost hopeless but for God & the kind souls He has raised up to help them

Oh when will the end come?

I trust that Mrs Frederick & your little son are well -

**[end 15:751]**

Pray believe me

ever yours sincerely

J.J.Frederick Esq      Florence Nightingale

Letter, pen LMA H1/ST/NC1/70/18 black-edged paper

**f70/18.1**

**[15:752]**

Dec. 24/70

Christmas Eve

{printed: 35 South Street

Park Lane

W

My dearest Mrs. Cox

Sad but earnest Christmas  
greetings I cannot help  
sending you by one line,  
tho' I have no time for more -  
And yet not sad, for if ever  
two people were carrying the  
message of "peace & good  
will to man", crushed & agonized  
as he is now, it is you & Col=  
Cox - So I will rather say to  
you, Good cheer! Hail, ye  
who are highly favoured.

Your letters have been  
received - & your directions  
shall be exactly obeyed -

I was so very sorry to hear

**f70/18.1v**

of your little boy being ill.

I trust it is only a trifling  
attack - I shall be quite  
anxious to hear that you have  
no sorrow there -

Our whole hearts are with you.  
I will write at greater length.  
To-day I have only time to  
catch the post & say God  
bless you, my dear, dear friend,  
as we all do - & give you  
strength & His best & highest  
Christmas blessings -

all yours & ever yours  
in heart & soul

Florence Nightingale

**[end]**

{archivist's note: III 17

71/1 F.N. to [Mrs. Cox] 11 Jan 1871

71/2 " " " 14 Jan 1871

71/3 " " " 20 Jan 1871}

Letter, pen LMA H1/ST/NC1/71/1

[15:760-61]

**f71/1.1**

Jan 11/71

Concerning the matter which you wrote to me about as to not worrying Col. Cox overladen with work to give accounts, of Stores &c., except as a whole, I set to work very gingerly, but zealously, because, as you observed, it was impossible to shew the letters to the Committee here.

Believe me, first, that the Committee "are fully "aware of Col= Cox's admirable "exertions & zeal." [They value him & you, as they ought, if that be possible.] And they "very much regret "his absence & its cause, "his children's illness", (as

**f71/1.1v**

indeed they *may* & do.)

The application to Col= Cox for an account of Stores was not made directly by the Committee. They only asked Sir V. Eyre to send an account from time to time, in such form as he could manage.

And they merely wanted to have it borne in mind that some account should be kept which could be rendered at a future time.

The Committee would of course willingly give any necessary allowance for persons to keep accounts.

**f71/1.2**

But no application was ever made to them.

Capt. Brackenbury who applied had an Accountant from England.

Mr. Lee at Tours has sent very regular accounts of the distribution of stores.

But no pressure has been put on Sir V. Eyre that I can find out to render accounts. He has had 'carte blanche' to appoint his own Officers.

The Committee have *not* pressed for accounts at all.

[Here they repeated again (what they are never tired of saying) how much they are

**f71/1.2v**

indebted to Col= Cox's invaluable exertions & yours.

N.B. Of course they know that Col= Cox could not, with his 21 miles of villages supplying them as no one else could have done keeping up an authority & organization in Amiens which no one else could have done - that he could not have time to write accounts of stores which a common Accountant could do.

**f71/1.3**

Dear friend

Again I begin this often interrupted letter, (which I would not send till ~~after~~ I could tell you of some prospect for the "parcels") - to wish you God speed -

I return Col= Cox's letter with many thanks -

I have not seen the "Extracts from his Journal", & should read them with the greatest interest & return them to you.

The horrors of the War deepen & become more heart-rending - It is a common thing for us to receive letters from our friends & acquaintances, some inside Paris - French mothers - (& indeed German {in pencil: mothers} in Germany also: -) `my eldest son killed in a sortie -

**f71/1.3v**

`leaves a young widow' - baby 5 days old - my second son killed on the Loire - leaves a young widow about to be confined - my third son a prisoner' - This is a usual specimen -

One (inside Paris) writes: - "Quant a moi, apres avoir confie mes enfans et tout ce qui les touche aux mains de Dieu, je n'ai pas voulu m'adresser la moindre question sur eux - car je n'aurais pas view - et je veux vivre" - (that is, for her duties which she mentions.)

A Dieu dearest friend  
ever yours  
F Nightingale

[end 15:761]

Letter, pen LMA H1/ST/NC1/71/2 black-edged paper

**f71/2.1**

**[15:765-66]**

35 South Street, Jan 14/71  
Park Lane, {printed:}  
W.

My dearest friend

I thank God that your worst cares for your children are over - I think you can scarcely be more thankful than I am - I trembled when I opened your note to Emily Verney - How much you have suffered - Yours in thought & in heart I have been all this time, & longed that I could have been with you in body.

I see with some uneasiness that you are nursing Col=Cox -

**f71/2.1v**

Though, after all he has gone through, his unparalleled work, we can scarcely be surprised at your sad account, yet we shall feel very anxious to know that it is only a passing loss of strength.

And, about you, dear friend, I feel most anxious of all, till we hear that you have not been quite broken down with all your labours & trials.

God bless and support you!

And He *will* bless you!

How grieved I have been not to

**f71/2.2**

be able to do anything for you -  
 What New Year's wishes  
*can* one wish but that there  
 never may be such another? -  
 such a Year as this to the end  
 of the world?

Indeed, in the morning, I  
 dread the evening mail - And  
 in the evening I dread the  
 morning - unlike the plaint  
 in the Scriptures. But I think  
 it is worse. I used so to  
 wish for the winter days to pass.  
 But now I dread each coming  
 day, as worse than the last -

**f71/2.2v**

more full of frantic passion,  
 misery & blood.  
 But I will not say more about  
 this. Bismarck & that pious  
 old King=Emperor are as fatal to  
 friends as foes. What  
 difference between the  
 unoccupied part of France  
 and (for instance) Bavaria?  
 - I can see none -

Both are equally prostrate in  
 sorrow & lost life & activity  
 France, if it were not for the  
 "honour of the thing", has a  
 better prospect - once the  
 invader is out for her own  
 reconstruction than Germany.

But I must stop -  
 yours, dearest Mrs. Cox, in  
 heart & soul, ever & always  
 Florence Nightingale

[end 15:766]

Letter, pen LMA H1/ST/NC1/71/3 black-edged paper

**f71/3.1**

**[15:766-67]**

Jan 20/71

My dear Mrs. Cox

It is most "aggravating" how the effort to arrange for sending the parcels from friends to French prisoners in Germany has hung fire -

It is as if - by the time when even German frosts are over - the arrangements would be quite & completely ready for forwarding the warm=clothing=presents (from their relatives) to the poor prisoners.

But at last there seems to be a means.

Dr. Evans, who is the Secretary of a "Society for clothing

**f71/3.1v**

French prisoners," (whom Sir Harry Verney, - recommended by Mme Bernstorff, - has applied to for your purpose,) "expects to leave for Brussels "passing through Calais & "Lille for the above place, "thence to Cologne.

He says to Sir H.V. that anything he can do in the matter will be gladly done. - that he hopes to establish among his friends at Brussels a means by which parcels or clothing sent through Belgium will be forwarded to Cologne or elsewhere in Germany - that he will at

**£71/3.2**

the same time arrange if possible for the transmitting of your parcels - that he will inform Sir H.V.

"with whom the arrangements have been made for Brussels & Germany".

Sir H. Verney has asked Dr. Evans to call upon you on his way through Calais.

**£71/3.2v**

We do trust that the object will now be secured - which is the kindest of all kindnesses - viz. transmitting parcels to prisoners from their own people -

I assure you that we have not been remiss in trying to arrange for it. And I will not weary you with telling you of all our efforts - only mentioning that, first, Mme Bernstorff, at Sir H.V.'s request, thought that she could do it thro' M. de Beaulieu, the Belgian Minister here - & wrote to *him* to arrange some plan of forwarding from Brussels -

**f71/3.3**

2

- then Mme= Berstorff herself recommended this Dr. Evans "as the best person to arrange "about forwarding the parcels" "to the French prisoners in "Germany." [Mme= B. spoke to Dr. Evans about it - & put Sir H.V.in communication with him -]

And this is the way, we do trust, that it will be settled at last.

[Mme= Bernstorff has herself sent as many as a hundred of these small parcels to French prisoners in Germany, to Spandau, Magdeburg, {illeg.Gloyau?} &c]

**f71/3.3v**

We had thought that our Committee (at St. Martin's Place) might have arranged some agency for forwarding parcels to the French prisoners. But they found it impossible. Our envoys to the prisoners are *not* allowed access to them. And the Committee indeed "all doubt whether any agency will manage to cause the parcels ever to *reach* the prisoners." [I trust this "doubt" is exaggerated.]

**[end 15:767]**

{archivist's note: III 18  
71/4 F.N. to M. Mohl, 25 Feb. 1871}

pen, not FN hand, LMA black-edged paper H1/ST/NC1/71/4

Embley - Romsey Feb 25/71

[15:778-80]

Dear M. Mohl I cannot thank you enough for your two letters - I was so very anxious to hear that your house & papers were safe - & to hear just the things that are not told by newspapers. (which may God confound! - God Almighty does not read the newspapers. We who have to read them know how degenerate - that & Magazine= reading - makes a people - & I never can forgive the "Times" & "Daily News" raising the hue & cry in favour of Prussian militarism at the beginning - & then, when came the most evident & most inevitable consequence of what they did their little all to bring

**f71/4.1v**

about - sitting down to blubber & cry - I assure you that, at the beginning of the War, freedom of public opinion had ceased in England - If one said one word, hesitating to think that the cause of European constitutional progress was not to be secured for ever by Prussia over running France, one was pilloried - I never saw such a thing. So one can fancy the ancient Jewesses would have raved, if any one had doubted that the Jews murdering the Canaanites & appropriating their lands was not the highest ideal of justice & truth. Every body talked a la Max Muller in that inflated, superficial nonsense - & made themselves the Apostles of Neo-German Militarism - a woeful day to see - By the way, I have seen a letter of Max Müller's drowned in tears - which does more honour to the softness of his heart than to that of his head. And this is nearly the only comfort I have - a very slender comfort - except that your house & papers are safe - Julie was always the Empress of my affections - But now she is truly Jule César-inn. And I honour her a great deal more for standing by your keys than the "old canting Corporal" for taking the keys of Paris - Will you give her my love when you go back? - How I should like to send her some little thing that she would like! What shall it be? - I am sorry "la grande Mademoiselle" is starved to death -

**f71/4.2**

the great ancestor of our cats. You will have to take a kitten from us, after all - I communicated the intelligence to Temperance who took it very solemnly - & observed that so great a character had better have furnished food for others than have died of want of food herself -

I am very glad that M. Roulin is well - Pray remember me to him when you see him -

Are the poor {illeg.Sourqueneff's?} going back? - And how is that old Madame de Mousticho - (that's not the name nor anything like it) who began to learn Latin when she was couched after she was 80 - & could read Livy under your auspices? -

**f71/4.2v**

2

I should so have liked to have seen you again before you started -

I told my father (who is still at Lea Hurst) that February 23, last Thursday, was the last day that I could stay away from London with any convenience - But as he gives no sign, & as nobody offers to relieve me here, & it is impossible to leave my mother alone, I must e'en give that up, with what cheerfulness I may, as I have had to give up most other things -

[It was better for me when Sidney Herbert was alive - And I had to go back to my business to a day & hour, just like an Under Secretary - And there was no question about it - ]

**f71/4.3**

Alas! how unhappy is this Clerical Re-actionarism. I used to be so amused watching the Infallibilists. But if ever Germany gives them the right, what hope is there? And I suppose there is much clerical re-action in the French Assembly.

How strange a problem it will be the re - constitution of authority & government in France - stranger than ever before -

Every fresh letter I see or have from France brings fresh evidence of the utter, the inconceivable de composition, disorganization, of every authority, Mayors, Communes, Departmental Councils, Commandants, & Intendance altogether. It is really past belief.

How is all this to be re=constituted? - in the midst of misery unspeakable -

But, for all that, I had rather be France than Germany just now -

I must stop - tho' I have a great deal to ask - But I want to save this post, for fear you should be gone -

What follows is for Mme= Schwabe. [But do not tell it her, if it will make any trouble as we may hope now that Sick & *Wounded* affairs at least will be over - tho' the utter poverty among peasant=farmers in France makes famine=prospects a very serious matter -]

To Mme= Werckner of Breslau has been sent another £100

**f71/4.3v**

from the "National Society" at St. Martin's Place

- for the sick French prisoners -

But she has never received any of Mme Schwabe's things -

[We found from other sources that she was the only lady who visited the French prisoners at Breslau.]

I must stop - God bless you

**[end 15:780]**

ever yours

F. Nightingale

{archivist's note: III 19

71/5 F.N. to Mrs. Cox, 8 Mar 1871} black-edged

{envelope included} *Via Calais*

Mrs. Colonel Cox

*Burn* Société Natle. Anglaise-Secours aux Blessés de la guerre

14 Rue la Merchier

Amiens

France

8/3/71

Letter, pen LMA H1/ST/NC1/71/5 black-edged paper

**f71/5.1**

**[15:781-84]**

*Private*

35 South Street. March 8/71  
Park Lane {printed}

W

My dearest Mrs. Cox

If you knew how interesting  
all your letters are to me,  
how useful & important, & how  
I strive that they shall be  
turned to the purposes for  
which they are written -  
you would know how deeply  
grateful I am to you for  
writing when you are under  
such pressure of work, &  
that you never can write enough  
- & also how I wish that I  
could write to you a letter for  
every one of yours.

With regard to your last 2 letters,  
(about the distribution of what  
may remain of the Fund to sufferers  
& not to "Hotels Dieu")

**f71/5.1v**

I have already tried to convey  
the substance of your first  
to members of the Committee  
[I never use your name excepting  
to those I know well when you  
desire me not.]

I entirely concur with you -  
I mean that, from my own  
former personal experience  
& from trustworthy sources of  
information during this War,  
of whom you are yourself one of  
the most important, I concur  
that gifts given in the way  
proposed by the Committee  
(if it *is* proposed) only go to  
save some Military or Civilian  
pocket - to enrich some Intendant

**f71/5.2**

or Econome - not to provide  
*additional* comforts for the sufferers  
 but to supply necessaries *instead*  
 of the Government, Administration,  
 or proper authority supplying  
 these - [As to the corruption of  
 the Intendence, that beats all now  
 that even I have ever known  
 of it, as I need not tell you]

But I do not know whether the  
 Committee will consider it due  
 to the contributors, who subscribed  
 the Fund for a particular purpose,  
 viz the "Sick & Wounded", to devote  
 all that remains of it for the  
 purpose for which our appeal  
 was made.

[As you say, even if it be so, they  
 might contrive some organization  
 for its reaching the "halt &  
 maimed", who will be, alas! but  
 too numerous, & not the "Hôtels Dieu."]

**f71/5.2v**

You know we have several  
 other "Societies" for the Widows  
 & orphans, the starving peasantry,  
 the Paris starvation, & the other  
 Victims of the War - (to nearly  
 all of which I belong - tho' alas  
 an unworthy because always  
 overworked a member.)

To these I think we must apply  
 for some of your purposes, your  
 widows & orphans - Unfortunately  
 the "Widows & Orphans" Fund is  
 the worst managed of all -  
 [do not say that I said so -]  
 I do not think that there is any  
 fixed responsibly - any  
 reasonable arrangement by  
 which French & Germans may  
 benefit with some equality -  
 almost all ~~the~~ the money having hitherto  
 gone to the Victoria Stiftung at

**f71/5.3**

Berlin - I have myself brought certain applications like yours, viz. from the P. Etienne, the superior General of Lazarists & Soeurs de Charité, for grants for French widows & orphans - And, because I have not been able to go & storm myself at the Ladies' Committee which besides never meets, every thing has been left in the hands of a German Treasurer who manages things as I have said.

But I trust that, when the first amazing pressure of Wounded lately & of starving peasants now is relaxed, business-like ways will be introduced into the management for the "Widows & Orphans" also -

**f71/5.3v**

The other "Funds", some of which are extremely well managed, & which are now to be brought into some kind of co-operation, are: (as you know) -

the War Victim's Fund, set a going  
by Quakers

Mr. Bullock's Fund (the "Daily News")

Lord Vernon's Seed-Fund

the Lord Mayor's French Relief  
Fund.

[All these are, by the nature of things,, for *France*, not Germany. † & as the Soldiers' Widows & orphans must in some degree participate may in a sense redress the inequality I have been speaking of - But in the first French Army, I mean till the Republican levies, there must have been a far, far smaller proportion of married men, therefore of Widows & orphans, than in the German Army - were there not? -]

**f71/5.4**

==

With regard to ~~you~~ the second of your last two letters, of which I will try to make immediately all the use I can, all every bit of the direct information I have received about the Prussian Hospitals in France in this War goes to corroborate what you say. [And it so happens that, from one or two of my own old young pupils who have gone to serve in them & from other agents I have had more direct accounts from Prussian than from French Hospls., excepting your own invaluable information.] I have no hesitation in saying that, from first to last, when there has been pressure & when there has been none, from best to worst, when there have been

**f71/5.4v**

no battles as well as when there has been a great overwhelming flood of Wounded, before Metz, before Sedan, at Pont a Moussou, before Paris and on the Loire, the best of the Prussian & Bavarian Hospitals have been worse than ~~the~~ our English Hospitals at their worst time in the Crimean War, when all England rose in horror.

The Prussian War Hospitals are *systematically* bad. The French War Hospitals are only *accidentally* bad. That is, when you see the best really organized Prussian Hospital, you see how bad it is. When you see the best really organized French Hospital, you see how good it is.

The Prussians don't *intend* to give

**f71/5.5**

3

their Patients every possible chance  
of recovery - *That* is to be supplied  
by gifts, even in a normal state.

If not, not. The Government  
only supplies the same rations  
to the Hospitals as to the Army.  
The surgery, as a *spécialité*, is  
very good. The management  
execrably bad.

That the Death-rate in some of the  
Hospitals which I knew most  
about in the earlier part of  
of War was one third higher  
in the Prussian than in the  
⊕ French Hospitals I am afraid  
is a certain fact.

Of course we cannot know yet -  
perhaps we shall never know -  
what the real Death-rate in  
the Hospitals of either side  
has been throughout the War -  
I am afraid that it will surpass  
all that we have most feared  
- especially on the German side  
in France

**f71/5.5v**

& among the French prisoners' Establishment in Germany [I have terrible accounts from *German*

ladies in Germany of some of these places.

[But of course they vary. Some are no doubt treated well.]

---

Of all the badness of the Prussian Hospitals I say nothing at present, of course. If we had told what we knew, we should have been shut out of the Hospitals - We have had the greatest difficulty in securing that our gifts should reach the sufferers. The "Johanniter" have notoriously diverted gifts from the Hospitals to the use of the Army.

Such a system of terrorism reigns that the defects of the Hospitals in the Prussian Army must not be looked into, must not be exposed (any more than the sufferings of State prisoners in Austria in the first 30 years of the century)

**f71/5.6**

*You may know too much.*

Privately, I will tell you (but I trust that you will not even try to guess the names) that two of our best agents who served more than one of our Societies - residents, married ladies, who were partly of one nationality, partly of another, received a formal official hint, conveyed thro' a British representative, that they must not *look too much* into the Prussian Hospitals (which, at the place (in France) where they were, were supposed to be perfect) `or they might be hurried off to `a fortress in Prussia - and he `would not be able to help them.'

The story is incredible, but happened exactly as I have told you - & was told me direct by the persons concerned. -

**f71/5.6v**

Judge therefore if I am not prepared to avail myself of every hint you give me - *and more.*

Dearest friend, I must stop. You have every thing that is interesting to tell me. I have nothing to tell you. I really snatch this moment to write to you, only that you may not think me ungrateful for your too, too interesting letters - that you may not think they are wasted.

I trust that Col=Cox & your children are well - & that *he does not starve* as your poor Patients would have starved but for you -

All thro' this war, I have felt that `Hospital treatment' was a case of beef & porter - or beef tea & wine -

God bless you - And He *will* bless you yours in thought & heart ever

Florence Nightingale

[end 15:784]

**f71/5.7**

4

N.B.

One thing I think the experience of the present War must have taught us (tho' I am sure my foregone conclusions were very different - & this experience must be extraordinarily difficult of application -) viz. that English gifts must be, as much as possible distributed by English hands - & as little as possible by the hands of priests, nuns, mayors - & not at all by the hands of Intendance & Economes & Administrations - This experience is ~~that~~ the result, not only of the "Sick & Wounded" Fund - but of the Lord Mayor's, Mr. Bullock's & other Relief Funds before mentioned - in France. And as to German Army, as far as Hospitals are concerned, it applies in its full force - Gifts must be distributed as little as possible by the hands of administrators, or "Johanniter", or Medical Staff, - all of which will play into the hands of the Army [P.T.O.]

**f71/5.7v**

5

Your ideas as to the destruction of life among the Prussians in Hospital by giving them only water, not stimulants - & by giving no fresh air, for fear of draughts were fully borne out by an old young pupil of mine who managed one of their Hospitals before Metz. She actually cried to see the loss of life in consequence - being experienced in Hospitals -

FN

{archivist's note: III 20

71/6 F.N. to Mrs. Cox, 4 April, 1871  
 71/7 " " " " 30 April, 1871}

Letter, pen LMA H1/ST/NC1/71/6 black-edged paper

**f71/6.1**

35 South Street,} April 4/71 [15:785]  
Park Lane, {printed:}  
W.

My dearest Mrs. Cox

I have been waiting for half  
an hour to be able to write to  
you what I always feel & am  
thinking about you -

But that half hour never coming,  
I must just write as I can -  
to tell you that a little sum  
Ten Pounds from me was given  
to be forwarded to you on Saturday,  
if you would be so very kind  
as to apply it to the purposes  
among the Sick & Wounded (for  
which alas! Ten Thousand  
Pounds would be all too scanty).

Four (of these Pounds) were  
contributed by a poor negro  
congregation of St. Mary's  
in the island of Barbados  
in the West Indies - who sent  
it to me with a desire that

**f71/6.1v**

I would consider it as at my  
"disposal" for the Sick & Wounded  
on both sides in France."

I have been so very much touched  
at receiving more than one of  
these small collections from  
poor negro congregations in  
the West Indies -

And I have generally sent them sums  
with a small addition of my  
own to private persons  
like yourself - though who is  
there like Mrs. Cox? - who  
were working for our "Aid Society"  
- as the best way of carrying  
out the intentions of the poor  
generous givers who had  
collected the pence they  
could so ill spare for this  
purpose -

If you could, in your next letter,  
either to Emily Verney or myself,  
write a scrap which could be

**f71/6.2**

torn off for me to send to the  
Barbados negroes, it would  
please them very much -  
I have much to say in answer to  
your letters which are all  
of absorbing interest to me -  
but must put off saying it,  
as usual.

But I *must* thank you for the  
beautiful *pears* which I  
enjoyed very much. 1. because  
it was *you* who had been so  
very good as to send them -  
2. because of their intrinsic merits,  
(and I am ordered fresh fruit  
of all kinds.) I should have  
thought poor France had hardly  
any fresh fruit left -

God bless you

[end 15:785]

ever yours

Florence Nightingale

envelope Mrs. Colonel Cox  
Hôtel des Bénédictine  
*Calais*

Letter, pen LMA H1/ST/NC1/71/7 black-edged paper

**f71/7.1**

35 South Street, April 30/71  
Park Lane, {printed}

W,

Dearest Mrs. Cox

God bless you for all you are doing -  
I write as soon as it is possible -  
But I cannot thank you enough for  
all your most interesting & valuable  
letters.

**[15:792-95]**

You ask about the principle as  
to "distributing Testaments" or not -  
I agree with *your* principle. You  
are feeding the hungry in body - why  
not the hungry in soul? - If they  
come to ask for a Testament, I  
should give it. This is a totally  
different thing from giving food  
to all, whether hungry or not. [I  
remember being shocked to see in  
an Italian Army leaves - as many  
as half the volume - torn out of  
numbers of copies of New Testaments  
in Italian & put to the most  
revolting uses. These copies I  
knew were given by Colporteurs at  
random, who kept assuring me,  
that they were always acceptable!]

**f71/7.1v**

Your description of the eating canker in R. Catholic France  
is most painfully graphic -

On the one hand we have had  
Luther & the results of his training  
in that noble truthfulness & sense  
of duty which we find in England  
& Germany. This it is which has  
prostrated France before Bismarck.  
[I only wish it had been before  
better men than he, or *any* of the  
leaders, except our own Crown  
Prince.]

On the other hand we have had the  
Pope, Infallibility, & the result  
of his dolls & Bartholomew  
massacres as shewn in the  
fate of the "eldest daughter of  
the Church" -

Do you remember that Macaulay says  
that no nation which had the  
Reformation opportunity and  
rejected it has ever had the  
opportunity again - & that hence  
=forth all must walk, as nations,

**f71/7.2**

on the road they made for themselves  
then.

If this be true, France can only  
enter the narrow path, man by  
man & woman by woman.

However, this is rather beyond the  
mark. I entirely agree with  
all you say about the offering  
gifts to Virgins, having seen so  
much of it myself - The worship  
of the Virgin now, in the Latin races,  
is hardly better than the lowest  
Fetichism. The Virgin of Notre  
Dame des Victoires at Paris is a  
different Fetish from the Virgin  
of Notre Dame de la Garde, for  
instance - And all are to be conciliated  
by almost the same means with which a  
man gives presents to his mistress.

I am so glad that you tell the people  
how *all* England cares for them -  
every man, woman & child above  
pauperism has strained every  
nerve & contributed far more than

**f71/7.2v**

they could afford to help those who, as they said, "were worse off than we". Indeed the Roman Catholics have given less than their share.

You can have no idea how touching it has been - And though it stings one, almost to outcry, to hear the falsehoods the Roman Catholic priests, both French & English, have put about (as to this generosity of the whole English people) yet the self-denial & true liberality of the poor & middle-class givers shines out the more brightly from the fog of such assertions as these: - "oh," say the French priests to the peasantry, when the English gifts arrive, "votre Impératrice est la" - meaning, in England - & that she it is who sends all the English gifts.

**[8:846]**

[The Impératrice has not sent one sou - has not even given her name - for I was asked to ask her -

I dare say she could not. She has been selling a magnificent fur cloak given her by the Emperor Alexander -

**f71/7.3**

2

{printed} 35 South Street,  
Park Lane,  
W}

They have been so extravagant that  
they are quite ruined.

**[end 8:846]**

Still it *is* so.]

Then the English R. Catholic Archbishop  
& priest - just the same - At the  
Lord Mayor's Fund for the Relief  
of Paris - "oh it was the duty of the  
English people to give - but now  
see what we priests will do -  
now we shall collect!" -  
at the time when this was said,  
the English public had collected  
£125,000, of which a large part  
came from penny collections  
among the poorest people- and  
of which £300 came from the  
Priest's collections!! - for starving Paris.  
It seems dirty of me to remember  
this - But I am so touched with  
the rush of the English people, -  
not the rich & great, nor on the  
other hand of the Radicals &  
sympathizers with the French Republic,  
- but of the whole mass of hard working,

**f71/7.3v**

honest, frugal, stupid England, -  
to contribute every penny they  
could so ill spare, "the very shoes  
off their feet, the very suppers  
out of their children's mouths,  
to poor starving France, not of  
their religion, not of their way  
of thinking at all, but simply  
because they could not bear to  
hear of fellow-creatures starving  
& suffering, while they had  
anything to give -

All have given -

So general a collection among  
the "working classes" has never  
been - not even for our own  
Patriotic Fund.

You cannot think, within my own  
private experience, what touching  
collections have been made &  
sent me from poor Congregations,  
National Schools, Evangelical  
Chapels, Primitive Methodists,  
Factories - the very names of which

**f71/7.4**

I had never heard before - for  
the War-sufferers - congregations  
of poor working Methodist negroes  
in the West Indies - Ragged School  
children who, having nothing to  
give, gave up their only feast in  
the year, that the money might  
be sent to the orphans of the War;-  
Sermons preached in London  
Dissenting congregations where  
was not a single rich member -  
but who yet subscribed largely -  
women's tea-parties for working  
& making up warm clothing &  
refusing to be paid for it.  
But it would take me a day  
even to enumerate all these - And  
some I may have mentioned to  
you before.

There never was such a truly national  
movement in favour of sickness &  
suffering of which they knew nothing  
but by hearsay - & to which they gave,  
knowing that they never should  
receive again anything either from

**f71/7.4v**

French or Germans - When would  
 either subscribe for *us*, for *our*  
 distress? - People say: oh England  
 is so rich - It was the poor who gave.  
 But I must stop.

I am glad the £10 has reached you  
 at last. The 10 fr. which you were  
 so good as to advance for the  
 German prisoner Rabich at Calais  
 has been repaid me - And I have  
 given 8/6 to Emily Verney to give  
 to Col=Cox for you

He was so good as to call at my door  
 the other day -

How I do hope he will have the  
 employment he wishes for & so well  
 deserves -

I cannot tell you, dear friend, how  
 much I felt for you at the loss  
 of your dear Sister - Such a grief  
 as that one feels more & more  
 every year one lives - But how mourn for *her*,  
 who is living, not dead?

ever, dear friend, yours

Florence Nightingale

Thank you so much for your 2nd present of  
 beautiful pears - which I shared with a  
 sick friend - Indeed you are too good to me

**[end 15:795]**

envelope, black-edged paper

*France*

Mrs Colonel Cox

14 Rue le Merchier

*Amiens*

1/5/71

{archivist's note: III 21

71/8 F.N. to Mrs. Cox, 31 May 1871

71/9 " " " " 20 June 1871}

Letter, pen LMA H1/ST/NC1/71/8 black-edged paper

**f71/8.1**

35 South Street - Park Lane, W.

[15:801-03]

May 31/71

O my dearest Mrs. Cox

You will know too well why  
I could not write - But not a  
word of your last 3 letters has  
been or shall be wasted - I am  
doing all I can with them all.

[I was just putting up a letter to  
you to ask for the 3rd Sheet of  
your last letter but one which I  
saw had been omitted when yours  
of yesterday arrived this morning.]

God bless you for them all. They  
are all most useful & enlightening -

This last week, most terrible of  
weeks - the most tremendous event in  
*our* life-time - perhaps *in the world's*  
life-time - The Great Revolution  
was a mild, straightforward affair  
compared to this - this barbarous  
disaster in a civilized world -  
Words grow pale before it - I will  
write none - It really was  
reserved for the Devil of France  
of 1871 to operate in the name of

**f71/8.1v**

liberty, prosperity, public right &  
civilization.

I dare say you have as many correspond-  
ents in Paris as I have - so I will not  
repeat - But no newspaper reports  
can exaggerate Paris "has burnt  
herself down with her own hands".  
One fourth is laid in ruins - And  
not less than 50,000 people,  
including women & children, killed.  
No tongue can exaggerate the horrors  
committed by the troops in reprisals -  
They have killed every man, woman  
& child who could be suspected of  
belonging to the Commune - Awful  
as are the crimes of the Commune,  
I cannot see the difference between  
this diabolical revenge of the troops  
& the diabolical guillotine & noyades  
of the French first Revolution of 1793.  
But, it is too horrible - The first French  
Revolution was bloodless compared to  
this with all its guillotines -  
There is nothing like it in history -  
not the bloodiest battle - not the  
longest siege - not populations put  
to the sword - And - in these days these  
things are done -

**f71/8.2**

O what will come of it all? - what  
 can be the next Governmt? - will it  
 be a return of the worst Ultra  
 despotism, the worst Ultramontanism?  
 - & then the vicious circle all over  
 again - socialism & mad Insurrection.  
 The "Times" expects me to make myself  
 a puddle of my tears because the  
 Tuileries are burnt "which were built  
 by Catherine de 'Medici' - the greatest  
 rascal the world ever saw.  
 It is not *that*; it is the hopeless out=  
 =look of France which gives one a  
 grief too deep for tears -  
 ==

It is not true, as has been said, that  
 there are "*English* among the Insurgés" -  
 there are Irish=American Fenians -  
 [no country in Europe ever knows the  
 difference.] There are, among the  
 Commune & its men, nearly half  
 foreigners, Belgians, Poles, Italians,  
 American Fenians - And a very  
 old friend of mine, Member of the  
 Institut, who has kept in Paris all  
 thro' this, ~~ma~~ & was bombarded in his  
 house, makes the very sensible remark  
 - `And all these birds of ill omen are

**f71/8.2v**

`from Roman Catholic countries!' -  
(for the American Fenians are Irish)  
That is what puts one in such despair  
It will be the same eternal round  
of re-actions: - Ultramontanizm=Socialism

=

I saw Mme= de Stael from the French  
Embassy. She took it all like a Saint.  
She did not cry - tho' she had death - in  
her face - All her family is in it. Yet  
she spoke of it all, as one just come  
from heaven & going back again,  
might do.

=

But I must, instead of writing about  
what all our hearts & minds are so  
full of, try to answer parts of your  
dear letters -

1. The Versailles Govt= did send some time  
ago to ask whether our National Soc  
wd= give them aid - The answer  
was: No - [Our Committee thought  
I believe 1. that ~~if~~ Englishmen  
never wd= have subscribed the Funds  
for *Civil War* - 2. that, if they gave  
to one side, they had hardly an excuse  
for not giving to the other, if the  
*Commune* asked them -]

**f71/8.3**

2

I do not know what they will do now -

2. I can well believe what you say about the wasted Stores.

So early as October last, when the Prussian Army Hospitals in great distress had 4 months of greater before them, the Johanniter packed up large & valuable War Hospital stores, among them, *English stores* gifts, & gave them to be sent to German peace Institutions, orphan Asylums &c, & religious Orders *in Germany* - this under the eyes & to the horror of an old young pupil of mine in charge of their dreadful Field=Lazareths - but who shrinks from publishing the names -

3. I entirely concur with you that the "Printed Questions" will never call out all the information necessary to make a better Geneva Convention -

You ask me to "find out for you who wrote them".

Months ago I was asked to write them - and did so - at once.

**f71/8.3v**

Months afterwards these were  
sent to me "as mine" -  
Not one of them is mine -

They are not calculated to call  
forth information at all.

We should never have tolerated  
such questions in any of the R-  
Commissions we conducted -

[I believe I know who did them  
But it is no use telling now]  
I remonstrated -

And on receipt of your wise  
suggestion I remonstrated again -

And a resolution was carried  
in Committee (I have not time  
to refer to its exact words now)  
~~that~~ to ask the Red Cross workers  
who have time & inclination to  
send them (the Committee) information  
& facts &c &c

This request will come to you - if  
it goes anywhere -

God bless you - & save Paris -  
ever your affect- & grateful  
tho' old & sorrowful

**[end 15:803]**

F. Nightingale

I have been so  
interrupted  
- Forgive me

envelope, black-edged paper

*France*

Mrs Colonel Cox

14 Rue le Merchier

*Amiens*

30.4.71

Letter, pen LMA H1/ST/NC1/71/9

**f71/9.1**

35 South Street, June 20/71 [15:806]  
Park Lane, {printed}

W

My dearest Mrs. Cox

I am specially desired to write to you on the part of the Committee at 2 St. Martin's place - And as I am not exactly informed as to what they have requested of you already, you must pardon me if they make me repeat -

On June 6 (this day fortnight) they passed a resolution

Col=L.Lindsay

Sir Harry Verney

Capt. Galton

Ld= Shaftesbury

to send the Questions to those of their Agents who, having been on the spot, might be of opinion that they do not request all desirable information that ought to be requested - asking them to

**f71/9.1v**

supplement these Questions by any additional ones

*and to report on any points which may not be embraced in the questions.*

Your name was specially mentioned, of course.

And, at to-day's Committee Meeting, it was resolved to request replies to be sent before this day a *fortnight hence* - And all replies so sent will be utilized & printed as an Appendix.

**f71/9.2**

I was told that a copy of the Questions & Replies already printed (Col=Cox's replies among them) was to be sent you at the close of last week -

If this has not been done, please tell me -

Excuse this hasty note -  
(written to save to-day's mail).  
- 1000 thanks for your last letter -

God bless you

ever yours

Florence Nightingale

Sir H.V. has some letters ~~offor~~ Col=Cox. Where can they be addressed to him in London? - Sir H. V. asks - **[end]**

envelope, black-edged paper

*France*

Mrs. Colonel Cox

14 Rue le Merchier

*Amiens*

~~5/31/71 31/5/71 20/6/71~~

{archivist's note: III 22

71/10 F.N. to Mrs. Cox, 24 June 1871

71/11 " " " 17 July 1871}

Letter, ff71/10.1-71/10 pen

**f71/10.1**

My dearest Mrs. Cox

I had not a moment to write yesterday.

Your "Notes" & your letters together are very instructive & tell much of the past short comings & of the wants for the future - They are most suggestive -

Your name shall not be mentioned - Nor shall your "Notes" or letters, of course, be sent to St. Martin's Place -

We are trying to obtain that, whatever *is* sent to St. M's Place should all be put in type & then any parts which are personal &c may be struck out.

But it would take you more time & thought than you

wd= like to give with your other  
duties & occupations to prepare  
such "Notes" as you would like  
to have printed & sent even to

**f71/10.1v**

our little Committee, I am afraid.

Col L.L

Sir Harry V.

Capt. Galton

& perhaps Ld Shaftesbury

who wd= probably be the 3 or 4  
who would attend.

But your rough "Notes" & vivid  
graphic letters wd= be most  
interesting & valuable, even  
if you will not let them go  
beyond me - I shd= use  
them in the way above said -  
as suggestions. God bless you -

in great press

ever yours

F. Nightingale

35 South St. W.

June 24/71

envelope, black-edged paper

*France*

Mrs. Colonel Cox

14 Rue Le Merchier

*Amiens*

24/6/71

Letter, pen LMA H1/ST/NC1/71/11

**f71/11.1**

*Private*

35 South Street, July 17/71

**[15:810-11]**

Park Lane, {printed}

W.

My dearest Mrs. Cox

There can be no doubt that  
the right thing is to urge Col:  
Cox to write his views - the results  
of his experience &  
observation - the value of which  
I believe that it is impossible  
to exaggerate -

I dare say that he will  
not expect that I should  
directly bring his suggestions  
before the War Office - (he  
will understand better than  
I can explain how impossible  
this is, in the present state

of the W.O.) - But let him  
put them on paper - The  
first thing is to have them  
written.

**f71/11.1v**

God bless you  
 (in great press of business & illness  
     as usual)                      **[end 15:811]**  
     ever yours  
     F. Nightingale

envelope Mrs Cox  
 72 Palace Garden Terrace  
 Kensington  
 W

{archivist's note: III 23  
 71/12 F.N. to W. Clark, Esq., 3 Nov, 1871  
 71/13 F.N. to Mrs Cox, 16 Nov. 1871}

Letter, ff71/12.1-71/12.2, pen black-edged

**f71/12.1**

*Private*  
 35 South Street Nov 3/71  
     Park Lane, {printed}  
     W

Sir  
 I am unwilling to send you  
 no word of thanks for various most  
 interesting printed papers on  
 the drainage of Calcutta, which  
 you have been kind enough  
 to send me - though it must  
 be a hasty word & one very  
 imperfectly expressing the  
 pleasure your noble success  
 gives us.

I give you joy on your  
 work.

The Calcutta Municipals &  
 their Officer/might very well  
 come here & change with our  
 W. Clark Esq  
 &c &c

**f71/12.1v**

Board of Works -

You are more logical than we are.

You see the consequences of a fact and realize them in practise.

Other men (of which I see some notable examples in the "Discussion" sent me) flounder about & make proposals of different kinds which to the clear Asiatic mind are so self-contradictory that they give themselves no trouble even to answer them.

My mind is still perplexed, however, about the sizes of the rain sewers 7' x 6'. and the provision to remove so large a rain-fall - Would you think it too much

**f71/12.2**

trouble, if you have the data at hand, to let us know the results of the following problem: -

1. Select a district which has been supplied with drains & main sewers for carrying off the main fall.
  2. Give the area of this district.
  3. Give the rainfall over it including days of maximum rain
  4. State the height, breadth & sectional area of the Outlet Sewer or sewers of this district.
  5. Gauge the main outlet sewer or sewers of the district at the period of maximum rainfall - & register the depths of the flow & its velocity -
- the object being to ascertain precisely what sectional area of Outlet is equivalent in *practice* to the area & rainfall.

The Municipal authorities of Calcutta & their Officer have set an example of enlightened administration and effective expenditure to other

**f71/12.2v**

Indian Municipalities which  
 it is to be hoped will be followed  
 Indeed there are few cities  
 anywhere which can show  
 so much good work done  
 in so short a time & with  
 such promising results for the  
 future God speed you!

Excuse a hasty note - I have only  
 my old excuse to urge of  
 business & illness  
 and pray believe me  
 Sir  
 ever your faithful servt.  
 Florence Nightingale

envelope, black-edged paper  
*Private. India*  
 W. Clark, Eq &c &c  
 Engineer to the Municipality of Calcutta  
*Calcutta*  
 via Brindisi  
 3/11/71

Letter, pen LMA H1/ST/NC1/71/13

**f71/13.1**

35 South Street, Nov. 16/71  
 Park Lane, {printed}  
 W

My dearest Mrs. Cox  
 So long have I been wishing  
 to write to you - & so much have  
 I to thank you for -  
 Judge how I must have been  
 pressed by my not having written -  
 First of all, I have to thank you  
 for the exquisite pears - so tempting  
 to a feverish Invalid - the nicest  
 I ever tasted - we can get nothing  
 like them in England -  
 then, for the charming little cap,  
 so like yourself -  
 & last, but by no means least,  
 for your most interesting, too interesting  
 letters -  
 Also, I had personal news of you  
 from Sir Harry Verney.  
 Your last letter but one was a

LMA 1

492

very painful one. Poor France!

**f71/13.1v**

With regard to the money question,  
 you know I entirely agree with  
 you - And I reproached Dr.  
 Sutherland for what he had  
 said on the subject. He admits  
 that it should be cautiously done  
 - and as to its necessity, here is  
 an actual case he had in view:  
 An agent of the Society near Metz  
 finds the Hospitals in want of  
 every urgent appliance, even Diets.  
 He finds that every thing can be  
 bought at or near the spot -  
 But nobody has any money - & he  
 has eventually to buy in London -  
 i.e. the Society buys & sends out,  
*after* the great want is past.  
 It never occurred to him that money  
 should be given in the way you  
 so justly reprobate.

**f71/13.2**

Take your own case in your letter.  
 "Soeurs" want certain supplies & can't  
 get them. An agent like yourself  
 ( if there are any such:) says:  
 `go into the town & procure them -  
 And I will be responsible for  
 the payment.' You see the goods,  
 & hand over the money - either to  
 the seller or the buyer.

I could add cases out of my own  
 experience, as thus: -

a Breslau lady - (-*excepting*  
 yourself, & a young English lady=  
 =pupil of my own who was in  
 charge of Prussian Lazareths  
 before Metz & elsewhere during  
 the whole war, this Breslau lady,  
 - she is of English birth - has let  
 me more behind the scenes than  
 any of our corespondents)  
 had 150,000 French prisoners pass  
 thro' her hands at *Breslau Station*  
 - of which 57,000 remained in  
 Silesia as prisoners. [She went to

**f71/13.2v**

the Station every night during the winter & staid till morning, to receive the Trains, take out ~~nurse~~ the sick, comfort the dying - no train arrived without many dead, many more dying, very many more frost bitten, dystenterie, starving, Typhus or Spotted Fever or Cholera cases -]

All official intimation of the arrival of the Prisoner trains was always refused her -

No German lady, no German Committee ever did any thing for the prisoners in SILESIA .

The details of the state of these wretched prisoners, more especially on arriving (they had to be cut out of the ice formed in the open trucks by their own dirt) are so harrowing that one doubts whether they refer to a Christian country or a civilized?age. [And any person who tried to help them was insulted by Prussian commandants.] I spare you the details.

**f71/13.3**

[2]

From first to last, the Hospitals in *Silesia* of the sick French prisoners were worse than anything I ever heard of -

It is quite uncertain how much, if any, of the warm clothing & sent out by our Socy. by its own agents - (no man was allowed to see the prisoners - reached them i.e. in *Silesia*.)

I have direct & personal evidence of its having been given to *Prussian employés* - in some places.

~~Now~~, Without entering farther into this dreadful history, - now irremediable, & past & gone, - I am sure you will say that money had much better have been sent to this lady (*some was*) sent her)- & that the Socy.'s help would thus have better reached the Sick.  
I give this only as an instance.

**f71/13.3v**

I am interrupted & must  
break off this letter, quite  
unworthy of you -

Silence is almost better than  
such imperfect words -

I have no time to say what I  
would - but only God bless  
you, dearest friend, with  
all my heart & soul -

& believe me ever yours  
overflowingly

**[end 15:816]**

F. Nightingale

envelope, black-edged

*France*

Mrs. Colonel Cox

Hôtel des Bénédictines

*Calais*

16/11/71

35 South Street 23/11/71

Park Lane

W.

With Florence Nightingale's  
compliments & thanks

{archivist's note: III 24

71/14 F.N.'s signature only, 23 Nov. 1871

72/1 F.N to [Dr. Sutherland] 23 Jan 1872}

Letter, pen LMA H1/ST/NC1/72/1

[8:343]

**f72/1.1**

*Dr. Braxton Hicks*

35 South Street} 23/1/72

Park Lane, {printed}

W.

I wish you would have made  
some observation on the  
enclosed when I sent  
it you -

It is the first attempt to  
prevent any drunken old  
female from practising  
as Midwife - tho' absolutely  
ignorant -

But what an attempt-!

They call a "*skilled* Midwife"

a person who can conduct

`*natural labours*' - as if

any *EDUCATED* Midwife

would come to be examined

for such a certificate!!

e.g. what good would it be to us? F.N.

**f72/1.1v [not verified]**

JS: I did not action this for the reason that it was carried and that it made no difference in your proposals for training. I should just go on & let this & all similar things take their course. If we are to contend against proposals like this we must have a double allotment of life - and every man whom {illeg.- illeg.} is injured will be against us.

{archivist's note: III 25  
72/2 F.N. to [Mary Jones], 9 Feb. 1872  
72/3 F.N. to [Mr. Rathbone], [21 Feb. 1872] [Goldie says Emily Rathbone]

Letter, pen LMA H1/ST/NC1/72/2

**[13:470]**

**f72/2.1**

35 South Street, Feb 9/72  
Park Lane, {printed}  
W

Dearest very dearest friend  
I am almost glad of something which compels me to write a letter I like - namely to you - when year after year I postpone it to the thousands of letters which I *don't* like to have to write.

Would you be so very good as to read the enclosed letter from San Remo, relatively to having 2 Sisters or "Lady Nurses" out there to nurse from "Octobor to May." [The

**f72/2.1v**

writer is Mrs. A Court, of whom I know personally but little. But as Sidney Herbert's wife is the sister of her husband, I know a good deal of her indirectly, as being a good, clever, capable, middle-aged.]

I will not point out to you the excessive vagueness of the proposal. Whom are the Sisters to nurse? - I suppose the English residents - I suppose gentlefolks - Under what

**f72/2.2**

conditions or orders or organizations?

[We could not possibly undertake it, because we have far more applications, especially from Workhouses, than we can supply - because we should not undertake irregular Nursing, or Nursing of gentlefolks at all - & because we could not spare women of the calibre wanted for such a curious unregulated post for 6 or 7 months from much more important work -

But it did occur to me that, as Mrs. A Court says, the only people likely to accept it

**f72/2.2v**

would be "Sisters", themselves  
requiring change of air.

And therefore I venture to  
enclose the letter to you.

Do you know of such? -

What conditions should you  
ask for? - What terms  
should you alone think  
possible to ensure any

Sisters' comfort on such a  
(I think uncomfortable)  
plan?

If you know of none such,  
what would you think of  
asking the East Grinstead  
"Sisters" - or Miss Sellon?

As for "trained Sisters", there  
are none `trained' but yours -

f72/2.3 LMA H1/ST/NC1/72/2 (contd)

[2]

35 South Street, {printed}  
Park Lane,  
W.

==

I can scarcely help alluding  
to what you once said as  
to your regret at ever having  
had Lying-in women at  
K.C.H. If there was  
fault, it was mine - because  
I was supposed to know  
more about Hospital  
Statistics - And bitterly have  
I repented it. Had I  
known then M. Husson's  
General=Hospital Lying-in  
Ward Statistics at Paris, I  
never would have done it.

**[8:344-45]**

**f72/2.3v**

But these very Statistics were only brought out at our request. And so with a great many others. I believe it is morbid, now the thing is done, (tho' of course evil should never be done knowingly that good might come) not to see the good that has come. Thousands of lives of poor Lying-in women will be saved by the attention that has been aroused - just as, we will

**f72/2.4**

be assured, good Sanitary legislation will proceed this Session - preventing Typhoid Fever from Sewer Gas - out of the Prince of Wales having been all but killed by it -  
But I must ask your leave to stop - I am at Embley with my dear mother where I always seem to have more to do than anywhere else - And I have been very much weakened this winter by illness & want of rest.  
How I wish I knew how you are!

**f72/2.4v**

Could you tell me *Dr. Shrimpton's* address at *Paris*? I think he was the Dr. of your Galignani Hospital - But do not trouble about this for a moment.

God bless you -  
 ever yours dearest friend  
 lovingly & truly  
 F. Nightingale

Note, f72/3, pencil

**f72/3.1** {written vertically over top left side of first paragraph below:  
 21 Feb 1872  
 Miss Nightingale}

so little enough among  
 statesmen of this present  
 day here!

Excuse great haste &  
 believe me  
 ever yours sincerely &  
 gratefully

Florence Nightingale  
 Ld Mayo's children asked for  
 a telegram to be sent to  
 Shere Ali - that they forgave  
 their Father's murderer  
 & hoped God would forgive him.

{archivist's note: III 26  
 72/4 Questions on Midwifery training  
 F.N. to Dr. Gottwald, April 1872  
 72/5 (see after 28 May 1872 for  
 F.N. to Mrs. Cox 1 May 1872)

Notes, pen FN handwriting on left, answers on right

**£72/4.1** Questions on midwifery training LMA H1/ST/NC1/72/4 [8:348-51]

{in double columns, on foolscap}

*Training of Midwives*

Would you be so very good  
as to furnish me with  
a general account of the  
Midwifery instruction  
at the Midwives' Clinique  
Berlin

(or at any other Midwives'  
School)

including as full information  
as you may be pleased to  
give on the following  
points: -

1. Duration of training  
before certificates of  
competency are granted?
2. If, e.g. there be a  
two years' course for  
first=class Midwives,  
a one year's course for  
second=class Midwives,  
please state differences  
& tests, by Examination  
or otherwise, of the two  
courses.

Midwives.

The answers were kindly  
given by Dr. *Gottwald*  
assistant of the *lying-in*  
Station of the *Charité* in  
*Berlin*

1. The course of instruction  
[illeg takes?] 5 months from October 1st  
to the end of February. Then  
the Midwives have to pass an  
examination before 3 Examinators  
(two {illeg.} from  
government, and the teacher  
of the midwives) and a  
certificate of competency is  
given to those who pass -
2. In Prussia there is  
but one class of

**f72/4.1v**

3. Whether during training instruction is given in Anatomy?  
 If so, how?  
 By Models?  
 By Drawings?  
 By Dissections?  
 By Lectures?

3. A short abregé of Anatomy and Physiology is taught, first theoretically, afterwards ~~the~~ with skeletons, with {illeg.?.} and Alcohol {illeg.?.} and with models. The pupils have to assist at 2 or 3 dis sections, of lying in women and children.

4. A Professor gives one hour lecture a day - besides

4. Also, if this instruction be given, by whom?  
 by a Professor? a. man?  
 b. woman?  
 by an Assistant? a. man?  
 b. woman?

two hours ~~a week~~ practical instruction are given every week by him and his assistant in the examination of pregnant women and Presentations on models - the operations are shown on models too.

The mid=wives have one

5. Are there Oral Examinations?  
 Or written Reports or Exercises?

hours repetition every day.  
 5 and 6. When the Professor has explained a paragraph of the Hebammen Lehrbuch and the Head midwife has repeated it to and with the pupils - the teacher himself examines them orally to see if they have understood and retained his lecture. The same is done with the practical performances.

6. By what method is efficiency in this anatomical knowledge estimated?  
 by marks?  
 or otherwise?

**f72/4.2**

7. What instruction in the elements of Midwifery is given before Pupil Midwife is allowed to deliver a case herself?  
 by the bed=side?  
 by Lectures?  
 by Models?  
 by drawings?
7. is best answered by the here joined "Lehrbuch" - which is the law for the midwives As long as they act according to the ordnances given in it, they ~~are~~ cannot be accused in any case.  
 3 and 4, will answer questions 7 and 8.
8. By whom is this instruction given?  
 by a Head-Midwife?  
 by an Assistant "?  
 by second=year's Pupil Midwives?  
 by a Professor a. man?  
 b. woman?  
 or Assistant Professor?
9. How long does this instruction continue before Pupil is admitted to deliver a Lying=in woman herself?
- 9) Five months.

**f72/4.2v**

10. What instruction is given respecting accidents of labour & how to deal with them? - respecting unnatural or unusual presentations, including performance of operations?
10. As soon as an anomaly is noticed with a woman in labour - the accoucheur (or the assistant) is called in - and he will make use of the occasion to explain to the pupils the anomaly, tell them what is to be done, and let them be his assistants if an operation is necessary.
11. Also, on diseases of childbed & of infants?
11. The lying in women and the infants receive three medical visits a day. They are nursed by the pupils according to the ordnances of the medical man. The pupils are instructed how to discern cases of illness and so decide when the doctor is to be called in or not.
12. State, please, what, if any, are the other branches of study?
12. none
13. What opportunities are given for Post Mortem Examinations? - for Dissections? - whether at the same or at different times & places (from or as Midwifery practice)?
13. During last years course pupils had to assist 3 dis sections of lying in women and 1 of an infant. The Assistant explained the anatomical circumstances to them

**f72/4.3**

14. In what manner & where is the pupil first allowed to practice? - & under whose direction? - whether allowed at once to take charge of a case - or only partially & under superintendence?
- 14) Every pupil has to give the necessary assistance in the Institution at 7 (during last winter's course at 9 and 11) births - first under direction later only in the presence of the midwives of the Institution, and has to ~~pra~~ learn and practice the nursing of these mothers and infants under the direction and control of the doctor and the midwives of the house.
15. Suppose a case of difficulty to arise in the pupil's hands, how by whom is she instructed to deal with it?
16. How is the use of instruments in such cases taught at the bed-side? & by whom?

**f72/4.3v**

17. During the practical training of pupils how is oral instruction by Lectures given on the cases?
18. What is the practical instruction at the bed-side given
- a. in Midwifery wards
  - b. at Lying-in women's own homes?

**f72/4.4**

19. In what manner is an estimate formed of fitness of Pupil to undertake Midwifery practice?  
including = length of course?
- nature of oral & written examinations?
  - number of examinations?
  - by whom conducted?
20. Likewise what personal attendance is required on what number of labours?
- what number of these must have been difficult or complicated in character?
  - what is the number of Labours
    - a. normal
    - b. abnormal
- a Pupil Midwife must conduct to obtain a certificate
- a. first=class
  - b. second=class?

**f72/4.4v**

21. Please state the nature & extent of general education in Medical science & practice required of candidates for Midwifery certificates with the kind & number of Lectures & Instructions which have to be followed?
22. Please append copy of Rules for training Midwives also, if possible, of Diploma or Certificate

**f72/4.5**

23. Where do Pupil Midwives reside
23. all  
(The Pupil Midwives reside in the Institution where they have their board and lodging. Their number is 32. They pay 50 Thaler including the fees for the course of instruction. They are not allowed without leave of absence to quit the house or to miss the lectures - esp. the hours of repetition.
- a. in the Institution
- b. in private lodgings?
- what disciplinary rules are in use?
- & by whom administered?
- what fees paid &c
24. Please state of what the teaching Staff consists
- Head Midwives
- Assistant "
- Professors a. men
- b. women 24.
- or Lecturers -
- The discipline is managed by the Director in his absence by his assistant, and in his absence by the Head Midwife.
- The staff consist of the Director (professor - man) his Assistant (accoucheur - man) 2 Midwives who have to carry on the Repetitions and to direct in cases of normal labour.
- is the Head Midwife also a Lecturer?
- The Head Midwife does not give lectures

**f72/4.5v**

25. If possible, please  
give approximately  
number of abnormal Deliveries  
e.g. wrong Presentations  
& Versions  
Forceps  
Craniotomy  
& other Instrumental cases  
accidents, eg. Haemorrhage  
Rupture of Uterus  
&c &c  
per cent of Total Deliveries?

26. What has been the  
relative proportion of  
Midwifery cases  
attended by a. men  
b. women  
each year  
during the last 10 years?

**f72/4.6**

27. Has the course of  
instruction been *enlarged*  
or *curtailed*  
within the last 20 years?  
- In what directions?

28. If you would be kind  
enough to state any  
improvements which in  
your opinion might be  
effected in the Training=  
course  
any points in which in  
your opinion it fails  
- you would be greatly  
adding to our obligation  
to you for answering  
these questions.

Florence Nightingale  
London April 1872

{archivist's note: III 27 [72/5? or where is it?]  
 72/6 F.N. to Dr. Sutherland 24 May 1872 LMA H1/ST/NC1/72/6  
 with enclosure:  
 72/7 Frau von Littrow to F.N. 26 April 1872

envelope 2 *packets*  
*on Training of*  
*Midwives*

1 Letter from FN to Dr S  
 sending 1 letter from frau von Littrau Private  
 with abridged trans in English  
 Dr Sutherland  
 Horseguards  
 24/5/72

Letter, ff72/6.1-72/6 pencil

**[8:353]**

**f72/6.1**

*Midwives' Cliniques* May 24/72  
 Dear Dr. Sutherland

So far from thinking with you  
 that we have got all the information  
 in our power, I have written to my  
 3 correspondents

Frau v. Littrow Vienna  
 " v. Sch=Zabierow "  
 Madame Helmholtz Berlin

begging them to obtain for me  
 - an account of where the Empress of  
 Midwives was educated - Vienna -  
 - an account of the 'Geburtshelfer' Institute  
 where it seems they do receive educated  
 women to train - Vienna -  
 - & of similar Institutions at Berlin.  
 == I enclose Frau v. Littrow's letter & an

**f72/6.1v**

abridgement in English.

She clearly shows that there are  
 high-class Midwives in Austria.

I also enclose the Berlin  
 'Lehrbuch' which you have not  
 seen - & other letters & papers  
 for reference - some of which you  
 have not seen.

And I have others still,  
 which I will send you, if you like.

yrs.v.ffctly  
 F.N.

{F. v. Littrow's letter} {archivist's note: III 28 (see F.N. to Dr. Sutherland 24 May 1872) MIDWIFERY

72/8 Summary of Frau Littrow's letter to F.N.  
April 1872}

Note, ff72/8.1-72/8.2v, pen

[8:347-48]

**f72/8.1**

Summary of Frau Littrow's  
letter

You will receive in the appendix written answers to your questions from the celebrated practising - ladies - doctor (of Vienna) Professor Späth, professor at the University here, & clinical lecturer in his department of midwifery. ~~She is however sorry to say~~

She is however sorry to say that she does not consider him a competent judge in the matter as he has no idea of the intellectual advance of the women of the present generation etc etc & considers the dependent condition of woman as one of the essential conditions of social life. She considers these remarks necessary because she has introduced him to you as ~~a leader~~ Gewährsmann her guarantee & thinks his unfavourable opinion ought to be put in its proper light."

**f72/8.1v**

Besides conversations with several physicians, she questioned the midwife of the Empress, Frau Gruber celebrated as a practitioner on whose information she can rely. Who expressed herself very strongly as to the insufficiency armseligkeit of the instruction which the midwives obtain, & the lot of useless women; ~~and~~ bad workwomen; & raw girls who accordingly turn to a profession, which was to be learnt in five months - That naturally nothing was to be learnt in so short a time, even to perform the smallest operation or to make use of any instrument was not allowed, but the things would be different if women were permitted the opportunity of obtaining greater knowledge &c &c

Then she cites as an example "that the states of Siebenbürgen at the request of one of their

**f72/8.2**

communes sent an educated wo=  
 man to Vienna who had obtained  
~~permission~~the right to attend the ~~who~~  
 complete course of ~~assistants~~  
 Geburtshelfer *accoucheurs* & had ~~been~~ shewn  
 herself capable of performing  
 even the difficult operations in  
 the most satisfactory manner  
 As another example, that the necessary phy=  
 sical power is not wanting to  
 women, she cites the cases of Mary  
 Safford from Chicago, & Susan  
 Dimmack from Boston, the female physicians > acquaint=  
 =ances of hers who had ~~been~~  
 resided in Vienna for some years.  
 After some further remarks she  
 says, she cannot recommend that  
 a midwives Institute such as it  
 exists in Deutschland should be  
 transplanted to England - What  
 is wanted is a model school for  
 real accoucheuses ~~separate from~~ in addition to an  
~~the~~ institute for monthly nurses.  
 She refers to the institute of  
 Geburts helfer which gives a  
 medico-surgical teaching based  
 upon less knowledge than is

**f72/8.2v**

required for the medical pro=  
 fession & entitling the students  
 to the degree only of Magister &  
 not to that of Doctor - She would  
 send you the Regulations & statutes  
 of the Institution if useful - as  
 well as the prescribed "Lehrbuch"  
 for Midwives.  
 She sends you an original cer=  
 =tificate which Frau Gruber has  
 begged her to place in your hands  
 in order to testify her respect  
 for you - Hopes you have re=  
 ceived ~~your~~ her letter of the 19th  
 of March  
 She ends with some general  
 sentiments -

{archivist's note: III 29  
 see F.N. to Dr. Sutherland 24 May 1872  
 72/10 Anna Helmholtz to F.N. 7 May [1872]  
 72/9 Frau von S. Zabierow to F.N. 26 April 1872.}

{archivist's note: III 30  
 72/11 F.N. to Henry B[onham] C[arter] 18 May 1872  
 72/12 " " " " (first part) [May 1872]}

Letter, pencil, LMA H1/ST/NC1/72/11

**f72/11.1**

*Sir H.'s speech* 18/5/72

My dear Harry B.C.

Could you let me have back that letter of  
 Sir Harry's on which was written (by me) what  
 the Probrs. said to Mrs. Wardroper upon my  
 letter? {pen: just sent up -}

Do you mean it to be printed? {not FN: pen: yes or  
 lithographed. HyB.C.

= *Mrs. B. Stowe*

**[8:804]**

You have not told me what to answer  
 to Mrs. Beecher Stowe. I should *write*

HBC: {pen: I hardly know what to say - unless she really understands  
 the real wants & practical difficulties, her writing may be harmful  
 To give some account of what has been done for nursing training  
 generally would be useful in directing attention to it  
 in America.

**[end 8:804]**

I had another very long talk with Miss  
 Torrance after you left -

**[12:203-06]**

And she then went to Mrs. Wardroper.  
 I must write to you at Ravensbourne about  
 some things. (not immediately relating to her post)  
 {pen: I should be daily in the City - }  
 I have latterly learnt a great deal more about

**f72/11.1v**

Sister Extra. She has done to us mischief  
incalculable & to Mrs Wardroper too - Mrs. W.  
is unaware of it.

{pen: she is aware that we have failed in  
training gentlemen & cannot but attribute  
some of the failure to this cause - }  
Miss Torrance probably told you that Miss Cameron  
wd. not do for her Successor at Highgate  
Miss Barclay she thinks wd. do better than  
herself. {pen: Yes. I propose to see &  
sound Miss Barclay shortly & if  
promising should wish you to see her  
H.B.C

P. Alice

I think I must say that  
the second Nurse should  
be paid for - I stupidly  
forgot my offer to receive  
gratuitously when before the Committee  
H.B.C}

**f72/11.2**

We are but just in time, IF we are in time, to  
save Mrs. Wardroper from degenerating into  
almost a Hospital scold -  
into governing like a virago -  
by talk, by being heard & not felt,  
instead of being felt & not heard -  
by speaking more than she observes,  
instead of observing more than she speaks  
all of which are almost the first elements  
of authority - And she has them not.  
She maintains her authority by self-assertion  
And she is losing it every day -  
--

I told her some things about Sister Extra -  
I saw even more by her countenance than  
by her words that they were quite new  
to her -  
What are we to think of this?

**f72/11.2v**

She told me that she had told Mr. Whitfd. that she was sure ~~tha~~ his neglect ~~w~~ had come to our Commee's. knowledge.

I was forced to say: No, it has not - For if it had he wd= not be there -

I told her *some* thing about his intoxication She admitted it - but either did not choose to admit or did not know all that I did. ~~it~~

She said, almost without intending it, that it was quite true that Mr. Whitfd. had done *nothing* even while Miss Rappe was there - that Miss R. had pointed out to her the words "instruction by the R.M.O." & had defied her to show that there was *any*.

**f72/11.3**

[2]

To my unspeakable regret, Mrs. W. told me herself that she had that very day - when a Probr= had told her that Miss Cameron had ordered her out of her ward & told her 'her ward was her own' - exclaimed *there & then* to the Probr=

"I can dismiss Miss Cameron & every woman in the place at a moment's warning without referring to any one".

This is true - But oh what a way to enforce authority - which is the more complete, the less it is perceived or asserted.

Miss Torrance may save her. But no one else can.

==

She told me that Mr. Whitfd= among many most unwarrantable things, had said of Miss T. that she "was not a lady" - & almost

**f72/11.3v**

said that Miss. T. shd= not come to St. T's.

Mrs. W. said she had made this & that excuse to Mr. Wh= for Miss T's absence of Lady-like ness - !!

[The idea of j our excellent Mrs Ward= roper!!! apologizing to me for Miss Torrance's!! want of lady-like manners!!]

I only mention this here because I have long known that Mr. Wh= was *afraid* of *Miss Torrance*. (not from her.)

Also: because Mrs. Wardpr= said to me as to you that she must not be "tied down" with Rules as to Miss T. -

She explained that she meant vis a vis to the Treasurer.

But she afterwards said = But I shd= not like to be "tied down" to her being in the Hospital

{archivist's note: III 31

72/12 F.N. to Henry Bonham Carter † [May 1872]  
(continuation)}

**f72/12.1**

[3]

at all - I should like to *try* how it *would do*, first" - This is reasonable. But Alas! who has been "*tried*" like Miss T. - we know from nearly 5 years that *she* has been the most successful woman we ever had.

Alas! can we say from Mrs. Wardroper's

12 years that *she* has been as successful?

[ Mrs. Wardr. added: I liked Miss T. much better at Highgate than when she was with us - I know this -

*Mrs. Wardr* too was afraid of her ~~too~~

of her gentle dignity, keen insight & wit.]

However, of course I merely said that

I wd= see Mrs. Wardr= any day - to make out *with her* a scheme of duties - & that *she* should write to Miss Torrance "who would work entirely under & thro'

**f72/12.1v**

Mrs. Wardr=, & not see me (F.N.)  
except at Mrs. Wardr='s desire" -

Miss T. had asked me to say this.

Mrs. Wardr= took this very graciously -]

Mrs. Wardr= said she ought to give  
Miss T. part of her own Salary -

I thought this very good of her,  
for I am sure it was unfeigned -

I merely said of course that *that*  
ought not to be -

& did not pursue *salary* with Mrs. W.  
== *salary* -

I think what you propose more than  
just & reasonable. £75. {perhaps

£25 more

later - to Miss T

£20 more (her son's)

to Mrs Wardroper

**f72/12.2**

[4]

I will only just mention now that I,  
not Miss T., ~~have~~ found & paid the Sol fa a  
teacher & other things -

Miss T. was quite right not to tell Mrs. W.

Indeed I asked her not -

I only mention it to you because Miss. T.  
will not "be relieved of those things"

by leaving Highgate -

She is very generous - & I believe helps  
a married sister -

Her father is a rich eccentric man.

I have offered to Mrs Wardr= to pay a  
Sol fa teacher for St. Thomas'.

I must now say once more that I am  
sure it wd= be quite impossible to Miss  
T. to stay at St. T.'s without some

**f72/12.2v**

written security or arrangement - at least  
 between Mrs W. & me - which I  
 should hand over to you -  
 Poor Mrs. W. is really capable, alas!  
 and alas!, of ordering her out of the  
 Wards before every body, ~~if~~  
 upon the wildest suspicion or  
 report that "she is `undermining'  
 Mrs. W." while at the same time  
 almost taken in by such creatures  
 as Martin & Crowdace.

Miss T. herself asked me to say to Mrs. W.  
 that I hoped if any of the Probrs=  
 reported her to Mrs. W., she would  
 immediately inform Miss T. herself -  
 which I did  
 & ~~Miss~~ Mrs. Wardr= took graciously

**f72/12.3**

[5]

One thing more: -

Mrs. Wardr= said to me -  
 this is a new beginning for us. -  
 we must try to begin all over again -  
 we must leave off old things -  
 I loved her for saying this -  
 It is quite true. - - - -  
 We must begin now all over again -  
 If we don't, we are ruined -  
 For our Probrs= come out of St. T.'s  
 worse women than they went in.  
 [I told Mrs. W. this of Mrs. Deeble -  
 She did not deny it - but did not  
 know it]

If you will return me this, I will write  
 more of immediate importance -  
 in greatest haste

**[end 12:206]**

{archivist's note: III 32

72/13 F.N. to Henry Bonham Carter 21 May 1872}

Letter, pen LMA H1/ST/NC1/72/13

[12:206-09]

**f72/13.1**

*Most Private &  
Confidential  
Mr. Whitfield*

*Please return to F.N.  
May 21/72*

has been for years in habits of intoxication -  
for years he has been in the habit of making  
his rounds in the Hospital Wards at night  
(at a later hour than anything could justify  
after having kept Sisters & Dispensary up till  
they would wait for him no longer)  
oftener tipsy than sober.

This appears to be known to every one in the  
Hospitals - & is supposed to be the reason why  
he was not offered the Resident Med' = Officer ship  
at the new building

As far back as 4 years ago this was known  
And at the same date his flirtations with  
"Sister" Butler were a current joke as that  
she was a person absolutely unfit to be "Sister",  
& was only "kept on" by Mr Whitfield -

For at least the last 4 or 5 years, Mr. Whitfield  
has done *nothing* for the Probationers. [I have  
made the most minute enquiries about this & am  
personally now well convinced that the "nothing" is literally  
accurate - neither Medl = Examr = classes - nor saying

**f72/13.1v**

anything in the Wards to them of instruction or examn. - nor on bandaging nor in any other way which in 1860, he specially engaged to do - He has not even attended them medically when sick with any regularity.

The lines in his hand writing at the bottom of the record book were simply dictated by Mrs. Wardroper.

The Probrs. were *told* that he "looked at" their Notes of Lectures - But no benefit or instruction accrued to them, if he did; since no explanation of any thing they did not understand, no criticism, correction or remark of any kind ever reached them.

[Miss Torrance is *positive* that this was the case during her Probation (21 months) of which she was "Sister" 5 months - While she was "Sister", he was occasionally kind, as e.g. when she had an Ovariectomy case - But his coming in tipsy & late at night was such a nuisance, & his total neglect of the Probrs., that it appears often to have been said that, till Mrs. Wardroper was rid of "Sister Extra" & Mr. Wh=, she would "do no good."]

The quarrels between Mrs. W. & him were so bitter & incessant that I am told they are "friends" now *comparatively* -

In relation to this, I asked about Mrs. Wardroper =

**f72/13.2**

"oh" said Miss Torrance "he is so infinitely little (small) by the side of her" - "she is so much greater than he is"

I was VERY glad to hear this: ~~It~~ from so dispassionate a judgment. I have always thought Mrs. W. had the elements of greatness in her, tho' she has made terrible mistakes -

*Mr. Croft*

Mr. Wh= quarrelled with him about 4 years ago & has scarcely been in the Surgical Wards since - also has tried to be obnoxious to Mr. C. in every way

It is stated that MR. Croft would make a capital Instructor to the Probrs. - as far as taking pains with them goes -

Also: that he is far more friendly to our "Nursing System" really than Mr. Wh= is.

Miss Torrance asked me in the way of business, as regards her future work with the Probrs., what Mr. Wh= was *supposed* to do - And I answered in the same way, the way of business. She testified her great surprise-never having had the least idea of ~~the~~ Mr.Wh's engagement with us.

"Has got the Linen in order." Miss T. Says: the Linen

**f72/13.2v** [2]

"Sister Extra"

has employed herself - one may almost say systematically - ever since any hint my informants are aware of in undermining Mrs. Wardroper with the Probationers -

It appears that there is scarcely a Probr. to whom she has not spoken *against* Mrs. W. - of her "tempers", &c &c &c

Mrs. Deeble she used to sit with till 12 o'clock at night - & as far as is known always talking on this topic.

Miss Mackenzie & Miss Torrance had not (respectively) been 2 days in the Home before Sister Extra began abusing Mrs. W. to each

[Miss M. was bursting against Mrs W. when she went to Highgate but of course Miss T. would not listen to her.]

So with others

Sister Extra is just such another as Crowdace - Conduct the same: always telling lies against their Superior to Doctors, Probrs., every body always making mischief - but ingratiating themselves with same Superior by "keeping" Assistant Nurses "off" her - making them civil & cringing to her -

"Extra" however Mrs. W. thinks much more useful than she is - She wants to keep her till she "has got the Linen in order." Miss T. says: the Linen will never be in order till Extra is gone.

**£72/13.3** She is slovenly, careless, dirty, sinfully unpunctual, unconscientious & deceitful, to a degree I really never saw in a position of trust.

For 21 months she rarely got up to give the Probrs= their breakfasts, more than 10 minutes before they had to go to the Wards -

Miss T. always got up & rang the bell & did the breakfasts herself -

Same with prayers mornng- & eveng=

The dirt, noise & disorder of the "Home" is a disgrace to us

And, Miss T. says, *the disorder & noise in this new Home is worse than it was in the old.*

*Already too the new Home is dirty, frowzy, untidy*  
And Miss T. says her heart sinks within her at going in to it.

*Mrs. Wardroper never goes into the Home when she can help it - Sister Extra makes it so intolerable & almost impossible to her to go into it - conniving with some Probrs= to make her coming in seem an "intrusion" [Mrs. Wardroper has told me, F.N., this herself.]*

Many have observed what is it that makes Mrs. W. so "afraid" of Extra?

But her black ingratitude & evil speaking "behind backs" of Mrs. W. is her real sin.

And of this it is said Mrs. W. is unconscious.

**f72/13.3v** *Mrs. Wardroper*

Not considered by the Probrs= as their head at all. *Not at all* as Matron & pupils -

They look upon her - even the best - as not caring for them personally at all ~~as~~ or only for *her own credit* - as worldly "clever, managing, sharp". as *there* only to find fault with them & to find them good places - & as rather "intruding" when she comes into the "Wards" even -

& they look upon themselves as *there* "to please themselves" or be "promoted".

(I remarked upon Mrs W.s wonderful cleverness, in always finding the right 'mot' for each - And Miss T. said:

(and this is indeed the worst)

*Yes: but that makes them think that two can play at that game - that it is WHO can be the cleverest diamond cut diamond & they sometimes openly boast that in the Home that they have "outwitted" Mrs. W. - that they have been cleverer than she - & have got what they wanted by wits against wits.*

Of course all this is immensely increased by Extra who really always holds each by the worst part of her -

But Miss T. sadly added: but Mrs. Wardroper never knows the *best part* of them It is always

**f72/13.4**

who she *likes* - not who is *best*

[Miss Mackenzie has openly boasted that she has 'out-witted' Mrs. W. & 'got her to take her back to St. T.'s.]

I of course expressed what a great Hospital Genius she was - & how different St. T.'s from Guy's or Barholomew's -

in which Miss T. entirely condurred & added: *yes, and she has done it alone* - nearly every thing against her.

*Miss T. says: oh the Home Wd= do a great deal better without any Sister at all than with 'Extra' -*

**f72/13.4v**

3

*Probationers*

regularly *grow worse* as they remain in the Home. They come in with some earnest purpose - and it is crushed out of them -

This is the case whether "ladies" or Nurse Probrs- The "ladies" especially come in with some religious purpose & remain "to please themselves".

The Nurses remain "to ingratiate themselves with

Mrs. W. & to get her to give them good situations". One "Lady=Probr." - (not Miss T.) said: "the Probrs= "have not been 2 days in the Home before all "earnestness, all enthusiasm is gone - & many "come in with earnest & even enthusiastic "purpose it is all *crushed* out of them in 2 "days"

This, of course, is an exaggeration but not so much an exaggeration, accordg= to Miss T.'s acct- as you would think

She "reckoned up - (not) "the several devil's names" (but) the several Probrs=' names, during her 21 months with us, & said: there was not one - except Miss Pringle - who did not sensibly deteriorate day by day during their stay - And, she said, there was cause but principally "Extra" was cause -

**f72/13.5***Mrs Deeble*

She said was the most marked case of deterioration. She says she is a weak, good, touchy woman, but by no means without earnestness, feeling, kind-heartedness & a certain sort of cleverness but weak -

She fell completely (& prostrate) under "Extra" - She quarrelled incessantly with Mrs. W. - the quarrel originating in Mrs. Deeble not having got up *with* when Mrs. W. came into the Ward - & having been envenomed by "Extra" - Mrs. W. does not know her from Adam - knows her only by their quarrels - [Each seems in this case to have been equally to blame only that little viper "Extra" was always behind the scenes making mischief which otherwise Mrs Deeble's kind heartedness wd= have got over.] Miss T. says, Mrs. Wardroper had no more idea whether Mrs. Deeble wd= do for Netley or not than "Extra" had nor *could* have - She says it was simply absurd of *us* to expect it.

*Miss Cameron*

has much the same tale - which I can fill up partly out of my own knowledge - I mean as to Miss C.'s great earnestness when she first went in to St. T.'s as Probr= - (she wrote to me -)

But Miss C. has more self-knowledge than Mrs. Deeble - And, alas! she has told Miss Torrance

**f72/13.5v**

since she went back as Sister to M St.T.'s, how much she is falling back ~~in soul~~ . getting into a lax, careless, light way again - She is flirty & dressy - "cannot stand alone." If she "*has a Matron ship, she ought to have her mother to stay with her, as she herself wishes*". but full of good qualities, when you compare her with Duke, Butter, Buckland, Martin (Extra) [Butler?] [I put this in here about the Matron ship, to end my story about Miss C. here] **[end 12:209]**

{archivist's note: III 33

72/13 F.N. to Mrs. Cox 1 May 1872

72/14 F.N. to Henry Bonham Carter 4 June 1872

72/15 " " " " " 5 June 1872

(2 enclosures)

Letter, pen LMA H1/ST/NC1/72/5]

**f72/5.1**

**[12:203]**

*Mrs. Molony: 17th Brig=R. Artillery*  
(whom you "wish to be trained  
"as Nurse in a London Hospital".)

I send accordingly the Regulations  
for admission to our Training=School  
at St. Thomas' Hospital

She must please fill up the  
Form at the back & send it  
to our admirable Training Matron,

Mrs. Wardroper

St. Thomas' Hospital

Westminster Bridge

London ~~SW~~ S.E.

subject to whose selection candidates  
are admitted

[I will send the recommendations  
which you have been kind  
enough to send me to Mrs  
Wardroper -]

It is generally desirable to see

Mrs. Wardroper before being  
Mrs. (Colonel) Cox

**f72/5.1v**

admitted as a Candidate,  
in order to avoid disappointment.

And she will, after receiving

Mrs. Molony's papers, inform  
her whether there is a vacancy  
(there are several vacancies -  
but there are a large number  
of Candidates)

& whether she thinks it worth  
while for her to come to  
London for that purpose -

[You do not state Mrs. Molony's  
age.]

With my best wishes that she  
may succeed.

Florence Nightingale

1/5/72

**f72/5.2**

I conclude that it *is* as Hospital  
 `Nurse' that you wish for  
 training for Mrs. Molony -  
 Indeed I should not have  
 doubted it, as no other word  
 occurs in any of the letters  
 relating to Mrs. Molony -  
 And only in Col= Cox's Memo-,  
 (not referring to Mrs. Molony  
 but to the general questions,)  
 does the word "Midwife" occur  
 [The Training=School for Midwives,  
 wh= we had for 7 years at Kings Coll=  
 Hosp=, does not now exist,  
 owing to defects in that Hospital.  
 And we are not yet organizing  
 another.]

I send the Printed Paper of "Duties" at St.  
 Thomas' Hospital merely for your information  
 as to the Probationers' School.

[end 12:203]

F.N.

Note, ff72/14.1-72/14.2, pen

**72/14.1**

Please Duties of ~~Sister~~ Miss Torrance  
**return to No 1**

[12:210]

F.N.

To take charge (under the Matron - Superintendent)  
 of the Probationer's Home  
 of its housekeeping, accounts, servants, &c &c  
 To take general charge of the Probationers under the  
 Matron: also as to meals, hours &c &c &c  
 to carry out rules -  
 To give such classes, whether religious or of  
 General Improvement, as may be from  
 time to time arranged. To see to the Probrs-  
 preparing Notes of Lectures, Case-books, Diaries, & to verify them  
 To give such superintendence in the wards  
 or in such wards as the Matron  
 may from time to time appoint  
 To read ~~morning & evening~~ prayers in the  
 Home? correspondance concerning the Probatrs.  
 To ~~write~~ undertake all ~~such letters~~ as the Matron  
 may desire - ~~of enquiry concerning~~  
~~selection of Probationers, information sought~~  
~~or given in all that regards the~~  
~~Probationers & the Home~~

**f72/14.1v**

{not in F.N.'s handwriting; in another pen}  
I think these regulations  
embody all that is necessary  
but perhaps the effect of  
putting them into Mrs. Wardroper's  
hand may be to increase  
her fear or feeling that she is  
to be practically displaced. -  
Now we do not want this at  
all & I am disposed to think  
that *in the present stage*  
the rules should be verbally  
discussed between you & her  
& the principle of Miss. T.'s ~~being~~  
services being confined to the  
Probationers with only such  
superintendence in the wards as  
is found convenient, would  
be poorly understood - I think  
you might even read her

**f72/14.2**

what you want to put down.  
When {illeg?} of formal rules  
& carried over, they look more  
formidable in the sense I refer to.  
However this is entirely for your  
discretion & you will be better  
able to judge in seeing & talking  
with her.

She has asked the chaplain to  
fix Prayers in the Chapel at  
such an hour that Nurses &  
Probationers may attend . -

4/6/72 {H.B.C.?

[end 12:210]

11.15 pm

Letter, ff72/15.1-72/15.2, pen  
**f72/15.1**

[13:628]

*Oldham Infy*

Mr. Walters June 5/72

My dear Henry B.C.

I know not whether you have  
 written to this man.

I learnt from Mrs. Wardr= yesterday  
 quite enough ~~about~~ against "Emma Hood"  
 - tallying as it does with my own  
 recollections of Agnes Jones'  
 poor opinion

of her - to justify me in writing  
 'confidentially' to Mr. Walters.

And I told Mrs. Wardr= that I  
 should do so, if with your adhesion.  
 She agreed.

She thought that they should  
 have 1 (Matron) Sups= Nurse  
 2 Nurses (Day  
 1 Nurse (Night

She thought that we might  
 furnish them with the 3 first  
 or with all 4 if you liked.

**f72/15.1v**

She thought that Miss Hill  
 wd= do for the first - having  
 charge of housekeeping & servants  
 - wd- be content to begin with  
 £40 or £50 -

(or Miss Cameron would do -  
 and I think Mrs. Wardr= would  
 rather part with Cameron than Hill.  
 But then Cameron has just  
 taken a house for her mother  
*in London † to be near her)*

She thought that we could  
 not give 2 Nurses of ours, under  
 £20 a year "& all found"  
 - & that they ought to give this  
 - because you see *these* Nurses  
 will have nothing like the  
 help *ours* have - indeed  
 one will be obliged to take  
 charge of both Wards whenever  
 the other is out.

**f72/15.2**

Also = a new Hospl- ought to start well.

Will you say whether I shall write? -

if so, what?

& if so return me Mr. Walters' letter to me?

[end]

F.N.

**f72/15.2v** {letter from W. Walters addressed "My dear Sir", May 28 1872}  
**f72/15.3, f72/15.3v** to F.N., May 28 1872}

**f72/15.4**

What are we to say to this man? [13:627]

I did not remember the Hospl. was so small. But I think I recollect that it was built on purpose so as to admit readily of further extension, if needful.

A Sups= Sister, to do Matron's work, is more what they want - since they will scarcely pay

1 Matron

2 Sisters (Head Nurses)

for 24 beds -

One of our Sisters wd= do very well. And oh how glad I shd= be to get rid of Butter [?]- But we can scarcely give them a Butler - & we cannot spare a good one.

I suppose it is vain to try & find out from Mrs. Wardr- what sort "Emma Hood" is - ? -

[I have the vaguest idea: Agnes Jones did not like her. But I may be quite mistaken in the name.]

F.N.

[end]

{single side of one folio, part of a letter, signed by H.B.C.}  
 {the microfilm ends here}

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i  
London Metropolitan Library, held for Florence Nightingale Museum  
rolls 1 and 2 412 pages

H1/ST/NC3/SU1: preliminary copy of contract between FN and prospective  
nurses to serve in Crimea: pen: no signature or names provided, stylized  
printing **[14:50-51]**

Memorandum of Agreement

made this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 1854 Between  
Miss Nightingale on the one part, and \_\_\_\_\_  
of \_\_\_\_\_ on the other part.  
Whereas the said Miss Nightingale Superintendent has  
undertaken to provide Female Nurses for the Sick and  
Wounded of the British Army serving in Turkey. And  
in carrying out this object she has agreed to employ  
the said \_\_\_\_\_ in the capacity of  
Nurse \_\_\_\_\_ agrees to pay  
the said \_\_\_\_\_ Pounds per week, and  
also to provide Board, ~~and articles of clothing~~, also to  
pay all expenses attendant upon the Journeying to or  
from the present, or any future Hospital that may be  
appointed for the accommodation of the Sick and Wounded  
of the said Army. And to pay all expenses of return to  
this Country, should Sickness render it necessary for the  
said \_\_\_\_\_ to return, Save and except  
such return shall be rendered necessary, by the discharge  
of the said \_\_\_\_\_ for neglect of duty,  
immoral conduct, or intoxication, in which case the  
said \_\_\_\_\_ shall forfeit all claim  
upon Miss Nightingale from the period of such  
discharge. And the said \_\_\_\_\_  
hereby agrees to devote her whole time and attention  
to the purposes aforesaid under the directions and to the  
satisfaction of the said Superintendent, the whole  
of whose orders she undertakes to obey, until discharged  
by the said Superintendent.

Witness.

**[end 14:51]**

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 535

H1/ST/NC3/SU2 letter by Sidney Herbert to my dear Lord [presumably to the bishop of London] 17 Oct 1854, War Office re FN accepting to go

War Office Oct 17 1854

My dear Lord,

Miss Nightingale has consented to out to Scutari to understake the Hosp management of the female nursing-- Her great hospital experience shall carry [convey?] a surgical treatment

together with her administrative capacity peculiarly fit her for this undertaking and in a military hospital where subordination is everything, without ...

Would you kindly send Mr Shepherd to me Perhaps he would call at the

H1/ST/NC3/SU3 letter 14 Oct 1854 from C.J. London [Charles James Blomfield] re Rev C.P. Shepherd

H1/ST/NC3/SU4 letter from Charlotte, Mrs Willoughby Moore, incomplete Oct 12

H1/ST/NC3/SU5 letter 16 Oct [1854] again from Mrs Willoughby Moore, The Rectory, Putboro, Suffolk?

H1/ST/NC3/SU6 incomplete letter re Dr Smith informs Rev Shepherd re medical officers in Turkey have everything necessary for treatment of the sick and wounded from AMD 13 ST James's Place 6 Nov 1854

H1/ST/NC3/SU7 letter from Scutari Hosp from C.H. Bracebridge to Rev T.B. Murray [see] re FN, nurses, chaplains

H1/ST/NC3/SU8 letter of bishop of London C.J. [Blomfield] London to C.P. Shepherd

H1/ST/NC3/SU9 copy of letter from St John's House Nov 16 1854 from C.P. Shepherd to Rev C.S. Nicolay

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 536

H1/ST/NC3/SU10 letter from 67 Harley St. 15 Nov [1854] to C.P. Shepherd

H1/ST/NC3/SU11 letter from C.S. Nicolay to Sir 4 Dec

H1/ST/NC3/SU12 letter from A.H. to dear Madam no date

H1/ST/NC3/SU13 letter from Mrs Elizabeth Clarke

H1/ST/NC3/SU14: pen: letter from Scutari to Miss Gipps [Goldie # 5]

Barrack Hospital [14:71]

Scutari

5 December 1854

Dear Miss Gipps

I have no time but to make the shortest communication, as you may suppose when I tell you that I have not yet written to my own people-

I have now had one month's experience of the St. John's Sisters.

Mrs. Drake is invaluable, kind, careful, modest-

Mrs. Lawfield, since the "blow-up" about the Caps, of which Mr. Bowman may

have told you, has been {14a} quite a different person & she is now, though not skilful (she does not know a fractured limb when she sees it) one of the most valuable nurses I have from her great propriety of conduct & kindness. Her very expression of countenance is altered & improved.

With regard to the other four, I fear that nothing can be made of them here - tho' I have no doubt that, as private

nurses in England, they may {14b}  
be very good. Their  
manners are so flibberty-  
gibbet, (though with the  
~~exception~~ exception of Mrs. Higgins,  
I suspect no greater  
impropriety) that they  
do not command the  
respect imperatively  
necessary where forty  
women are turned loose  
among three thousand men.  
They do not keep the rules  
which I have made to ensure female decorum, but  
run scampering over the  
wards by themselves at night,  
feeding the men without  
medical orders - Their

dressings of wounds are careless {14c}  
& slovenly - & they will not  
take a hint, except from  
me- I have consequently  
employed them less in nursing,  
& more in making Stump  
Pillows etc for the men etc than  
I shd otherwise have done  
with the view of protecting  
them - And they said,  
which is very true, that  
they did not come out for  
needlework, they have consequently done little or nothing.  
I fear they must  
be recalled, which I should  
very much prefer should  
arise thus, because you want  
them, rather than because  
I don't -

Yours ever  
F Nightingale

I hope you are better.

[end 14:71]

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 538

H1/ST/NC3/SU15 letter from Scutari Dec 4 1854 to Madam

H1/ST/NC3/SU16 letter from Scutari Barrack Dec to Madam from Mary Anne Coyle

H1/ST/NC3/SU17 letter from M. Jones, St John's House, Queen's Square Dec 22 1854 to FN  
re recd 18th letter from her addressed to Miss Gipps re nurses

H1/ST/NC3/SU18: pen: letter to "Gentlemen", likely of St John's Nurses [Goldie: 11  
January 1854]

Barrack Hospital [14:115-16]

Scutari

11 January 1854 [55]

Gentlemen

I have the honour to acknowledge  
the receipt of a letter from Mrs. Jones,  
Lady Supt of the 22nd inst & I have  
also had a letter from Mr. Bowman of  
the 26th ult.

From these letters it appears that the  
St. John's Nurses have expressed themselves  
as aggrieved by a rule restricting them  
from "speaking to patients" by "want of sympathy  
from others" & "want of due consideration  
towards themselves." It seems also to be  
thought that I passed some severe  
censure upon their want of "surgical" skill.

In reply I have only to say that it was  
by the information alone which I received  
from the Nurses (for I felt it necessary to  
ask their explanation) that I could understand  
what the above weighty expressions could

refer to which seem derived from a {18a}  
very serious examination of the hasty &  
inaccurate letters of those not much  
accustomed to detail facts or to explain  
their feelings in writing.

The rule against reading to patients  
in a Military Hospital without the Chaplain's  
leave (observed alike by every one)  
is the only approximation to the supposed  
interdiction of speaking. As to "sympathy"  
& "consideration," they can only explain  
that "Mrs. Clarke" did not "speak to  
them respectfully & they were not  
accustomed to it." Mrs. Clarke, as  
I believe, though somewhat brusque, sets  
them an example of incessant labor &  
anxiety to fulfil her duties. But their  
main complaints were against Mrs.  
Lawfield, one of their own body and  
jealousies of Mrs. Drake.

Had they given me any opportunity  
of setting matters right I might have  
convinced them of the impropriety of lightly

taking offence. The enormous pressure of {18b}  
the Sick Cases on us, the supplying them  
with the proper food, & the supply of the wards  
with utensils, clothing etc. form a task  
of so very heavy a nature that I am  
wholly unable to enquire into trifles which  
I know nothing of & which were not  
intimated to me at all, though  
constantly passing the common room for  
at least sixteen hours out of the twenty four.

In conclusion, I trust that it may not  
be deemed offensive to say that the frivolous  
& really unfounded charges of the letters,  
which have obtained such grave consideration  
at your hands, confirms me in the idea  
that the St. John's Nurses are not well  
fitted for the work of this Hospital, nor  
have they improved by experience.

I have therefore given to four of them  
your letters of recall, since receiving their  
explanations, & shall only await a  
convenient opportunity for their return.

I had hoped to have found some  
serious devotion to the cause we are engaged

in- but have no other complaint to make. {18c}  
I am obliged by the letters of recall having  
been sent which I can now make use of  
& am; Gentlemen,

Your obedt servt  
Florence Nightingale

P.S. I cannot too strongly draw your  
attention to the difference between a  
Military & a London Hospital- to the  
consequent necessity of different rules  
& to the probability of the Nurses in question  
doing extremely well in private nursing  
at home- but not among the Officers  
here. [end 14:116]

H1/ST/NC3/SU19 letter from A.C. Maconbrey to Sir

H1/ST/NC3/SU20 letter from Elizabeth Woodward to Madam Jan 3/55

H1/ST/NC3/SU21 Emma Fagg 4 Jan 1855

H1/ST/NC3/SU22 Emma Fagg to 14th Jan 1855

H1/ST/NC3/SU23 A.G. Moconbrey to Sir from Balaclava Hosp

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 541  
H1/ST/NC3/SU24 to Sir Jan 22 to Sir: They sailed on Oronoco Selena Bracebridge  
H1/ST/NC3/SU25 C.J. [Blomfield" London to Shepherd 10 Feb '855  
H1/ST/NC3/SU26 C.P Shepherd Feb 10 1855  
H1/ST/NC3/SU27 C.J. [Blomfield] London 12 Feb 1855 to Shepherd  
H1/ST/NC3/SU28 C.P. Shepherd  
H1/ST/NC3/SU29 Elizabeth Woodward (2) Scutari Apr 2  
H1/ST/NC3/SU30 Rev Robert Halpin 3 Apr 1855 to Shepherd  
H1/ST/NC3/SU31 M.A. Bowles May 19 1855 to Sir  
H1/ST/NC3/SU32 Rev T.J. Smith part letter **00081**  
H1/ST/NC3/SU33 Mrs Sanson to Shepherd from Scutari 28 Jan 1855 [check date, June?]  
H1/ST/NC3/SU34 ditto Jan 6  
H1/ST/NC3/SU35: pen: letter to "Sir", likely an official of St. John's Nurses  
**00069**

Barrack Hospital **[14:213-15]**  
Scutari  
August 16/55

My dear Sir

My poor Drake is  
dead - & you who knew  
her will know what a  
loss I have had - the better  
for her. She died on  
Thursday the 9th of August  
of low fever at Balaclava.  
I am expecting the body  
to be sent down with  
a Nurse to be buried at  
Scutari. I cannot tell you  
what I felt when I heard  
of her death - unexpected

[page 2]

with low fever, but it **{35a}**  
was not considered serious,  
& I heard every post  
that she was going to  
be put on board ship  
with her nurse, Mrs. Davy,  
to return to me for change.  
Last Monday I heard of  
her unexpected death.  
I have lost in her the  
best of all the women  
here - And I can only  
comfort myself with the  
idea that hers is the gain.  
I never thought she would  
be long-lived. But it  
seems doubtful whether  
her life has been shortened

[page 2]

alike by all. Her two **{35b}**  
physicians thought her  
going on well - & every  
vessel that came down  
from Balaclava I was  
expecting her in - as she  
was coming to me to recruit.

When I went up to  
Balaclava in the beginning  
of May, she entreated me  
to let her go with me.  
And I declined her going,  
thinking her far from equal  
to it. I had already  
refused a previous request  
of hers to go to Balaclava.

[page 3]

She was a good deal **{35c}**  
mortified - as she had set  
her heart upon going.  
When I came back ill,  
to Scutari, she again  
requested to go - & this  
time I yielded to her  
earnest wish, which I  
shall regret as long as  
I live. I yielded only  
upon the condition that  
she would write to me  
constantly &, if she did  
not like Balaclava, would  
tell me so instantly -  
She had hardly been

there a fortnight before **{35d}**  
she wrote to me that she  
did not like it & wished  
to come back. Though  
it was the first time I  
had been able to take a  
pen in my hand, I wrote  
to her by return of post,  
desiring her to return *imme-*  
*diately*. The next thing I  
heard was that she was  
gone for change of air to  
the Monastery of St. George  
with My Superintendent  
which is our Convalescent  
Institution at Balaclava.  
While there, she was attacked

by being in this country. {35e}  
Once I proposed to her  
to go home. She rejected  
the idea entirely. Said  
she was better here than  
in England. She had  
one of my best Nurses to  
herself. who never left her  
night or day & was most  
tender to her - as well as  
the Superintendent at  
Balaclava, Miss Wear, who  
loved her as much as I did.  
She was not attached to  
life - She had suffered  
very much in it - & I think  
she never expected to return.

[page 7]

For, before she went to {35f}  
B'clava, she packed up  
everything she had & directed  
them to St. John's, "in case  
of my death" she said.

I shall therefore send  
all her things to you &  
now enclose a Cheque,  
which comprises what  
was due to her of wages  
& £5 more as a present.  
For she was very kind to  
a widowed sister with  
children at Birmingham-  
I will send you this person's  
direction, if you have it not,  
& will ask you to write to  
her. I shall put up a

stone to her memory - as I {35g}  
have done to another Nurse  
whom we lost, - And I  
shall be very glad to  
assist the poor sister further  
if you judge it necessary,  
which is due to my poor  
Drake's memory.

I need not tell you how  
sorry I was for Mrs.  
Lawfield's change of religion.  
I think she already regrets  
the step she has taken. I  
have not given her the  
pleasure or the spur of  
thinking herself persecuted.  
& have passed over many  
things that she might not  
be a martyr. but I must

tell you that she has a {35h}  
daughter *living* with an aunt  
of the name of Doudney  
at Melton Mowbray -  
& two little boys with  
her husband's father &  
that she is wishing to  
place all these at  
Convent Schools - in London.  
This is manifestly not right  
& should be prevented if possible  
The girl is 15 years old - quite  
old enough to judge for herself.

Believe me Dear Sir

Yours Truly  
Florence Nightingale

Please remember me kindly  
to Miss Jones - I would have  
written to her, but am so  
pressed by business.

[end 14:215]

Scutari

August 21/55 [14:215]

Dear Sir

Poor Mrs. Drake's  
last request was that  
£5 should be sent at once to  
her Sister at Birmingham.

Mrs. Dingley

108 Bramsgrove St.

Birmingham

I have since received  
the enclosed letter for her,  
which I opened, hoping  
to find the address of  
her father. But there

is no date but Bath. {36a}

I have sent you the  
whole of her wages and  
£5 more - & leave you  
to do what you think  
right. As she seems  
to have left no other  
directions. I shall also  
send the whole of her  
things to you - as soon as  
I can collect them from  
Balaclava & here.

Mrs. Lawfield has  
asked me to place her  
daughter at a Convent  
in London. I encourage

her to talk to me as {36b}

much as possible - as  
she otherwise falls into  
the hands of a silly little  
Priest here & an unprin-  
ciple R. Catholic Nurse  
whom I have dismissed  
but who is still ~~here~~ at Scutari.  
It is impossible that I  
should perform her  
request, without the  
consent of the girl,  
who is 14 or 15, & who  
lives, as I told you,  
at her Aunt's

Mrs Doudney's

Melton Mowbray

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 547

I wish you could obtain {36c}  
some information as  
to this poor girl's situation,  
with which her Mother  
for whom I have a  
real regard, in spite of  
or perhaps because of  
all the trouble & grief  
she has caused me,  
is dissatisfied.

My poor friend, Mrs.  
Drake, was buried at  
Balaclava, the Commander=  
in=Chief having refused  
permission to let her  
remains be removed to  
Scutari. I am putting up  
a tomb to her - Yours truly  
F Nightingale

[end 14:215]

H1/ST/NC3/SU37: pen: letter to "Sir," [Rev C.P Shephard, of St. John's House]

Scutari [14:216]

August 27/55

Dear Sir

I have just received  
poor Mrs. Drake's last  
directions to me. She  
wished *the whole of*  
*her money* to go to her  
sister at Birmingham -  
& *the whole of* her  
things, which I will send you - (with the  
exception of St. John's  
things & box which were to go to you which I have  
here & will also send you).  
She wished ~~the~~ her box which  
you have at *St. John's*  
& in which there are

none of St. John's {37a}  
things also to go to her  
sister at Birmingham  
& her watch which  
I will send.

[end 14:216]

She sent me her  
love & duty & regretted  
that she had not  
returned to Scutari ~~as~~  
~~she~~ when I desired her.

In haste  
believe me dear Sir  
Yours truly  
F Nightingale

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 548  
H1/ST/NC3/SU38 signed, partial letter

Scutari Hospital [14:216]

August 28/55

My dear sir

I embarked by the  
"Edwin Fox" Sailing Vessel  
for England, this morning,  
all poor Mrs. Drake's  
things, consisting of 2  
boxes- In the large  
box (which is St John's  
property) are (also St  
John's property)

1 shawl

2 gowns (1 unmade

1 flannel petticoat (unmade)

& 4 linen Aprons (1 unmade

She sends home for you

1 bottle Scent

which she prays you to accept [end 14:216]

H1/ST/NC3/SU39 A.C. Maconbrey from Balaclava to Sir

H1/ST/NC3/SU40 John Drake, his mark, Sept 10 1855 to Shepherd, re paying wages of his  
daughter to her sister

H1/ST/NC3/SU41 C.H. Bracebridge re Drake

H1/ST/NC3/SU42 Frederick G. Blomfield 4 Dec 1855 to Shepherd  
[presumably relative of bishop]

H1/ST/NC3/SU43 C.J. [Blomfield] London from Fulham Palace 4 Dec 1855

H1/ST/NC3/SU44 Sir James Clark to Shepherd re testimonial meeting

H1/ST/NC3/SU45 from 3 Finsbury Circus, re note of 10th, re bringing matter before the  
bishop, Frederick G. Blomfield 13 Dec 1855 to Sir

H1/ST/NC3/SU46 Sir James Clark Dec 14 1855 re N meeting

H1/ST/NC3/SU47 W. Bowman 24 Dec to Shepherd

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 549

H1/ST/NC3/SU48 C.H. Bracebridge to Sir Dec 3 1855 note re CHB note Master of ST John's House presents his compliments to Lady Cranworth and according to sugg of Mr Bracebridge takes the liberty of sending her the enclosed [next] note

H1/ST/NC3/SU49 Lady Cranworth to Master of St John's House

H1/ST/NC3/SU50 Emma Fagg Dec 8 1856 re wages & board to Sir, C.P Shepherd, master of St John's House

Letter 51 page 68, dated Nov 2 1861, LMA3 H1/ST/NC3/SU5

Hampstead NW

Nov 2/61

Sir

I beg to thank  
you for your note  
of Oct 24, enclosing  
a copy of a Resolution  
of the Council of  
St. John's House-  
which I have  
forwarded to my  
Committee, who will

certainly reply to it  
in a suitable  
manner.

But on my own  
part, I should be  
very much indebted  
to you if you would  
take an opportunity  
to assure the President  
or any Members of  
the Council of St  
John's House  
how deep is my  
conviction that the

obligation is all on  
one side-that  
we have, I fear,  
increased your  
expences, certainly  
increased very  
much the labour  
of all the Officers  
of St. John's House-  
& that the only  
return to them  
will be extension  
of the good they  
are doing -- in, as we

believe, a very  
useful direction.

In all other  
respects, I am afraid  
we have done nothing  
but increase their  
anxiety & fatigue,  
And it is not for  
us to say that this  
is doing what they  
are good enough to  
consider a benefit.

I remain  
your faithful & obliged  
servt.  
Florence Nightingale

H1/ST/NC3/SU52 newspaper cuttings re Nurse Emma Fagg in workhouse, entered

SU53 newspaper cuttings

later corr not FN

SU59 Samuel Smith to J. McNeill re interview July 24 [1855] **00131**

SU60 Parthe Nightingale to J. McNeill July 4 [1855]

SU61 Parthe Nightingale to J. McNeill Feb [arch 1856?] seems more like 1855 re  
difficulties with RC nurses

SU62 Parthe Nightingale to J. McNeill n.d. re FN's health

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 551

SU63 Parthe Nightingale to J. McNeill re shortage in Crimea, LH Saturday, with excerpt  
(copy) from FN from Balaclava April 17/56

copy: Balaclava  
General Hospital  
April 17/56

x x x x x

Suffice it to say that now at  
the eleventh hour, peace concluded,  
flags flying, army supposed to be  
next door to perfection, I have had a  
three weeks bout in the Crimea worse  
that anything we have had since  
Nov /54.

On our [?] first arrival here last month  
we were ten days without rations by  
Mr Fitzgerald's

malice. When I moved into this  
Hospital the day of Mrs Bridgeman's  
departure, Sir John Hall gave the  
nurses huts over my head to Purveyor's  
clerks. I sat down before the door,  
being then dark, & said quietly that I  
should stay there till the keys were  
brought. In about 2 hours they were  
produced. Every day for the last week  
it has been repetition of the same thing  
a contest for stores for the patients  
for food, lodging "have to toil," for  
ourselves.  
Your pigstye is cleaner than our quarters.

or than the wards of the Hospital as  
left by Mrs Bridgeman. The patients  
were grimed with dirt, infested with vermin  
with bedsores like Lazarus. I have  
never seen but one similar scene to  
it. Mrs Roberts & the Scutari nuns  
whom I brought with me were horrified.  
After two days hard white washing  
& cleaning, after three [?] days washing  
& dressing the patients, one of whom  
takes Mrs Roberts six hours daily,  
being one mass of bed sores, Sir  
John Hall visited the Hospital & wrote

an angry letter, saying that he was "dispirited" at the state of the Hospital & ordered it all to be put back into the admirable order it was in previously instructing the PMO of the Hospital, who shewed me the letter, "not to interfere with the Purveyor Mr Fitzgerald's arrangements."

This is the man on whom the lives & healths of the army in great measure depend (for he is clever & this is all temper)

H1/ST/NC/SU64 Parthe Nightingale to J. McNeill

H1/ST/NC/SU65: pen: letter to Sir. J. McNeill, typed copy 45768 f9

Lea Hurst [14:446]  
Matlock  
Sept 4/56

My Dear Sir

My father & I shall be at Edinburgh about the 10th or 11th. It would give me so very much pleasure to see you & also so much help to ask your advice upon a matter of business.

If I might find a {65a} line from you at the P.O. Edinburgh, my father would call upon you, if you were at home.

Do you know whether Colonel Tulloch is likely to be in the neighbour hood about that time?

I am like an

outlaw, playing {65b}  
hide & seek. &  
will ask you not  
to say that I am  
coming - to any one  
but him, if you see him. [end 14:446]  
Pray believe me  
My dear Sir  
Yours faithfully &  
gratefully  
F. Nightingale

H1/ST/NC3/SU66 J. McNeill letter to FN, from Granton House Sept 5 1856, "My dear Miss Florence" with invitation to stay, just recd her letter of yesterday, will be in west of Scotland, then they will be at home. "it would give us all very great pleasure if Mr Nightingale and you would do us the favour to set aside the formalities of calls and come here from the railway station. We are only 3 miles from Edinburgh on the shores of Firth of Forth, but I am quite sure that our little retreat is a much much safer hiding place than you can find in Edinburgh and we have abundance of room for Mr Nightingale and you as well as for your man and your maid--no one shall know of your being here but those to whom you choose to let it be known and as the carriage takes me to Edinburgh every morning at half past ten and brings me back between three and four you can go there and return unobserved if you desire it."

H1/ST/NC3/SU67: pen: letter to Sir J. McNeill, typed copy 45768 f12

Lea Hurst [14:447]  
Matlock  
Sept 8/56

My dear Sir  
I know not how to thank you  
& Lady McNeill for your very kind  
invitation to my father & myself.  
We both very much regret that,  
owing to the uncertainty which has  
crept into our plans occasioned by  
the illness of a friend in Scotland,  
we are obliged to decline your  
kindness. But we shall still  
hope to be in Edinburgh time  
enough to have the pleasure of  
catching a meeting with you. [end]  
Believe me,  
My dear Sir  
Yours very truly & gratefully  
F. Nightingale

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 554

H1/ST/NC3/SU68: pen: letter to Sir J. McNeill re: Lord Panmure: kept by Victoria and Albert, typed copy 45768 f13

Birk Hall [14:450-51]

Ballater

Florence Sept 27/56

Nightingale

My dear Sir John McNeill

We were to have gone South on Monday, but the Queen was here yesterday, and expressed her wish that I should remain to see Lord Panmure in such a manner that I could not decline. She said that she

thought I could do {68a} more with him here with her to back me than in London. The terrible Secretary for War does not come till the latter end of next week. And we do not know whether he will desire more than one

interview with me. {68b} Therefore we are quite uncertain as to what day after the 6th October we shall go South - but it will be the first day we can do so.

We are very much gratified at Lady McNeill's most

kind repetition of {68c}  
her wish to see us  
on our way, which  
I have just received.  
And as soon as we  
know our fate, I shall  
certainly try our luck  
with you by writing  
to Lady McNeill to  
know whether she  
can still receive us.  
It would give us such

very great pleasure {68d}  
to spend a couple  
of days with you, if  
you are still at  
liberty.

In the meanwhile,  
might I ask you to  
write me a few  
lines, if any hints  
occur to you which  
you can give me  
as to my interview  
with Lord Panmure.

I was in hopes to {68e}  
have seen you again *before*  
I saw him.

My hopes were  
somewhat raised by  
the great willingness  
of the Queen, P. Albert  
& Sir George Grey, all  
of whom I have seen  
together & separately,  
to listen & to ask  
questions. But I am

somewhat alarmed {68d}  
at the Prince's  
predilection for the  
Horse Guards. The  
points on which I  
would particularly  
solicit your attention  
if you would give me  
your advice, are  
1. the distribution of  
authority & of  
accountability in Military  
Hospitals  
2. the checks in their  
expenditure

3. the division of labor {68e}  
4. the whole system of army  
Medl. Statistics.

I tried to *insense*  
the Prince with the  
fact that there are  
now 8 Departments  
at work in our  
Hospitals, none of  
whom have any  
responsibility. How  
many Departments  
would you have &

what should be {68d}  
their responsibility  
of each?

The Queen accepted  
with great grace  
my proposition  
which I ~~derived~~ desired  
from you, of writing  
to Lord Panmure &  
sending H.M. the  
letter,- & indicated  
immediately a member  
of her household

thro' whom I was {68e}  
to send it. So far so  
good. But I know  
how many are the  
chances against  
any reform being  
actually put in  
practice - to my cost.

In the meantime,  
there is no man in  
England who could  
give me such advice

as yourself. If you {68f}  
will kindly interest  
yourself to do so, &  
with our most  
grateful remembrances  
to you & Lady McNeill.

believe me ever

dear Sir John

Yours very truly & gratefully

Florence Nightingale

Pray do not forget to  
thank Lady McNeill for  
me for her letter

turn over

Prince Albert alluded {69g}  
to Filder's excuse (as  
to want of transport)  
for not giving us  
fresh meat. ~~I could~~  
as if he believed it.  
I answered generally  
that you had supplied  
us with fresh meat  
immediately. But I  
should like much to  
be able to give him  
an accurate &  
detailed answer as to the transport loss  
The subject will come  
up again. Would you  
furnish me with one? [end 14:451]

H1/ST/NC3/SU69 Lord Napier to J. McNeill Dec 14 [56] asks for FN's address, 6 Ainslie Place

London Metropolitan Archives LMA3 (Florence Nightingale Museum) H1/ST/NC3/SU70, typed copy 45768 ff247-48 pencil: letter to Lady McNeill [8:634]

7 Oct. 1856

Dear Lady McNeill

Your great kindness in writing to me to remind me of your invitation encourages me in proposing myself to you, alone. My father has, I am sorry to say, turned tail & fled. He was cold in the Highlands, had a cold & went home. I shall be at Edinburgh. I believe on the 10th. And I would gladly come to you on the 11th for that day and Sunday, if it will be convenient to you & if I shall not be in your way.

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 559

I do not answer Sir John McNeill {70a} [14:456]  
two kind letters now, because I shall have much to tell & to hear from him. I have seen Lord Panmure in private more than once. He is just as much convinced of the truth in all the Commission matters as we are. But he wants the stuff to make a great Minister. Conviction is not everything. He has no courage or conscientiousness. [end]

Would you give me one line to Barry's Hotel to say whether it will be an inconvenience to you to receive me?

I had an opportunity of telling

the Prince the whole story of the {70b} fresh meat & transports & was very glad to be able to do so.

Believe Me

dear Lady McNeill in haste

Yours very truly & gratefully

Florence Nightingale

Birk Hall  
Oct 7/56

H1/ST/NC3/SU71: pen & pencil: letter to Sir John McNeill [stexts stuff] typed copy 45768 f26

30 Old Burlington St [14:471-72]  
London

Dec 15/56

Private

My dear Sir John McNeill

Thank you very much for ten most valuable Memoranda, which you have so kindly sent me, relating to the Government of General Army Hospitals. You will see how largely I have borrowed from you.

I am not yet nearly ready. But I shall certainly avail myself of your most kind offer to look over & criticize, without mercy, my *Precis* when it is finished. And you will not find it a "*thankless*" office, at all events, to give advice - tho' I fear, a very troublesome one.

Everything goes on very slowly. *Gout* is a very handy thing - & Lord Panmure always has it in his *hands*,

whenever he is called upon to do any thing - The three things which he himself commissioned me to do for him, all hang fire. These are, a Report on the plans of the new Southampton Hospital, of which the Sanitary defects are many & important. This is still in his hands.  
2. An Army Medical School.  
3. the Commission of Inquiry into ~~there~~ Army Medical & Sanitary things in general, which, altho' he has already offered the Chairmanship of it to Mr. Herbert, does not get itself named. I believe he is driving it off till Parliament meets.

I hope that Col. Tulloch has sent you his Pamphlet. He has sent me

the Proof - and it concerns me much.

I wish someone of more authority than I am would tell him that it must be shorter, calmer, more like your Report, in fact, & less like Lord Lucan himself. Whose case, by the bye, I should dispose of, were I Col. Tulloch, by merely printing in three columns (in a Tabular Form), Lord Lucan's own "General Divisional Order," his Evidence before the Board & the finding of the Board side by side. This would convince the Public more than any words. I would refrain from any comment whatever. Col. Tulloch looks very ill.

You will, of course, observe that Lord Panmure's doings with me are for yourself alone, & believe me ever

Your most gratefully & faithfully

Florence Nightingale

I was much obliged to Sir J. Richardson for valuable information. [end]

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 561  
H1/ST/NC3/SU73 letter from Col Tulloch to J. McNeill enclosing note from FN

Feb 20/57

My dear Mrs. Tulloch [14:483]

I feel quite differently  
from what you do  
about the £1000. I  
feel so angry that I  
am GLAD they have  
been such fools as to  
offer it.

Col. Tulloch has  
called me "a peace maker"  
But, if he & Sir John  
McNeill do not put  
a letter in the "Times,"

(Provided the offer has  
been made so that  
they *can* speak out,  
I think I shall do it  
myself.

Do you know I am sure  
the British Lion will  
sympathize in this  
insult? And if it  
does not, then it is a  
degraded beast-

Please let me tell  
Mr Herbert- I shall  
unless you order me  
not.

Believe me  
yours overflowingly

F. Nightingale  
I saw Mr Herbert  
again today & I am  
sure he is disposed  
to behave well.

As to these Ministers  
I am not surprised  
at any selfish cowardice  
or unfeeling neglect,  
but I am surprised  
at their folly & their  
ignorance of the men  
they were dealing with  
F.N.

[end 14:483]

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 562  
With letter of Tulloch to John McNeill and fragment of FN

I wish they would let  
me write the letter in  
the "Times for them  
This is Airey's doing  
depend upon it. For  
Lord Palmerston is a  
gentleman, tho' Panmure  
is not.

H1/ST/NC3/SU74 letter from Col Tulloch to J. McNeill Feb 20/57

H1/ST/NC3/SU74: pen: letter to Sir John McNeill. [in V&N], handwritten also in 45768  
ff29-, but different?

30 Old Burlington St. W. [14:498-500]  
London

March 1/57

My dear Sir John McNeill

I have often thought of Lord  
Dunfermline's words since we parted,  
& what I am now going to say will  
be but too sad a commentary upon  
them.

I think our cause is lost &  
that those who deny it feel it even  
more than those who acknowledge it.

Col. Tulloch will not see that  
the H. of C. is against or rather indifferent  
to him - At every successive failure,  
he promises he will refrain & go  
abroad. But he never does. And  
now he will write to Lord Palmerston.  
Id Palmerston knows the truth just  
as well as you or I do. And the

real meaning of what he said in the {75a}  
House was "I would make the Crimean  
Commissioners both Dukes, if I could.  
But I cannot do anything to throw  
odium upon a party which is  
strong enough to turn me out."

~~& that he disquiets himself in vain.~~

There is less chance of Reform now  
than before the War. v. H. of C. for the  
last 3 weeks, v. Army Estimates.

Eight months ago, had Id Palmerston  
chosen to play a great game & say,  
"I will have Army Reform, & if the  
H. of C. is against me, let me see if  
the country is for me," - he might have  
won. Now it is too late. The  
opportunity is lost & we shall not  
see another in our life time.

The Army is strong enough now  
in the H. of C. to turn out any Ministry  
as it has always been in the H. of Lords.

For, besides the aristocratic weight & {75b}  
influence it always had, it has now  
an additional prestige in the late War.

Messrs. Herbert and Gladstone are  
dead (not in "trespasses & sins" but)  
in indifference & party-spirit. They  
do not choose to lose a motion in  
Parlt., which they would do if they  
moved in this matter. Politically,  
they may be right. Aesthetically,  
they are surely wrong. They would  
stand much better in the country  
ten years hence, if they did the honourable  
thing now.

Mr. Herbert is ill & probably going  
abroad- which will put off the  
"Commission" we were going to have,  
with him as Chairman.

Lord Panmure has no other rule  
of conduct than that of staving off  
every question which will give him  
trouble, till the public interest in it

subsidies, leaving to the Aristocracy {75c}  
their honors & to the people their  
money, and "keeping himself *in*."

The Army Estimates cut down  
every thing that has to do with the  
scientific element of the Army, with the health,  
efficiency, morality of the soldier,  
while it leaves all the Staff appoint  
ments.

Lord Panmure has broken all  
his promises, defeated all reform  
by his inertia, for his passive  
resistance, the easiest of all to make,  
is the most difficult to overcome.

Silently, all over the country,  
no doubt this is sapping the country's  
trust in the Aristocracy more than  
any thing else could have done.

Had Lord Palmerston been a  
younger man, this never could have  
happened. But he has not the

power to cope with such a multiplicity {75d}  
of subjects, alone in the Cabinet &  
he sacrifices the great interests of the  
nation for those of his Order, for which,  
at heart, he does not care a  
Corporal's button.

With our present amount of  
Sanitary Knowledge, it is as criminal  
to have a mortality of 17, 19 & 20 per  
1000 in the Line, Artillery, & Guards  
in England, - when that of Civil Life  
in towns is only 11 per 1000 - as it  
would be to take 1100 men per ann.  
out upon Salisbury plain & shoot  
them. No body of men being so  
much under control, none so  
dependent upon their employers for  
health, life & morality as the Army.

I want to be out of it as soon as  
I can. And in three months I shall  
take service in a Civil Hospital.

All the materials of my Precis are {75e} ready but no criticism upon it which is worth having. Dr. Sutherland has read it. But his opinion was that I must "confine it to facts & experience, for the Army would stand no opinions & give nothing but propositions for the future, for evidence as to the past would be torn to shreds." This Paraphrase does not sound strictly logical, but is not less true for that.

The Precis will do no more good than so many abler & better Reports have done - & I would willingly not send it in at all. But, if I do, I must have a sounder opinion upon it.

Would you write to me, P.O. Great Malvern, & say whether you could now give me that opinion you so kindly promised?

I much wish you could have been in London the last three weeks. With kindest regards to Lady McNeill & Miss Ferooza believe me always faithfully & gratefully yours  
Florence Nightingale

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 566  
H1/ST/NC3/SU76 pen letter to Sir J. McNeill [8:635] typed copy 45768 f33

30 Burlington St.  
London W  
March 28/57

My dear Sir

I feel that I cannot do otherwise than accept your kind invitation to me to come down & hear your candid criticism - if it were only to save you the trouble of writing to me or coming up to London.

I think I could come Wednesday or Thursday, & shall only bring a maid. But I

will write again to {76a} Lady McNeill to apprise her of the burden put upon her & the day. I only trust that she will not make it a burden, but will just treat me as a campaigner, who have long been happiest to be put anywhere, & to let business always come first.

[end 8:635]  
[14:501]

I shall be guided entirely by your judgement as to re-writing the whole

or any part or suppressing {76b} it entirely. I am but too grateful that you will take the trouble to give that valuable opinion entirely & openly.

I have little hope of Reform. What is politically fun to our Masters is death to us. The disgraceful state of our Chatham Hospitals, which I have been visiting lately, is only one more symptom of a system which, in the

Crimea, put to death **{76c}**  
16,000 men - the finest  
experiment modern  
history has seen upon  
a large scale - viz. as to  
what given number may  
be put to death at will  
by the sole agency of bad  
food & bad air? - But  
a deeper tragedy is being  
played every day at home,  
viz. by Lord Panmure's  
indifference, by Andrew  
Smith's ignorance, by  
H.M.'s Opposition's party=  
spirit. While the heads  
of the War Department

have men's lives abso= **{76d}**  
lutely in their own hands  
& care not.

I write in great haste  
& can only add my deep  
gratitude to you & to  
Lady McNeill for your  
kindness & protection &  
your true support - &

**[end 14:501]**

Believe Me

dear Sir John

Ever faithfully yours

Florence Nightingale

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 568  
H1/ST/NC3/SU77 pen: letter to Lady McNeill [8:635-36]

30 Old Burlington St.  
London W.

April 22/57

My dear Lady McNeill

I cannot tell you  
how I enjoyed my stay  
with you. I think  
Granton House is the  
most poetic place I  
ever saw. And your  
kindness I never can  
forget. I have often  
thought that it was  
a compensation for our  
terrible failure that it

brought us into {77a}  
communication with  
such people. As it  
was a compensation  
to our awful calamity  
that it brought out  
the endurance of our  
men.

Now however I write  
upon business, which  
is always in my  
mercantile thoughts.  
The commercial spirit  
of Great Britain is

strong within me. {77b}  
Do you think you would make interest  
with Mr. Steele to let  
me have permission  
to take a Photograph  
of his bust of Sir  
John McNeill? I  
am sorry the poor  
Clay is gone.

NB. I was delighted  
to be able to say, in  
answer to an application

similar to that of {77c}  
Mr. Steele to me  
yesterday that I  
stood pledged to Sir  
John McNeill to  
dispose of my remains  
for the benefit of  
Science only & to go down  
to posterity in a  
bottle (of spts of wine)  
if I am curious enough.  
It is at once becoming  
& professional for me  
to have my Portrait thus.

I hope that you will

let us know when you {77d}  
come to London, if you  
do. Please give my  
kindest remembrances  
to Miss Ferooza - & also  
remember me to Miss  
Lizzie, if she is with  
you. And say to  
Mrs. Gibb that she  
kindly provisioned  
my Garrison so liberally  
that I have half of  
it left still.

Believe me ever,  
dear Lady McNeill, most  
affectely. & gratefully Yrs  
Florence Nightingale

H1/ST/NC3/SU78: pen: letter to Sir J. McNeill, typed copy 45768 f36

30 Old Burlington St [14:502-04]  
London W.

April 22/57

My dear Sir John McNeill

I have so little time  
to write now that I cannot [illeg]  
give myself the indulgence  
of telling you how much  
good you did me, body,  
soul & mind. Yours  
is another atmosphere  
from what I am used  
to. And, reckoning the  
life of a man at £120,  
which is my manifesta=  
tion of "Spiritualism," if

Sir John McNeill {identification of addressee at bottom of page in FN's hand}

you value your Crimean {78a}  
expedition at the number  
of lives you have saved,  
& will save in our  
army, you may add  
one more for mine.

But what I write  
for today is to say:

The question of "uniform  
stoppage" is now under  
consideration ~~Now is~~  
at the War Department.  
Now is the time to get  
the Ration & Diet questions  
tacked on to it.

I have urged a Civilian {78b}  
Commission of Professor  
Christison, Dr. Letheby  
& Dr. Sutherland to  
settle it. But I doubt  
whether I shall obtain  
it. (I fear, too that Lord  
Panmure wishes the  
Stoppage question to be  
decided before we have  
our Medical Commission).  
If Professor Christison  
has sufficiently the  
interest of our Army  
at heart to give his  
valuable time, & write

us two schemes of {78c}  
1. Rations &  
2. Hospital Diets,  
it would be of the  
utmost importance  
just now. His name  
stands highest in  
Europe upon the Dietetic  
question - & would  
carry public opinion  
with it for us.

I have been urged  
to present a separate  
memorial upon Diets  
now immediately. And,  
if Professor Christison

would condescend to give **{78d}**  
his two Schemes with  
his authority, I believe  
it might carry the point.

Could you explain  
to him,

1. the immense  
confusion of the present  
scheme of Stoppages.

It is now proposed to  
have an uniform stoppage  
of ~~stoppage of~~ 7d - Hospital Stoppage  
excluded.

I want to include  
it - shewing that the  
(undoubtedly) greater  
expence of Hospital Diet

over Ration would be **{78e}**  
compensated to the  
country by the reduction  
of office-clerks, who  
are now necessary to  
keep the accounts.

2. If you would  
explain to him our  
cumbrous machinery  
of "Extras"?

I have studied the  
Edinburgh Diets, which  
you were so good as to  
send me, & shewn them  
to Dr. Sutherland, who  
agrees with me that

they are admirable for our **{78f}**  
purpose.

Some modification,  
however, would be  
required for a *Military*  
Hospital Diet, - as  
females  
children  
aged people  
would be excluded.

*Nine* Diets would  
probably be unnecessary  
(the Edinburgh number)-  
& porridge would probably  
not find favor in our  
sight. Also, I think  
the Costs, 2 1/2 d, 4 3/4 d, 4 1/2d,  
5 1/2d, 3 1/2 d , 4 d, would be

greater in England.

I am sorry they have {78g}  
pitched their Stoppage,  
7d, so high. But it is  
better than Col. Tulloch's  
10d.

If Dr. Christison,  
taking all these things  
into consideration,\* would  
construct the two Schemes  
required for us & give  
them the weight of his sig=  
=nature, he would be  
doing us a national  
benefit. And I would  
take care to work the  
question - with your help

-----  
\*as also the effects of climate  
upon constitution in our men suffer  
=ing from Colonial Service as affecting Hospital  
Diets.

I have seen Colonel *Sir* {78h}  
*Alexander Murray* Tulloch  
who is well. I never  
saw a man so happy  
or so changed for the  
better. I asked myself  
(but not him) somewhat  
sadly, if a *civil* K.C.B.ship  
did, after all, settle  
the question between him  
& his persecutors, which  
is purely a *Military* one.  
However the vote of the  
H. of C. is the main  
thing, & I think your  
Privy Councillorship is  
the best thing they have done.

I have put my M.S. {78i}  
into Harrison's hands -  
& I shall gratefully avail  
myself of your most  
generous offer to take  
the trouble of cutting up  
the proofs, which I will  
send you when I get them.

I shall never forget  
your kindness, & believe  
me, dear Sir John, ever  
most faithfully & most  
gratefully yours

F. Nightingale

P.S. 1

I hope you will not  
forget me when you come

to London. {78j}

General Cameron is to  
direct the Officers' education,  
a very honest man.  
P.S. 2.

I have seen Capt. Laffan  
& Co. upon the Southton  
Hospital. They are very  
amenable. Could you  
tell me of any Hospital  
or Work=house where the  
*Encaustic Tile*, or other  
impervious floor, has  
stood the test of experience.

If I could cite an  
example, I should do  
better. They will have wood.

P.S. 3. I think Dr. Christison's

estimate of spaces,  
necessary for Patients,  
was

9 ft from head to head  
10 ft to middle of passage  
14 ft high

Am I right?

[end 14:504]

F.N.

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 574  
Roll 1 H1/ST/NC3/SU79: pen: letter to Sir J. McNeill. typed copy 45768 f40

30 Old Burlington St.  
London W.

May 3/57 [14:507]

My dear Sir John

I have ventured to  
send you one Proof Sheet -  
And herewith come two  
others, tho' I doubt, if  
you can judge, without  
seeing the whole at once,  
I mean, consecutively.  
Dickens's monthly Nos=  
are my abhorrence.  
I thought you were  
too indulgent, when you  
were so good as to read  
the M.S. with me. Pray  
be so good as to cut &  
carve this, as you think

think best. {79a}

I have been much  
worried by making the  
acquaintance of Kinglake,  
the historian (to be) of  
the late War. He has  
no judicial mind. Not  
much feeling. Not  
much conscience. And  
takes a superficial view  
of the whole thing. But  
his history will be as  
clever as everything he  
writes, & every body  
will read it & be  
deceived. He repeated  
to me all the *fadaises*  
of the Staff & he gives the whole fund

of unexamined common=  
places, (which one has  
heard so often about  
the non-supply of  
clothing &c and the  
Q.M.G.'s Dept.-) as  
*historical material*.  
I have ~~sent him~~ cut  
up your Blue Book &  
that of the Chelsea  
Board, pasted the  
extracts on opposite  
sheets, & sent them to  
him without comment.  
I do not expect that  
he has the power of  
obtaining information  
or of estimating its *relative value*

when obtained. And {79c}  
therefore, tho' I have no  
doubt he is a good  
counsel, he strikes me  
as a very bad historian.  
Col. Tulloch's temper &  
discretion are not to  
be relied upon, or I would  
have referred Kinglake  
to him. But Kinglake  
questions Col. T's  
~~doubts his~~ accuracy,  
which shews his own  
want of it. Nothing is so  
worrying [~~illeg~~]  
as this affair.

Our Commission is out,  
& Drs. Sutherland & Alexander  
& I are drawing up our  
subjects. I have not one  
witness to summon for Scutari  
General Hospitals - on our side. [end]  
{written on first page of letter down left side}  
ever sincerely & gratefully yours  
F. Nightingale

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 576  
H1/ST/NC3/SU81: pen: letter to Sir. J McNeill, typed copy 45768 f42

30 Old Burlington St  
London W  
May 12/57

My dear Sir John McNeill  
I send you with very  
many thanks, another  
sheet.

Yours ever gratefully &  
faithfully

F. Nightingale

I direct my letter with  
a very great deal of  
pleasure. I consider  
that you & Sir Alex. Tulloch  
have been borne on the  
arms of the people - a  
much higher triumph  
than a mere discernment

[14:508]

of honors by the Crown. {81a}  
The poor Crown has been  
worsted. I am sorry for it.  
But it was not our fault.

I have been guilty of  
every kind of official  
subservience & cringing  
to those in power. But  
I have never yet been  
able to direct to Lord  
Panmure "the Right Honble,"  
for fear of its creeping  
out some day "the Right  
Dishonble," a breach of  
decorum which would  
be as awkward as  
getting up in church  
to answer the preacher.

[end 14:508]

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 577

H1/ST/NC3/SU82: pen: letter to Sir John McNeill {archivist:} 14 May 1857 typed copy 45768 f43

I venture to send another [14:508]  
sheet.

We "messed" the Commission  
yesterday. I think it is  
getting on swimmingly.  
But I know they will  
break down at the mode  
of organizing Supply. I  
wish we had your  
advice in this matter.  
Mr. Herbert is nervous  
about it. They begin  
examining Purveyors  
tomorrow.

[end 14:508]

Ever faithfully yours  
May 14/57 F Nightingale

H1/ST/NC3/SU83 SH long letter May 18/57 to J. McNeill. I take advantage of your  
promise to listen, consider and advise to give you a report of the progress our army  
med comn has made, and to ask for your assistance on some points.

At our first meeting I proposed to the comn to take our subjects in a certain  
order, beg by the introduction of the med officer into the service, the quals required  
of him and the sufficiency the means of enlarging and increasing his knowledge  
afterwards, esp as regards mil hygiene. 2. The second head wd be the org of general  
hospitals, the distribution of ....., same as regards reg hosps. 3. Sanitary division  
of the subject will comprise barracks, hosps, clothing, rations and quibundum aliis..  
4 We reserve the pay, rank and prom of the med dept till after the duties to be  
performed as well as the nature of the preparation for them has been decided....so  
laying the round for an increase of pay and general bettering of their position. 5  
Lastly wd come the const of the army med dept at Whitehall with its powers and  
authority.

The comn agreed to this course tho there was a proposal to put no. 4 in the place  
of no. 1, but it was overruled. We have had 4 meetings and have examined Dr Andrew  
Smith, Sir John Liddell, Sir Benj Brodie, Mr Paget, Ferguson, Parkes, Meyer, Pratt  
purv at Chatham. Mr Dill? Gov of London Hosp and shall ex Mr Robertson late purveyor  
at Scutari and Dr Stubb supt at St T. This last carried us thro the first head and a  
good way into the second. ...I think the comn are prepared to advocate. 1 that some  
med diploma as well as the surg one shall be req of the cand, the majority of cases in  
mi hosps ...being medical [and more]

H1/ST/NC3/SU84: pen: letter to Sir J. McNeill, typed copy 45768 f51

30 Old Burlington St. [14:512]

London W.

June 4/57

My dear Sir John McNeill

This is very nearly the end.

This private Mem. pp. 270=280 about the  
women I feel more than  
doubtful about inserting.  
You know so much more  
of human nature than I  
do that I need not  
remind you that what  
we get into scrapes for is  
(not for saying what ~~ev~~  
nobody believes & every  
body says but) for saying  
what everybody believes  
& nobody says. If my

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 578  
Mema= about women

were only for the Queen, {84a}  
it would not signify.  
But, if it should come  
out before the H. of C.,  
I should not like it  
at all. It would do harm.  
The part about "Nurses in  
Civil Hospitals" may, at  
all events, be cut out  
as irrelevant.

Also, you know better  
than any one, perhaps  
you only know how  
"scabreux" it is for *me*  
to get upon the subject  
of Religion - & how easily  
I shall be misunderstood.

2. I have looked more {84b}  
at the double columns,  
& I think they *must*  
come out.

3. The question whether  
I should put "Chapter &  
Verse" to the quotations  
is, I think, just as broad  
as it is long. You know  
how even educated men  
will go off upon a word.  
One does not like the  
Roebuck Committee,  
Another does not like  
the Stafford Committee-  
one distrusts this Commission  
& another distrusts that -  
till all thought about the

truth is merged in a {84c}  
discussion of authorities-  
Socrates says something  
to the effect that nine  
tenths of our belief come  
from sympathy  
antipathy  
authority or  
blind assimilation

I do not know therefore whether  
to put references or not.  
Please tell me. As it is,  
it may look as if I were  
quoting from private letters  
or conversation.

4. I conceive that some  
remodelling of arrangement  
must take place - to put  
all the "as it is" together  
& the "as it should be."  
{written down side of page at top of f84}

Sutherland & Alexander are  
still in France. I have been down  
at Netley inspecting  
I will report progress.  
ever yrs gratefully  
F.N.

My dear Sir John McNeill [14:513]

I am very sorry to be "at you" so soon again. But Sir John Hall is to be examined next week. And I have been asked to request you to give some hints, as to his examination, founded upon what you ~~found~~ saw of him when in your hands. My own belief is that Hall is a much cleverer fellow than they take

him for - almost as {85a} clever as Airey - & that he will consult his reputation in like manner - & perhaps give us very useful evidence. No thanks to him.

It is necessary to examine him - and how is it to be done? is the question we would ask you.

I would only recall to your memory the long

series of proofs of his incredible {85b} ~~proofs of~~ apathy beginning with the fatal letter approving of Scutari, October/54 continuing with all the negative errors of non= obtaining of

Lime Juice  
Fresh Bread  
Quinine &c

~~& less~~ up to his not denoun= cing the effects of salt meat before you. To my mind, with the exception of Gordon, this man is

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 582  
(morally) the worst of {85c}  
the liars.

We do not want to  
badger the old man in  
his examination, which  
would do us no good  
& him harm. But  
we want to make the  
best out of him for  
our case.

Please help us - [end]  
Yours ever sincerely &  
gratefully  
F. Nightingale

typed copy 45768 f54

29 Old Burlington St.  
W.

June 12/57  
{written at top of f85}  
I understand that Dr. Smith  
says that he was much  
afraid of "the Commission"  
at first & "thought it wd=  
do harm." But now "thinks  
it is taking a good turn." Is this  
for us or against us?

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 583  
H1/ST/NC3/SU86: pen: letter to Sir J. McNeill, typed copy 45768 f55

30 Old Burlington St. [14:516]

London W.

June 27/57

I do not remember how  
far I have sent you  
already in the Revise  
And I believe I am now  
sending duplicates. But  
this is the End - all but  
a very few pages - p. 368  
to p. 374 - on the  
Scutari defects. I will  
send that on Monday &  
then it will be done.  
I question much whether  
it will do for me to put  
in the Commissariat part.

I heard with the {86a}  
greatest pleasure from  
Dr. Farr that he had  
seen you well & brisk  
at the Oxford Comme=  
moration. I was almost  
in hopes you would have  
come on to London.

We are terribly driven  
about this Commission.  
And, what with that,  
& the Netley plans, I  
have not had a moment  
for anything else.

Mr. Herbert has been {86b}  
ill, & down at Dover  
since Wednesday, which  
gave me time just to  
finish my Revise

On Monday he re=  
examines Tulloch  
& Sutherland. Sutherland  
does not carry the  
weight in the Commission  
which his brains ought  
to give him. And he lets  
very inferior men put  
him down, owing to his  
want of pith. It vexes

me and upsets the conclu=**{86c}**  
sions I want to impress  
upon Mr. Herbert.

Sir J. Hall's evidence  
fell harmless. It broke  
down utterly from want  
of truthfulness & perpetual  
doubling.

**[end 14:516]**

Believe me ever  
with my love to Lady  
McNeill & Miss Ferooza  
who, I hope, is better  
Sincerely & gratefully your  
Florence Nightingale

H1/ST/NC3/SU87: pen: no address. typed copy 45768 ff57-58

My dear Sir John McNeill. **[14:525-26]**

This is first to say,  
Please come to us, if you  
come up to town for the  
17th. 1. It would be of  
great use to me. 2. I  
think we could take better  
care of you. We should  
be back in the house  
we had when first you  
came up for swearing in.

I hope Mr. Herbert  
has sent you the Evidence.  
I reminded him to do  
so.

Secondly. Mr. Herbert **{87a}**  
has given in to examining  
me by writing. But  
he limits his questions  
to Hospital Construction.

I am quite as well  
aware as he can be;  
that it is inexpedient  
& even unprincipled to  
go back now into past  
delinquencies.

What is more, I feel  
for him who was victim-  
ized by a system, of  
which he could know  
nothing, till the results  
appeared.

It is easy for me to be {87b}  
wise after the fact, me  
who saw these results.

But it would  
be untrue & unconscientious  
for me to give evidence  
upon an indifferent  
matter like that of  
Hospital construction  
leaving untouched the  
great matters which  
will affect (& have  
affected) the mortality  
of our sick more than  
any mere Architecture  
could do.

People, Government &

Sovereign all think that {87c}  
these matters have been  
remedied. While I think  
that nothing has been  
done, save a relaxation  
of all rule & discipline  
& a violent expenditure.

It would be treachery  
to the memory of my dead  
if I were to seem to give  
in to this popular error.

I have no idea what  
to do. But I see most  
evil in the plan of  
examining me so as to  
make me say nothing.  
Please advise.

[end 14:526]

Ever faithfully &  
gratefully yours  
July 7/57 F. Nightingale

H1/ST/NC3/SU88 SH letter to J. McNeill. Seems to be FN hand. Printed 49 Belgrave Sq.  
July 8/57. My dear Sir John. Our last 2 days' examination has been extremely slow & I  
am two witnesses in arrear, therefore am illeg with the calculation I made when I  
wrote to you. This wd throw your ex back till Friday the 17th, or poss till Monday the  
20th. At the same time, it is not necessary that you shd be the last witness.  
Therefore, as I said before, pray consult your own convenience & fix upon whichever  
day really suits you best. I wd put off anyone else to secure you.

Will you let me have a line as soon as you can see your way? And accept a bed at my  
house? There is one advantage in Monday the 20th shd it suit you & that is that we cd  
have some previous conversation before your ex, which wd be important. SH

H1/ST/NC3/SU89 SH letter to J. McNeill re invitation to dine and meet F.N.

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 586  
H1/ST/NC3/SU90: pen: letter to Sir J. McNeill. ['57], copy 45768 f60

My dear Sir John McNeill [14:527]

I have settled with Mr. Herbert that you shall come to me, please, & that we shall both meet him on Sunday, in order that you may indoctrinate him either at

his house or here. {90a}

I do not think that you [9:48-49] are at all more "nervous" about the Indian affairs than the best-informed here. I speak like a parrot. But my impression is from all I hear that this "row" is but the beginning of things. As the revolution of '93 in France was but the beginning of what ended in the total overthrow of the Feudal System. So this affair in India must end in the entire doing away of the Caste System or in the

overthrow of the British power there {90b}

We may have to reconquer India. I should like much to go out, we shall have dreadful Sickness there, but I have no one to advise me.

I want to see you about this. [end 9:49]

Also, Mr. Herbert wants to ask you about my examination. They cannot at all make up their minds how far it is to go. It is to be a written one.

I shall wish to go into business as soon as this Commission is over. {90c}

With my kindest love to Lady McNeill & Miss Ferooza believe me ever [end 14:527]

faithfully & gratefully yrs  
Florence Nightingale

30 Old Burlington St.  
July 15/57 [check date]

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 587  
H1/ST/NC3/SU91: pen: letter to Sir J. McNeill, typed copy 45768 f61

My dear Sir John McNeill

I am very sorry that  
you are so far from well.  
I am afraid you have  
done too much.

Thank you very much  
for the Sanitary questions.  
I understand that Sir  
J. Hall's point is to  
prove that there cannot  
be, without collision,  
a Sanitary Officer  
besides the P.M.O. &  
that the P.M.O. ought to

be Sanitary Officer. {91a}

What a Sanitary Officer  
did Sir J. Hall himself  
make!

Mr. Herbert talks  
about closing his  
evidence.

July 17  
His great difficulty  
seems to be the formation  
of the Army Medl. Board.  
They are talking now  
of a Military Director  
General.

Believe me  
ever most faithfully &  
gratefully yours

F. Nightingale  
July 15/57

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 588  
H1/ST/NC3/SU92: pen: letter to Sir J. McNeill [for wo] typed copy 45768 f64

30 Old Burlington St. [15:266]  
London W

Aug 1/57

My dear Sir John McNeill

The re=constitution  
of the Army Medl. Dept.,  
as to its Government,  
has been carried by the  
Commission almost in the form  
which you recommended.

I have been requested  
by Mr. Herbert, who  
went out of town last  
night, for a few days,  
to draw up a scheme  
as to what these new  
men are to do. And

I now venture to enclose {92a}  
it to you, earnestly  
begging you to consider  
it & send it me back  
with your remarks in  
as short a time as  
you possibly can.

Could you let me  
have it by Monday,  
in order to shew it  
to Mr. Herbert. We  
should be very grateful.

We have carried  
the Sub=Barrack  
Commission with

{in column on right of same page}

Panmure. Dr. Sutherland  
to be the Sanitary Head.  
But the Engineers'  
Dept= have stated  
their incompetency  
to put a qualified  
R. Engineer upon it.  
And we are standing  
still at this point  
asserting the necessity  
of a Civil Engineer.  
What a confession  
for them to have  
to make.

Your evidence

did us the most {92c}  
momentous service  
& we only regretted  
it was not longer.

You will see its  
fruits in what  
I now enclose.

With my most  
grateful love to Lady  
McNeill, believe me  
ever most sincerely  
& gratefully yours

[end 15:266]

Florence Nightingale

{enclosure referred to in the letter above}

the following are the questions likely to arise:

1. If the Governor in exercising discipline orders a man of the Army Hospital Corps to 7 days' cells how is he to have his sentence carried out? Will the Officer Commandg= at Woolwich necessarily give effect to the sentence? Or must he be ordered thro' the H. Guards?
2. If a Convalescent in Hospital makes a "row," does the Governor, proprio motu, send him to the Prisoners' Ward?
3. [By the new organization {92e} of the Army Hospital Corps, the Director General is Head of the ~~medical~~ Ward Orderlies, the Purveyor= in Chief of the office= Orderlies] & each reports separately to the Horse Guards.]  
Should the Governor inform the Director=General or Purveyor=in=Chief as the case may be, of his having sent an A.H.C. man to prison - the object being to let the Heads of the Corps know where the men are? Should he also report the case to the Officer Comm- the corps at Chatham?

Or should he report **{92f}**  
only to the H. Guards?

Ditto ditto ditto in the case of  
his ~~having~~ expelling an  
A.H.C man?

4. Is the Governor, a  
Lines Officer, under the  
Artillery Commandant  
at Woolwich, (Sir R.  
Dacres)? Are there any  
points where risk of  
collision might be  
avoided in drawing  
up the Commission?

Has the Woolwich  
Commandant right  
of entry into the Hosptl.  
at all times?

In the relations between **{92g}**  
the Governor & Officer  
Commands-, what should  
the Commission define  
as to 1. What each  
should do

2. What each  
should not do

The Governor is supreme  
in his Hospl= Administratn=  
according to the Regulations.  
What points still at  
issue must be defined  
by the Commission?

[letterhead upside down]

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 592  
H1/ST/NC3/SU93: pen: letter to Sir J. McNeill, typed copy 45768 f66  
00257

30 Old Burlington St.  
London W.

Oct 10/57 [15:207-09]

My dear Sir John McNeill

I was so very glad to see your handwriting & hear from you again that I am going immediately to profit by it.

I will not say a word [9:49] about India. You know so much more about it than anybody here. We have seen terrible things in the last three years. But nothing to my mind so terrible as Panmure's

unmanly & stupid {93a} indifference on this occasion! I have been three years "serving in" the W.D. When I began there was incapacity but not indifference. Now there is incapacity & indifference. What are the murders committed by these miserable Hindoos compared to the murders committed by an educated Englishman?

Panmure's coming up to town last Thursday week

was the consequence of  
reiterated remonstrances.  
I have heard men in  
office say that he  
deserved to be impeached.  
And he is going away  
again after the next  
Indian mail!

That India will have  
to be occupied by British  
troops for several years,  
I suppose, there is no  
question. And so far  
from the all-absorbing  
interest of this Indian  
subject diminishing  
the necessity of immediately

carrying out the reforms **{93c}**  
suggested by our Commission,  
I am sure you will agree  
that they are now the  
more vitally important  
to the very existence of our  
Army. **[end 9:49]**

I came up to town  
on Thursday week & met  
Mr. Herbert for this  
purpose. Panmure had  
not done a thing. It was  
extracted from him then  
& there that the four  
Sub-Commissions, (with  
executive powers & Mr.  
Herbert as Head of each,)

[2] {93d}

viz. 1. to put the Barracks in Sanitary order. 2 to organize a Statistical Dept=. 3 to organize a Medical School. 4. to re=constitute the Army Medl=. Board & revise all Regulations, - should be issued *immediately*. The instructions had been approved by Panmure 7 weeks ago.

A week however has elapsed & we have heard nothing. I shall not however leave Panmure

alone till this is done. {93e}  
Mr. Herbert's honor is at stake, which gives us a hold upon him. Without him, of course, I could do nothing.

The ad interim report has been presented (unofficially) to Panmure. But the Appendix & *Final* Report are not yet out. And your Poor=house Building Returns, for which we most sincerely thank you, will come in with great effect.

Also, I want you to do **{93f}**  
us a favor with Prof.  
Christison. Mr. Herbert  
thought he had written  
to him, at my request,  
four months ago, for  
a Scheme of Rations &  
Hospital Diets. But it  
seems he never did. He  
has now desired Dr.  
Balfour to do so. I do  
not know whether he has.  
(Perhaps you know that  
neither is very business=  
like). I now enclose  
two papers of Tulloch's

proposing a Ration (Both **{93g}**  
refer to the same &  
explain each other).  
If Prof. Christison will  
be so good as to criticize  
these & give his opinion  
upon them, I will take  
care that it is officially  
used. And this  
Commission must really  
not put forth a  
scheme of Rationing,  
without the Sanction  
of the first authority  
of the day on this point.  
If Balfour has written,

[3]

it will still be not **{93h}**  
amiss that the request  
should be in duplicate.  
And you will know  
best how to apologize  
to Prof. Christison for  
the request not being  
made more officially &  
in form.

We have a most valuable  
Appendix - which will be  
a Manual for the Army.

I am writing in haste.  
You are kind enough to  
ask after my health.  
I have had nervous fever  
which lasted me 6 weeks,

and, as soon as I can {93i}  
get these Commissions  
out, I shall be obliged  
to go back to Malvern.

I should have proposed  
myself to Lady McNeill  
as she was so kind  
as to ask me, if I  
could have borne the  
journey - for I am most  
anxious to take advice  
from you as to how to  
cause to march our points  
of Reform, which concern  
the existence of an Army

& therefore may concern {93j}  
our holding India.

I am so glad to hear  
a good account of you  
& so glad of your holiday.

Pray remember me  
most gratefully to Lady  
McNeill & Miss Ferooza [end 15:209]  
& believe me ever

Yours sincerely &  
gratefully  
F. Nightingale

roll 1 H1/ST/NC3/SU94 pen letter to Sir J. McNeill typed copy 45768 f70

Private & Confidential  
30 Old Burlington St. [15:209-10]  
London W.  
Nov 16/57

My dear Sir John McNeill

Here I come again.  
Panmure has granted  
the *missing* "Commission",  
with such ample  
instructions for "preparing  
draft Instructions &  
Regulations" defining the duties of &c &c &c &c &c and the "Queen's  
Q.M.G.'s, Barrack,  
Purveyor's & Hospital  
Regulations" - as you may  
guess them to be, when

I tell you they were **{94a}**  
written by me. What  
a fool Panmure must  
be! Does he not see or  
does he not care where  
this will lead him?  
For this practical man  
at the Horse Guards,  
Airey & the ditto at  
the W.D. Croomes, are  
on this Commn= Mr. Herbert,  
Chairman. Sutherland,  
Alexander, Andw. Smith,  
the other Members.

Mr. Herbert is, besides, **{94b}**  
to send Panmure a  
"Constitution" for the  
Army Medical ~~Dept.~~  
Board, & a Warrant  
for "Promotion" by himself.

All that is necessary  
now is to keep Mr.  
Herbert up to the  
point. The strength  
of his character is its  
simplicity & candour,  
with extreme quickness  
of perception - its fault

is its excessive eclecticism. **{94c}**  
Ten years have I been  
endeavouring to obtain  
an expression of opinion  
from him & have  
never succeeded yet.  
Yes, once I did. I  
shewed him a passage  
in one of your letters  
about the Q.M.G.  
and he said, "I do not  
wonder at Sir John  
McNeill's indignation."  
But he can sympathize

with Sir J. McNeill's indignation with Airey. And he can sympathize with Airey's satisfaction with himself, which is quite as strong.

However, I am getting unpractical.

This new Sub=Commn=. entails upon me a labor I most gladly undertake of putting together Draft Regulations

to be submitted to Mr. Herbert, as suggestions for the Draft he will propose to the Sub=Commissn=.

These Regulations must, of course, rhyme with the Report.

I think you would recommend a different organization of Hospital supply for 1. General Hospitals, 2. for Regimental

under ordinary circumstances {94f}

& 3. for Field Hospitals, when strictly in the field. 1. For the first, a Steward who shall be subject to the "Governor" & not to the Purveyor in Chief at home . Mr. Herbert concedes the principle, but wishes the Steward to be called "Purveyor".

2. For the second, *Regimental*, the **{94g}**  
Report binds us to the  
making the Purveyor  
subject to the Principal  
Medical Officer.

3. Now for the last,  
the Field.

The Report proposes  
to allot a certain amount  
of Horse Transport to  
the Army Med. Dep.

1. Who is to ensure its  
discipline, repair losses

[3]

and execute repairs? **{94h}**

2. How is the authority  
of the Medical Officer  
in demanding Transport to be arranged with  
the discipline of the  
corps?

-----  
1. What Department  
should furnish the  
Hospital Equipments  
& supplies in the Field,  
and how?

2. Would it answer  
for all Hospital supplies of every

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 600

description, except {94i}  
medicine, to come  
direct from the  
Commissariat?

3. And all Hospital equipments,  
of whatever description,  
to come from the  
Q.M.G.?

(The two Departments  
being left to their own  
discretion as to where  
they procure such supplies & equipments ~~them~~?  
The scale to be laid down)

4. Would you do away {94j}  
with the Purveyor  
altogether in the field?  
even as to medical  
comforts & to bedding?

I think I know what  
your answers will be  
pretty well. But  
we want your authority.  
I wish we could  
have yourself.

The Ho Of C. meets  
on the 30th - a great

advantage to us, as {94k}  
it keeps Mr. Herbert  
& all these men in  
town till the Saturday  
before Xmas' time  
to work our Commissns=.

The Report &  
Appendix are to be  
out by the end of  
December.

[end 15:270]

Ever faithfully &  
gratefully yours  
F. Nightingale

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 601  
roll 1 H1/ST/NC3/SU95: pen: letter to Lady McNeill, typed copy 45768 f251  
**[8:636]**

30 Old Burlington St.  
Nov 16/57

{Florence Nightingale - archivist's hand?}

My dear Lady McNeill.

I have so very much  
enjoyed receiving your  
very kind invitation,  
though I shall not  
have the pleasure of  
accepting it. I should  
have liked so much  
seeing Sir John McNeill  
so much better, and  
talking over with him,

who always enlightens **{95a}**  
us more than all the  
Commissioners put  
together, the new Army  
Regulations now to be  
framed.

{No signature}

H1/ST/NC3/SU96 M. Smith letter to Lady McNeill re FN's health

H1/ST/NC3/SU97: pen: dictated by F.N. letter to Sir J. McNeill

This is the first rough **[15:149]**  
proof of the Regulations  
chiefly written by myself  
which Mr Herbert will  
submit to the Regula-  
tions Committee on  
Monday. I send them  
to you with his  
sanction, begging  
you to cut them

up severely, & to **{97a}**  
send them back as  
soon as possible.  
I, in my own name  
direct your particular  
attention to criticize  
the Regulations for  
Nurses - You will of  
course understand

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 602

that my name does {97b}  
not appear. We are  
so sorry to give  
you this trouble  
but feel the necessity  
of asking your  
advice

[end]

F. Nightingale  
30 Old Burlington St  
Decbr 1st/57

H1/ST/NC3/SU98 M. Smith letter to J. McNeill, dictated message from FN for J.  
McNeill, black-edged paper, LMAMisc

30 Old Burlington St  
Decbr 2d [1857]

My dear Madam

Florence commission  
ed me last night to  
write at her dictation  
a message to Sir John  
Macneill, which she  
was anxious to have  
in the Post before  
10 oclock, & I had

not a moment for more  
than the bare message,  
or I should have wished  
to say something con  
cerning her health, a  
bout which I am sure  
you will be desirous  
to hear. She suffered  
much from great ex  
haustion of the nervous  
system. Dr Johnson,  
under whose care she  
has been at Malvern

calls her malady tension  
of the nerves. One cannot  
see her state without  
great anxiety yet we  
hope that if she can  
have rest, she may be  
restored, though much  
time would be required.  
Her head is as clear  
for work as ever, & she  
gives her thoughts as  
earnestly as ever to  
the work in hand

She is quite unable to  
do more than this, or  
you would hear from  
her. She will stay in  
town till the 16th, if  
she can keep up till  
that time, & then go to Malvern.  
She desires me to say  
that she would be

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 603

obliged to Sir John Mac  
Neill for another copy  
of eh Hospital Diets  
of the Edinburgh In

firmary. She also wishes  
to tell him that Mr  
Herbert was afraid  
of going his illeg a  
bout the Purveyorship  
on the Field, he will  
see that on that ac  
count they have not  
done so. With Florence's  
affectionate regards  
pray believe me  
dear Madam  
truly yours  
M. Smith

H1/ST/NC3/SU99: pen: dictated: letter to Sir J. McNeill, typed copy 45768 f71

30 Old Burlington St [14:546]  
Decbr 12th/57

Mr Herbert, in virtue  
of his Commission, put  
the Sanitary Correspondence  
of the Army Medical  
Department into my  
hands to analyse.  
This is the result -  
I send it to you  
in order to show

you how completely {99a}  
it bears out every  
word you ever said  
in your report.

Please to return it  
as soon as read. [end]  
Florence Nightingale

H1/ST/NC3/SU100: pen: dictated: letter to Sir J. McNeill, typed copy 45768 f72

Dear Sir John [14:549]

We are very much  
obliged to you for your letter,  
which will be of great use  
to us. You will receive  
by the Book Post a copy  
of our Diagrams of the  
mortality of the British  
Army, which we have  
just received from the  
Printers. It has been inserted  
in the Appendix to Mr. Herberts  
Report for the sake of the  
last line upon the Cover.

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 604

It is our flank-march "upon {100a}  
the enemy and we might give  
it the old name of "God's revenge upon  
Murder." Be so good if  
you please as not to make  
any use of it until Mr  
Herberts Report is out, which  
it will be about the middle  
of January.

(dictated)

Florence Nightingale

I have had two thousand  
copies printed in order to

circulate it among the Medical {100b}  
& commanding officers. I  
mean to get, through Mr  
Herbert copies of the Diagrams  
framed & glazed, hung at  
the Horse Guards, War Depart-  
ment, and Army Medical  
Department. [end 14:550]

Great Malvern

27th December {archivist?:} 1857

H1/ST/NC3/SU101 Mary Smith letter to Lady McNeill re FN's health Jan 29/57

H1/ST/NC3/SU102: pen: dictated letter to Sir J. McNeill, black-edged paper  
{arch: dictated to Mary Smith} 45768 f174

30 Old Burlington St

March 14th/58

My Dear Sir John

I hear with heart-  
felt interest what you  
tell me of your dear  
child, & rejoice to think  
of your not being sepa-  
rated from her. If  
while she is in town,  
she will call here as  
you kindly propose,  
if I am able to see any  
one on the day she comes  
most gladly I shall see her

I am sorry to be obliged {102a}  
to ask the friends whom  
I should most rejoice to  
see, to excuse my uncer-  
tainty on any day of what  
it may be possible to me  
to do on the next.

I thank you very much [14:980]  
for your efforts about the  
"North British". And may  
I ask you to thank the  
Publisher for his readiness  
to help us? I have com-  
municated with Mr  
Herbert & with Mr  
Chadwick & you shall

hear their answers im- {102b}  
mediately that I re-  
ceive them. [end 14:980]

You will be glad to [15:275]  
hear that Genl. Peel,  
urged by Mr Herbert is  
doing extremely well  
for us. We are to send  
in before Easter for  
his approval.  
First - the Draught  
instructions for the  
Army Medical Board  
which I enclose for your  
corrections, if you will

be so very good as to {102c}  
look it over & return it  
to me as soon as possible  
In drawing it up, I have  
kept as nearly as possible  
to your own advice.

The other three  
things which we are  
to send in to Genl  
Peel are the "Regulations"  
which you have already  
seen. The Forms for the  
Statistical Department

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 606

& the scheme for the **{102d}**  
Army Medical School

We are very anxious  
to get in the Hospital  
Diet scheme which Professor  
Christison was so good  
as to undertake to  
construct for us, out  
of the materials already  
used in Military Hospitals  
& which he said were  
ample. If you could be  
so good as to remind  
him to let us have this scheme ~~them~~  
we should be very

much obliged to you, **{102e}**  
as it is to be incorporated  
into the Regulations. **[end]**

I hope Lady McNeill  
& yourself are well  
& that you are not  
suffering as usual  
at this time of the year.

I remain,

My dear Sir John  
most truly & gratefully yours  
Florence Nightingale

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 607  
H1/ST/NC3/SU103 pen letter to Lady McNeill with envelope [8:636-37]

30 Old Burlington St.  
London W.  
April 22/58

My dear Lady McNeill

I must write a word  
myself to thank you  
for the Photographs from  
Steell's bust.

The original I liked  
better than any portrait  
in marble I have  
ever seen, except  
Thorwaldsen's Byron -  
(which was a very  
inferior subject).

‡ But I never knew {103a}  
before what the Irishman  
meant when he said  
"the portrait was more  
like than the original,"  
till I saw the  
photographs.

I do not like  
the one with a nearly  
full face looking  
to the left.

But the nearly  
full face with the  
light on it, and the  
profile one are  
beautiful.

I think they give {103b}  
even more of Sir John  
McNeill's character  
than the bust - or  
perhaps some slight  
alteration may have  
been made in the  
mouth of the bust.

You may depend  
upon it that, ~~while~~  
that mouth would  
go through fire & water,  
the "baptism of fire,"  
for the Right, & yet it has  
all the gentleness of

the really great. {103c}

Schiller ( or somebody)  
has said that there  
is no real grace but  
in strength.

I think Steell may  
be very proud that  
he has made a work  
which will last.

I hope that you  
have quite recovered. (I  
was so very sorry to  
hear you had been ill).  
& that Mrs Stewart is  
with you. Pray believe me  
ever yours affectely. & gratefully

F. Nightingale

I heard of Lord Dunfermline's death. He will be much missed.

Envelope addressed in FN's writing

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 609  
H1/ST/NC3/SU104: pen, typed copy 45768 f256

30 Old Burlington St., [8:637-38]  
London W

July 17/58

My very dear Lady McNeill

I am always so  
glad to hear of you  
that I cannot help  
answering your letter  
myself.

I am glad that  
you are not going  
to part with Mrs.  
Stewart farther  
than Portsmouth.

Thank you very  
much for your

congratulations on {104a}  
my sister's marriage,  
which took place  
last month. She  
likes it, which is  
the main thing -  
and my father  
is very fond of  
Sir Harry Verney,  
which is the next  
best thing. He is  
old & rich, which  
is a disadvantage.

He is active, has a {104b}  
will of his own &

4 children, ready-made which  
is an advantage.  
Unmarried life, at  
least in our class,  
takes everything &  
gives nothing back  
to this poor earth.  
It runs no risk - it  
gives no pledge to life.  
So, on the whole, I  
think these reflections

tend to approbation. {104c}  
My father & mother,  
who are now in Derbyshire,  
have both been to  
see my sister in her  
new home in Buck=  
inghamshire (Claydon)  
& were well pleased.  
But, if you know, as  
is very likely, the  
family of the first  
Lady Verney, you will  
not "faire part" to  
them of my observations.  
Admiral Hope has been  
very kind to my sister.

I hope that you & {104d}  
Sir John are pretty strong.  
My affairs are going  
on pretty well. We  
have gained Alexander,  
as Director General, &  
lost Netley, which, in  
spite of its defects, is  
to be proceeded with  
as our Army Hospital.  
Mr. Herbert went  
abroad last week,  
quite done up - or  
thinking himself so.

We have still our {104e}  
"Regulations," Statistical  
Report & some Barracks  
Reports to send in to  
Genl. Peel. [This is for  
Sir John] We have got  
£57,000 to go on with  
for our Barracks -  
exclusive of the money  
for increased accommo=  
dation. The warrant  
for pay & promotions for medical officers,  
the scheme for the Army

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 611

Medical School, also {104f}  
for the Medical  
Council are now  
going through the  
Treasury.

Genl= Peel is much  
more amenable to  
fear & such handy  
restraints & incite-  
ments than Panmure.

I conclude, from  
your dear kind note  
that you are going  
to stay at your

beautiful Granton all {104g}  
the summer.

I believe I am  
very little likely ever  
to get so far again.  
Else I know I need  
not say that to see  
you & Sir John again  
would be the dearest  
comfort & joy of my  
life.

Believe me, dear  
Lady McNeill, ever  
faithfully & gratefully  
yours

F. Nightingale

H1/ST/NC3/SU105: pen: letter, typed copy 45768 f79

30 Old Burlington St.

London W.

Oct 2/58

My dear Sir John McNeill

I send you a Copy,  
as you permitted me  
to do, of my Report to  
the War Secretary,  
of which so large a  
portion is due to you.

It is "Confidential,"  
of course, as I have no  
right to give away any  
Copies.

It has only recently  
been sent in to the

War Office, altho' {105a}  
finished long ago.  
- the English of which  
~~delay~~ would be that  
the state of health,  
not of me but of  
their own Department  
has caused this delay.  
but it does not  
signify. Because they  
won't understand it.  
And we are doing  
their work without  
them.

Believe me, dear Sir {105b}  
John, ever faithfully  
& gratefully yours  
Florence Nightingale

H1/ST/NC3/SU106: pen: letter to Sir J. McNeill typed copy 45768 f80

30 Old Burlington St  
London W  
Dec 2/58

My dear Sir John McNeill  
Your very kind letter  
cheers me on my  
path beyond *anything*  
I may say which  
betides me.

It is of the greatest  
value to me to have  
the opinion of one so  
thoroughly a master of  
the subject - & at the  
same time able to take

a more comprehensive {106a}  
view of it (than I do,  
I am aware,) from  
the very circumstance  
of not being in such  
constant immediate  
contact as I am  
with the evils to be  
remedied, with the  
perpetual harassing  
delays in remedying  
them & with the  
(sometimes total)  
disappointment in  
the persons who are  
to apply the remedies.

As La Rochefoucauld {106b}  
says of the Fronde (I  
don't recollect the  
words, I dare say you  
do) so I can truly say  
of the War Office &  
Horse Guards - there  
never were so many  
fine words with so  
little good sense-  
so much enterprise  
& so little effect-  
so much action  
without design & so  
much design without  
action.

Your hopefulnes of {106c}  
future & lasting benefit  
upholds in me the  
hope you once created.

I accept thankfully  
your criticism - so long  
as I can secure some  
hold upon the minds  
of those who hold the  
remedies we want in  
their hands, it is only  
under this aspect that  
style can be an object  
to one crying for relief  
from sufferings so  
urgent.

While it is possible {106d}  
to me, I must pursue  
these objects. But I see  
before me a long  
perspective of work  
which I can never  
hope to be permitted  
to carry through. Your  
word that the seed  
which is to bear fruit  
is actually sown is the  
best comfort I ever had  
or can have when I  
am called to bid  
farewell to interests  
so absorbing.

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 614

What you say of those {106e}  
near & dear to you is  
ever interesting to me.  
May you have a happy  
meeting with your  
dear child & may  
your best hopes come  
to pass!

With affectionate  
regards to Lady McNeill  
& Mrs. Stewart, - believe  
me to be ever,

My dear Sir John  
truly and gratefully yours  
Florence Nightingale

I shall send you in {106f}  
a few days an answer  
which has been forced  
from me by divers  
anonymous & cowardly  
attacks, circulated  
without printer's  
name, by authors  
who were evidently  
traitors from our own  
camp. F.N.

H1/ST/NC3/SU107: pen: letter, partly dictated, typed copy 45768 f82

Great Malvern

January 7th/59 [15:278-79]

My dear Sir John McNeill,

I hope the green Pamphlet  
is likely to do good.  
I agree altogether with the  
general principle you so strongly  
lay down that the military  
officer should know how to  
preserve the health of his troops.

The subject has been already  
considered & it has been proposed  
to make the military officers.

Many months ago I tried  
to put Mr. Herbert into  
communication with General  
Cameron the President of  
the Council of Military Education

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 615  
about this. Nothing has been {107a}  
done yet. Until our new  
professorship of Military Hygiene  
at Chatham is established  
I do not know that anything  
can be done.

Till we can offer the  
military officers means of  
instruction I do not know  
that we could press for an  
examination. & farther  
than this we must  
make the new lectures  
sufficiently interesting to  
induce military officers  
of all ranks to attend

We propose in our "regulations" {107b}  
to make commanding  
officers write reasons  
for not complying with  
medical officers recommend-  
ations, with an appeal  
to Horse Guards & Army  
Medical Department.

I trust that we shall  
carry the day with the  
military officers, but until  
this be done, we must do  
what we can with the  
Army Medical department.  
We have carried the Warrant

& the Army Medical School {107c}  
as you know, but the  
Medical Council are still  
hanging fire in the War Office.

Do you know who wrote  
a very remarkable article  
in the Edinbro' Medical  
Journal of December  
on the new Army Medical  
Warrant? We thought  
it was yours, but there  
are some things in it  
which I hardly think  
you would have written, altho'  
they may be Editor's interpolations.  
ever yours gratefully Florence Nightingale

[written in right margin of the first page in FN's hand]  
My kindest remembrances to Lady McNeill & Mrs. Stewart. F.N.

[end 15:279]

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 616  
H1/ST/NC3/SU108: pen: letter to Sir J. McNeill: dictated

Great Malvern

January 13/59

My dear Sir John McNeill,

Would you be so good  
as to send me the following  
information: viz: What the  
daily expenses of a Patient  
at the Edinbro' Infirmary is  
supposed to be.

You were once good enough  
to give me this information  
relative to Pauper patients,  
& what was paid for them,  
but this was, I believe, *below*  
the actual expense, & I should  
be very much obliged to you,  
as it is for a County Hospital

in England, to let me know {108a}  
the exact expenses. I am  
very sorry to give you the  
trouble of procuring this  
information.

I am sorry that Sir Chas- [9:77]  
Trevelyan is going to Madras.

I think they might have  
found many a man to  
make as good or better a  
governor, I doubt whether  
they will find many or  
perhaps any to make

as good a Treasury Secretary. {108b}  
But I think he may be of  
great use to us in  
sanitarising the condition of  
the troops at Madras.

Lady Trevelyan does not go  
She remains in London for  
the sake of the children. [end 9:77]

Sir Benjamin Hawes is [15:279]  
trying to destroy the scheme  
of our Army Medical Council,  
&, I am afraid, will succeed [end]

Yours very truly & [this in FN's own hand]  
gratefully

F. Nightingale

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 617

If you could add the {108e}  
average number of days  
of a patient in Hospital  
it would make the information  
complete & I should be  
very grateful.

H1/ST/NC3/SU109: pen: letter, dictated, signed by FN, typed copy 45768 f84

Great Malvern [15:280]

Feb. 7/59

My dear Sir John McNeill,

I was so very glad to  
hear from you. I had looked  
in the paper every day for  
the arrival of your grandchild  
with much more interest than  
for that of the Queen's grandchild  
tho' I don't despise the little  
Prince either.

I was so glad  
to hear that Lady McNeill  
& Mrs. Stewart continue  
well.

I am sorry to have  
given the Treasurer of the

Infirmary, & above all you, {109a}  
so much trouble. In  
many hospitals the information  
specified is made up at  
the end of every year as  
a matter of course.

I don't think it will do the  
Treasurer any harm to make  
it up for his own information.

I am very glad to hear  
such a good account of  
Sir Edward Lugard.  
My impression is, though  
I do not know him, that  
he is much such a man as

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 618

Tulloch: able, honest, {109b}  
energetic , but believing  
that all progress & knowledge  
have culminated with  
himself, & therefore not  
very likely to encourage  
any new lights. [end 15:280]

I rejoice to hear that  
you & Lady McNeill are  
coming to town so soon as  
March or April.

I want to talk over [12:123]  
many things with you  
if you will allow me, &  
especially a plan for  
utilising the Nightingale Fund,

which I want very much to {109c}  
put Mr. Herbert in the way  
of doing. [end 12:123]

I am intending to go  
back to London every day  
I do not think I am any  
better than you, being  
now almost confined to  
my bed.

Please give my best love  
to Lady McNeill & Mrs.  
Stewart & believe me ever  
yours very truly & gratefully  
Florence Nightingale [signed by FN]

H1/ST/NC3/SU110: pen: letter to Sir J. McNeill

30 Old Burlington St.

W March 19/59

My dear Sir John McNeill

I was so very glad  
to hear from you again  
& glad to hear that  
Mrs. Stewart was  
out of her troubles,  
which, I am afraid,  
have been rather  
severe. The same  
thing has just  
happened to one of  
our family.

Thank you very

much for the Hospital {110a}  
data. I will not  
trouble the Treasurer  
to do any more, as  
I can quite well  
make out all I  
want out of these.  
They are very curious.  
I hope I may keep  
them.

I trust you or [15:280-81]  
Lady McNeill will  
kindly send me a  
little note when you  
come to town. I  
have a great deal

to talk to you about. {110b}  
You know Ministers  
are insecure. You  
know a Committee  
has just been appointed  
on the re=organization  
of the War Office -  
Mr. Herbert is  
Chairman

I hope I shall be  
able to see both you  
& Lady McNeill, if  
you are kind enough  
to let me choose my  
own time. But I  
am not able to see

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 620

more than one person {110c}  
at a time, especially  
of those who interest  
me so much. And  
I am not able now  
to sit up at all.

Our Medical Council  
is appointed  
Sanitary Logan  
Medical Mapleton  
Statistical Balfour  
We are not satisfied  
with the terms we have  
got.

I was very sorry  
to hear of Lord Murray's  
death [end 15:281]

ever yours most gratefully  
Florence Nightingale

H1/ST/NC3/SU111: pen: letter to Sir J. McNeill typed copy 45768 f88.

30 Old Burlington St.

London W

March 24/59

My dear Sir John McNeill [15:281-82]

I am very glad to  
think that we shall  
see you next month.  
I want the more  
to put you in possession  
of the facts regarding  
the Army Medical  
Board, (of which you  
were the original  
inventor, & which  
Alexander has

cruelly mangled). Because {111a}  
I think, when you  
come to town, you  
may tell him some=  
thing of your mind  
which will do him  
good.

When we wrote  
the "Instructions" for  
it, (of which I sent  
you a copy, which  
you approved with  
some alterations  
which we adopted,)

our main object was {111b}  
to lay the axe to the  
root of the old "Minuting"  
system, by which an  
Army may be lost  
at any time.

This old "minuting"  
system is the vital  
breath by which the  
War Office & its hundred clerks lives -  
& which really  
makes it a perfectly  
irresponsible body.  
I am not governed  
by the Ho: of Commons.

I am governed by {111c}  
Hawes - ~~by a~~ & his  
Bureaucracy. The  
Ho: of Commons thinks  
it has done wonders  
when it has turned  
out one Minister &  
put in another. It  
has done nothing at  
all. Because the  
Bureaucracy remains,  
which lives by this  
"Minuting." It was invented  
chiefly by Hawes.

Your object, in  
advising a Council,

was to secure to the  
Director-General  
*independent &*  
*responsible* advisers,  
while giving him  
entire responsibility  
as to action.

Now Hawes &  
Alexander have  
ejected out of the  
"Instructions" all that  
laid down ~~as~~  
~~pointed out to the~~  
three Councillors' ~~their~~  
separate duties.

And then Alexander

goes & surreptitiously {111e}  
(without saying one  
word to Mr. Herbert)  
recommends two of  
his own creatures  
to Genl=. Peel, who  
are forthwith  
appointed; so that  
the Board is nothing  
now but one more of the old  
hugger=mugger Boards  
of Andrew Smith's -  
plus Balfour. And  
the Director General's

Office consists, as {111f}  
before, of the Director  
General & his creatures  
plus Balfour. Who is  
no creature.

[There are clean  
& unclean "creatures."  
Alexander's are by  
no means unclean.  
At least one of the  
two is not. But they  
are nothing but his  
Clerks to do any odd  
jobs for him. Balfour  
not inclusive.]

We look upon  
the Whole Administrative

Reform as completely {111g}  
lost; unless the H. Of  
C. Committee I mentioned  
to you re=organizes  
the whole War Office. [The  
Sanitary & Statistical  
Reform we are  
carrying on, outside  
of & without  
Alexander.]

He has betrayed  
his own Commission  
to whose Report he  
set his hand. He  
has jobbed the thing

3 {111h}

in his own office.  
And he has converted  
those friends, who  
have proved themselves  
~~very~~ his most efficient ones,  
into very lukewarm  
ones. He has ruined himself  
& his Department for the present.

We can give you  
abundance of  
evidence that  
Mapleton & Logan  
are "creatures". But  
I will not bother  
you with it now.

I hear that Alexander {111i}  
is heartily ashamed  
of himself. But  
it is too late now.

He has made  
himself another example  
of the regular official,  
who does not like  
able or independent  
men about him -  
"et surtout point  
de zèle."

I am not at all  
of your friend Socrates'

opinion that it is **{111j}**  
better to perish by  
other people's folly.  
I think nothing is so  
provoking. If Lord  
Panmure had done  
this thing now, I should  
not have minded.

I cannot conceive  
how the "Regulations"  
are to be carried out  
with these two men &  
~~You will be~~ without "Instructions." We shall  
come to grief.  
ever yours truly & gratefully  
Florence Nightingale

I begin heartily to **{110k}**  
wish for a change of  
Ministers - not  
because it makes  
the least difference  
(as to what I want,  
viz. administrative Reform,  
who is in & who is out.  
But just only for the  
sake of having Mr. Herbert  
in the War Office. Lord  
Stanley, with whom we are  
quite out of conceit, wrote  
to me today that they  
think they shall be out  
of Office next week.  
[This is between ourselves,  
of course]. But the  
Opposition don't believe  
it. **[end 15:282]**

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 625  
H1/ST/NC3/SU113: pen: letter to Sir J. McNeill, typed copy 45768 f92

30 Burlington St

W April 8/59

My dear Sir John McNeill

[15:282-83]

Would you look  
over Lord Panmure's  
evidence, which I  
enclose, only promising  
that it is "confidential."

I should like very  
much to hear what  
you think, when you  
have read it, of  
Mr. Herbert's plan.

It seems to me  
that the first part  
of the Evidence is like

a porcupine's, which  
does not choose to be  
disturbed in its hole,  
specially after it has  
made that hole itself.

{113a}

But the latter part  
is by far the most  
important, & does not  
seem to me to bear  
out Mr. Herbert's  
idea.

It deals frankly  
with the relation of  
Horse Guards & War  
Office. It does not  
conceal the supreme

importance of the latter {113b}  
as compared with the  
former. It draws a  
very important  
distinction as to the  
different relation of  
War Office to Commander  
in Chief at home & to  
Commander of the Forces  
abroad - who, it says,  
I suppose justly  
must be entirely  
under the War Office.  
It shews the difficulty  
of drawing a line of  
demarcation between  
the duties of Horse Guards

& War Office - & says {113c}  
that, in some cases,  
the War Minister must  
over=rule the Commander  
in Chief even in his  
own field. It is not  
in favor of a Council,  
because (amongst  
other things) the C. in  
C. now communicates  
directly with the  
Sovereign, which he  
would cease to do,  
were he a Councillor.  
How would a  
weekly Conference do,

instead of a Council? {113d}  
It would, at least,  
while preserving the  
Departments distinct,  
give the required  
unity.

Mr. Herbert's fear  
of any antagonism  
does not strike me  
~~as~~ in the same way,  
in these kinds of  
things. I think it  
is rather desirable,  
on the contrary - i.e  
at home & in peace.

In war the Commander {113e}  
of the Forces must  
pass under the  
power of the Cabinet,  
which moves him.

If you could appoint  
any time which will  
suit you either  
tomorrow, or Sunday  
or Monday, when  
you could kindly  
spare me an hour,  
there are many things  
I want to consult

you about. And I {113f}  
shall be curious to  
hear your opinion  
about this too.

[end 15:283]

ever yours most truly  
F. Nightingale

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 628  
H1/ST/NC3/SU114 pen letter to Sir J. McNeill with envelope

West Hill Lodge  
Highgate Rise  
London N April 30/59

My dear Sir John McNeill

Do you know any  
one who would write  
for the Westminster  
Review a really good  
Article on our  
defences, generally; or  
even on our Militia,  
particularly? I  
suppose you would  
not do it yourself.

**[15:283]**

I think we  
shall get Lugard on

the Indian Sanitary  
Commission.

**{114a}**  
**[end 15:283]**

Pray tell Mrs.  
Stewart that I am  
very sorry for her,  
particularly; but  
that, generally, my  
country stands with  
me so much before  
any thing else that I  
cannot but congra=  
tulate her on having  
anything so valuable  
to give.

If she comes back  
to stay with you, that  
will be a consolation  
on both sides.

**{114b}**

I am afraid this  
changing weather  
will be of no good  
either to you or dear  
Lady McNeill.

ever yours sincerely  
& gratefully

F. Nightingale

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 629  
H1/ST/NC3/SU115: pen: letter to Sir J. McNeill, typed copy 45768 f98

West Hill Lodge  
Highgate Rise  
N  
May 9/59

My dear Sir John McNeill

Sir G. Lugard has **[9:83-84]**  
declined to serve on  
the Indian Sanitary  
Commission on account  
of the present pressure  
of business at the W.O.  
And we are again at  
our wits' ends for  
a "Queen's Officer of  
"Acknowledged Indian  
"experience." And again  
it is left to us to choose.

I mentioned Brigadier **{115a}**  
Greathed, now in England, the man of the  
wonderful march from  
Delhi (?). And Mr. Herbert  
seems inclined to have  
him, merely because  
I cannot name any  
one else. But I know  
nothing of him but  
his reputation. Nor  
do I know any one  
through whom to get  
his measure.

In this dilemma,  
could you help us  
again? both by

saying what you think **{115b}**  
of Greathed & by  
mentioning any other  
~~else~~, Queen's Officer now at home,  
whom you think  
well of for this  
purpose.

2. Would you look  
at the enclosed list  
of Heads for enquiries  
to be sent out to  
the Stations in India  
& tell us your  
opinion as to the  
different queries  
therein? Would you also  
kindly give an opinion as  
to the general direction which

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 630  
the enquiry would take? {115c} [end 9:84]

3. Thank you very  
much for the for=taste  
of the Scheme for the  
N. Fund. I entirely  
agree with every  
word you say in it.

Believe me  
dear Sir John  
ever truly & gratefully  
yours  
F. Nightingale

H1/ST/NC3/SU116: pen: letter to Sir J. McNeill by W.E. Nightingale

Embley 14 May {archivist writes 1859?}

Dear Sir John

We are delighted  
that you & Lady McNeill  
are to be here on  
Thursday.

Whether you (Southern people) must  
go to the Portsmouth  
Station or to the  
Gosport, my ignorance  
prevents me from  
knowing -

but all the trains {116a}  
stop at Bishopstoke  
which is the Station  
where you leave  
the main line  
for Romsey.

We are only 2  
miles from our station  
- Mr V. will meet  
you there with the carriage at 5.25 -  
we dine at 7 -

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 631

P.M. {116b}  
Gosport 4.10  
Bishopstoke 5 -

departure [illeg] 5.10  
Romsey 5.25

(This is my  
best interpretation  
of Bradshaw &  
it seems the only, train  
free from impediment  
yours sincerely  
F. Nightingale

H1/ST/NC3/SU117 J. McNeill to SH 24 May 1859, re necessity of paid secretary to N Fund, committee of 3; he has FN approbation of suggestions

H1/ST/NC3/SU118 A.H. Clough to J. McNeill will serve on council of N Fund as long as FN can guide it, question of amalgamation with present hosp staff, **000354** 26 May 1859. From what Miss Nightingale said to me yesterday evening it is evident to me that I *must* place my services at the disposal of the council for the Nightingale Fund, if they wish to have them. I think however that if I were to be appointed, it shd be *pro tempore*. So long as Miss Nightingale continues able to take part in the guidance of the scheme I shd willingly serve. Afterwards the case would be a different one.

She spoke of the following questions as requiring consideration.

(1) If the whole set of nurses in the hosp be not put under the direction of the Fund Council, will not the hosp authorities defend their nurses against "ours," and their nurses will naturally be jealous of any who are to take their places.

(2) How are women to know--about the advantages offered to them at the hospital? How is the thing to be announced or advertised?

(3) As to extra allowance for nurses while receiving instruction?

(4) If any of the sisters already at work in the hosp show a capacity for instructing, shd they not be allowed the extra grant, without examination?

Miss Nightingale wished me to see you once again after your visit to her tomorrow. I will endeavour to be at Highgate before 5 o'clock tomorrow in the hope that I may find you still there.

H1/ST/NC3/SU119 SH, Wilton House, to McNeill May 27 1859. I am very sorry that I will just miss you but I write in the hope of this still finding you in London. I most entirely agree in your sugg of a sub-committee and a sec to carry into effect Miss Nightingale's application of the fund, and the selection of Mr Clough if he consent is everything that cd be desired. He is a clever and sensible man and his regard for Miss Nightingale which is great and sincere will ensure his illeg in the work to be performed. I have written to him undertaking to communicate the plan to the council and illeg their entire approval....McNeill to read the enclosed letter from him for reasons one of which concerns yourself. Asks him to be on exec com, re salary of Clough

H1/ST/NC3/SU122 SH to McNeill Dec 15 1859. Tho I fear it will be impossible for you to attend, I still write a line to tell you that a meeting of Miss N's council is to be held at the War Office on Monday next the 19th at 12 o'cl to consider her proposals for the employment of the Fund. I grieve to say she is sadly failing, but to have this business settled will be a great relief to her mind; with notes from meeting, FN unable to attend. SH, Jebb, Bowman, Bence Jones, Bracebridge; because FN quite incapable from the state of her health to taking any active part in giving effect personally to the intentions of the subscribers to the Fund, and no prospect of her being able to do so, delegating to council the necessary powers for carrying out the objects contemplated by the Fund.

2. She is desirous that for this purpose a subcom of the council be apptd with authority to exercise the power delegated by her to the council.

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 632

3. Also that a sec be appted to conduct the business.

4. She is desirous that all proceedings taken by this com be at once communicated to her.

5. She will be ready at all times, insofar as the state of her health may admit, to afford the com whatever advice and assistance may appear to be necessary, leaving to the com entire freedom of action.

6. She is desirous that steps be taken w/o loss of time to give effect to the intentions of the subscribers by opening communications with the managers of St Thomas' Hosp, with the view to the intro of a system of training and instr of nurses in that inst.

7. That in the event of the managers of St T Hosp not agreeing to such a proposal, Miss N be informed of the fact, in order that she may have the opp of advising with the com on the steps next to be taken."

In pursuance of the above request the following sub-com was appted:

SH, McNeill, Clark, Bowman, Jebb. Clough appt sec at £10 a year and his expenses, his offer of acting honorarily not have been accepted.

H1/ST/NC3/SU119 SH to J. McNeill, reply, agrees May 27 1859

H1/ST/NC3/SU120: pen: letter to Sir J. McNeill, typed copy 45768 f104

Highgate

June 11/59

My dear Sir John McNeill

Enclosed is the **[9:93]**  
list of proposed  
queries for the  
Indian Stations.

Could you be  
so kind as to  
look it over &  
make any corrections  
& additions you  
think fit. Also

noting in the margin {120a}  
the person to whom  
the query ought  
to be addressed.

These queries  
are printed only  
for correction &  
are to be re=  
arranged according  
to the respective  
officers ~~on~~ to  
whom they are

to be sent - & {120b}  
printed on larger  
sheets with spaces  
for the replies.

Tabular Forms  
to be filled up  
are also to be  
added - as well  
as a set of purely  
Military questions  
for Military Officers -  
& a circular Letter.

Sutherland has **{120c}**  
been studying at  
the India Ho: &  
the result is  
incorporated in  
these questions -  
as well as  
Martin's information.  
Farr is drawing up  
the Statistical  
Forms.

You will see the

2

**{120d}**

result of this  
morning's Division  
- My satisfaction  
is of a very limited  
nature. Mr.  
Herbert told me  
that if he were  
S. of S. for War,  
he would turn  
over this Indian matter  
to Lord Stanley -  
Now I can say  
*that* of Ld. S. which  
Mr. H. cannot -

3

**{120e}**

Because, as I  
read somewhere,  
the inferior detracts,  
the superior ignores.

I am sure that  
Lord Stanley has  
neither the grasp  
of the subject nor  
the faculty that  
some men have  
of putting themselves  
into the right hands  
as to detail &  
~~knowing~~ seeing who knows

& who does not. {120f}

I believe the  
Sanitary salvation  
of India depends  
upon Mr. Herbert  
doing it. And I  
should say the  
same & a great  
deal more if I  
were dead, &  
there were no  
question of my  
work.

Do you think  
we could make any

proposal to Mr. {120g}  
Herbert by which,  
saving him all  
labor of detail  
(which we could  
do,) we could keep  
his hand over us  
for the Meetings  
which might  
even be deferred  
till Parlt. ceases  
to sit - & for the  
final Report-  
or we might have

3 {120h}

only (say) an hour  
of his time per  
week at ~~the~~ a  
weekly Meeting  
for parole evidence.

I am not  
afraid to say  
that Sutherland,  
Farr & I could  
do all the detail  
work for him.  
Sutherland & I  
did it for the last.

[end 9:93]

Believe me {120i}  
dear Sir John  
ever yours gratefully  
F. Nightingale

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 636

H1/ST/NC3/SU121 SH to J. McNeill Dec 15 [1859] re meeting of N Council to be held at WO 19th Dec 1859 at 12. "She is sadly failing but to have this business settled will be a great relief to her mind."

H1/ST/NC3/SU123 Notes from N Fund meeting re hospital arrangements. Selection from nurses already in hospital and fresh applicants. addition to wages or improvement in diet. every pupil to be registered in a book; matron to have entire control of nurses and pupils; all complaints against a nurse to be entered in a ward book, which shd be examined daily by the matron

H1/ST/NC3/SU124: pen: letter to Sir J. McNeill, typed copy 45768 f107

Hampstead NW  
Jan 19/60

My dear Sir John McNeill

I heard from Mr. Clough that you had been ill (which I should not have found out from your letters), & that you contemplate ~~goi~~ coming up to London soon.

I hope that, if the other business for

which you may be **{124a}** coming up, allows any margin, that you will not hurry yourself to come on account of mine.

The weather here (tho' variable) is generally exceedingly bad. I scarcely ever remember such a "dirty" foggy winter.

And I see no **[12:124-25]** reason for hurrying the formal part of

my business. Mr. Clough {124b}  
is himself hardly  
recovered. He has  
been ill.

And I think  
what you would be  
of such essential  
support in - that  
which indeed hardly  
any one could do but  
you - the having an  
interview with the  
St. Thomas's authorities  
is as well done a  
little later as now.

I should think it quite {124c}  
worth while to put  
off the first "Sub=Committee"  
meeting. (None of the  
men are Ho: of Commons  
men, except Mr. Herbert,  
who can't act anyhow)  
and the first formal  
interview with St.  
Thomas's authorities  
till it was convenient  
for you to come.

Time will not  
be lost thereby -as  
I must see the  
Matron; & Mr. Clough

2 19/60 {124d}  
must see Mr. Whitfield  
(the Resident Medl=. Officer)  
informally.

Thank you very  
much for your letters  
& pamphlet.

I trust to hear  
you are better.

Pray give my love  
to Lady McNeill & to  
Mrs. Stewart, & tell her I am glad to hear  
there is another little  
"Prince to be born to  
the House."

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 638

Believe me ever {124e}

my dear Sir John

Yours very truly & most  
gratefully

Florence Nightingale

I ~~sho~~ am going (*daily*)  
to 30 Old Burlington St.  
- If, as I hope you  
will not, you are coming  
immediately, I would go  
up at once - as I should  
like to be on the spot.

I trust you will come {124f}  
there & leave it to us  
to find rooms for you  
in the house, fit for  
a person not very  
strong. If you would  
give us a day's  
warning.

I imagine Mr. Herbert  
sent you a copy of the  
Minute of the first  
Meeting of My "Council."  
F.N. [end 12:125]

H1/ST/NC3/SU125: pen: letter to Sir John McNeill

Mr. A. Jackson's  
Upper Terrace  
Hampstead

Friday morning

My dear Sir John McNeill

I shall hope to  
see you today at  
two o'clock, as you  
so kindly propose.

The people at  
30 Old Burlington St.  
were very remiss, if  
they did not give  
you a letter which  
I sent there for you.  
ever yours gratefully  
Florence Nightingale

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 639  
H1/ST/NC3/SU126: pen: letter to Sir John McNeill, typed copy 45768 f109

30 Old Burlington St  
London W

Feb 2/60

[15:288]

My dear Sir John McNeill

You will have seen  
in the "Times" what an  
irreparable loss we have  
had in Alexander, the  
Director General. I say  
*irreparable* because it  
really is come to this: -  
that Mr. Herbert asks  
who is to be his  
successor - and it  
seems as if there were  
not one man in the

Department whom one  
wished to see Director  
General

{126a}

Taylor of Chatham,  
(who was in the Crimea  
in Medical Charge of  
the 3rd Division,) and  
Balfour are the only  
two I can name  
who have shewn any  
administrative talent.

I know how low  
has been the rate  
of ability shewn by  
the Drs. in the Indian

Affair. And Clyde has  
been beside himself  
with their stupidity.  
Linton, the Senior,  
he would not allow  
even to come up to Head  
Quarters. And Gordon  
is nothing but a  
bone-cutter.

{126b}

Can you help us?  
What do you think?  
Whom should you  
fix upon?

Yours ever sincerely

F. Nightingale

Alexander's death was almost  
sudden.

[end]

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 640

H1/ST/NC3/SU127: pen: letter to Sir John McNeill (reference to dead friend is probably to Anne Dutton, Lady Dunsany), typed copy 45768 f110

30 Old Burlington St  
London W.  
Mar 9/60

My dear Sir John

You know that for you  
to wish me to be the  
God=mother of one of  
your grandchildren is  
the greatest pleasure  
I could have.

I have always declined  
being God=mother to any of Mr.  
Herbert's children, or  
of those of a very dear

friend of mine (who is  
now dead) because  
1. I felt that they  
would think my  
religious opinions, if  
they knew them, very  
unorthodox & 2. it  
is undertaking to do  
what neither law nor  
custom authorizes one  
to do.

But you know (I  
believe) pretty well

what my religious  
opinions are & if  
neither of these things  
deter you, I can only  
say that any  
connection with  
Mrs. Stewart's child  
will be most dear  
to me & that I am  
very grateful to her  
for having thought of me.  
Pray give her my best  
wishes & believe me  
ever yours gratefully  
& truly

{127a}

F. Nightingale

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 641

H1/ST/NC3/SU127 A.H. Clough to J. McNeill [date?]

H1/ST/NC3/SU128 A.H. Clough to J. McNeill 19 March 1860, with report of conference, proposals made re matron's additional salary

H1/ST/NC3/SU129 A.H. Clough to J. McNeill 21st April 1860 re apptm of chaplains, fitting up of dormitory

H1/ST/NC3/SU130: pen: letter to Sir John McNeill, typed copy 45768 f112

30 Old Burlington St.

London W

May 17/60

My dear Sir John McNeill

I sent you by post [11:34]  
yesterday a packet  
which will puzzle you.

Do you remember  
(I am sure you do not  
but I do) a conversation  
we had some three  
years ago at your  
house about religion  
one evening?

Eight years ago,  
I had a large & very

curious acquaintance {130a}  
among the Operatives  
of the North of England  
& among those of  
what are called  
Holyoake's party in  
London. The most  
thinking & conscientious  
of our enormous artisan=  
=population appeared  
to me to have no  
religion at all.  
I then wrote the first part of what  
I have ventured to  
send you, without  
the least idea of ever

publishing it. And {130b}  
it was read in M.S.  
by some of them.

The conversation  
I had with you  
awakened all my  
thoughts of the Artisans.  
And, about 1 1/2 years  
ago, I wrote the  
second part ("Man's  
Will & God's Law") in  
the packet sent you.

Till this last spring,  
~~winter~~ I never  
thought for a moment  
of printing it. But

just now I have had {130c}  
six copies done of  
which I send you  
one. No one knows  
of it. And, till  
after my death, I  
would never have  
it published, certainly  
not with my name.

My reason for  
sending it you is  
to ask you, should  
the subject interest  
you enough, to be so  
good as to say, at  
*your leisure*, whether you think  
it would be after my death at all  
useful among the "Atheist"  
Operatives, as they are called.  
Believe me ever sincerely &  
gratefully yours

Florence Nightingale

2. May 17/60  
I need not say that  
the half margin is  
made to be written  
on, if you will be  
so good as to write  
any remarks of  
yours upon it.

F.N.

[end]

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 643  
H1/ST/NC3/SU131: pen: letter to Sir John McNeill, typed copy 45768 f116

30 Old Burlington St.

London W.

July 24/60

My dear Sir John McNeill

I hope that you &  
Lady McNeill will  
not think me very  
unreasonable if a  
Dr. de Baumbauer,  
"Delegate" from *Holland*  
at the "International  
Statistical Congress"  
here & Director of the  
Statistical Department

of the Ministry of {131a}  
the Interior in Holland,  
presents himself  
to you with an  
introduction from  
me. With him  
perhaps may come  
H.G. Baron Czoernig,  
"Delegate" from *Austria*  
Privy Councillor, and  
Director of the Imperial  
Statistical Department  
at Vienna - also  
M.G. Hopf, "Delegate"

from *Saxe Coburg*, {131b}  
Financial Councillor,  
& Director of the "Life  
Assurance Bank for  
Germany" in Gotha -  
and 4. a M.  
Friedland.

[I feel as if I  
were giving you a  
list of their names,  
titles, "rank and  
regimental number"].

Do not be alarmed.  
They are not going  
to stay in Scotland

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 644

But I am sure {131c}  
they will be pleased  
by any civility from  
you.

Czoernig is quite  
a man of the world.

Believe me to be  
ever yours gratefully  
& sincerely

F. Nightingale  
Perhaps these  
people will only be  
able to call upon you  
at your Board of  
Supervision; As they are hurried  
for time.

H1/ST/NC3/SU132: pen: archivist's copy: letter to ? and in 47753 ff16-18  
[13:254-55]

30 Old Burlington St.  
London

Augt. 13th 1860

My dear Sir

I. Miss Bonham Carter has told me  
that you wish for my criticism on the enclosed.

I think that it wants something to define what  
a nurse should be, of the nature (though not in the  
words) of the manuscript scrap annexed \_\_\_

II. Mr Clough has told me that you wish for our  
Rules, Hours, diet-table &c \_\_\_\_\_

1 I am not at all satisfied, with our Diet=  
=table at St. Thomas's, but in a day or two I will  
send you my own scheme of Dieting Nurses at  
Harley St, where I was (previous to 1854) and  
Miss Jones's at King's College - The fact is, you  
cannot diet women, especially nurses, according  
to a table, and this is one fault at St. Thomas's.  
You want variety. You want care to supply  
them with puddings & vegetables (various) and  
you will thus keep them in much better health &  
efficiency than with, "so many lbs of meat and so

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 645

many lbs of bread daily"

{132a}

They should however always have meat *twice* a day on the table offered to them. A good superintendent, had indeed, much better be left to consult the tastes of her nurses than be bound down to dietaries. Experience must decide her

You shall however see our ideas on the subject.

2. I enclose our time-table at St. Thomas's, with which I am not at all satisfied either, (also, it is only for *Probationers* not for nurses.) again I say these things must be left to a good Superintendent to modify according to the customs of the place, the needs of the Nurses & of the Hospital. She must not be too much bound down by rules.

I think the *general* hints I have given in a little (confidential) Report which I believe you have, as to hours much more useful and practicable than these (cut and dried) time tables

Find your Superintendent and then do not bind her down too closely -

3. I enclose the "Character Sheet" I have drawn up, which must be favourably filled up, before any nurse can "pass" - with us -

{132b}

About this I do not annex the same caution. Because every nurse must *be*, and *know & do* these things. or she is not a Nurse at all.

I quite agree with you that Missionary nurses are the end and aim of all our work, Hospitals are after all but an intermediate stage of civilization, while devoting my life to Hospital work, to this conclusion I have always come. viz that Hospitals are not the best place for the sick poor, *except for severe surgical cases*

I need not say that I hope, for any information I may be able to give you, you will never be unwilling to apply to me. And should I, if you are in London again during the term of my life, be able to see you; and should you wish to discuss any points with me, I need not say I shall be happy and willing to do so.

I take the liberty of forwarding a copy of my little book on nursing, in order that you

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 646  
may see in the short (appendix) sketch of  
"What is a Nurse"? What was my experience  
which led me to draw up the Character that I  
enclose **[end 13:255]**

Believe me to be  
Yours faithfully  
sig. Florence Nightingale

H1/ST/NC3/SU133: pen: letter to Sir John McNeill, typed copy 45768 f118

30 Old Burlington St  
London W  
Aug 29/60

My dear Sir John McNeill

**[13:35]**

I send you ~~by~~  
~~post (today)~~ Parts  
second & third of  
the religious "stuff"  
(confidential), of which  
I sent you the  
first part some  
time ago. I don't  
expect you to read  
it. I am afraid

you will be terrified **{133a}**  
at the bulk of it.  
But I could not  
refrain from  
sending you what  
(the printing of it  
at least) was  
the result of a  
conversation with  
you - an untoward  
& undesirable result,  
I am afraid you  
will say, when  
you see it.

Would you thank **{133b}**  
Lady McNeill very  
much for the  
photographs she  
was so good as  
to send me? I  
like them exceedingly.  
But tell her  
the *faint* likeness  
of you in the  
back=ground of  
one of them is  
what I like the  
best. It is not  
like a picture

but like a real **{133c}**  
shadow -

I send per book **[1:724]**  
post to Mrs. Stewart, (which  
will you present  
with my love?)  
a copy of Mr.  
Clough's translation  
of some of Plutarch's  
Lives for the infant  
original of the  
photographs, when  
he can read it.

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 648

2 Augst 29/60

I believe there {133d}  
are much worse  
"Saints" in the  
Calendar than  
there are in  
Plutarch - And  
did French boys  
read Plutarch,  
as we used to  
do, when I was  
young, I don't  
believe the present  
Emperor could be  
on the throne.

Mr. and Mrs. {133e}  
Clough are going  
North on Thursday  
(tomorrow) for  
their holiday.  
They will be  
at Edinburgh on  
Wednesday the 5th at the Caledonian Hotel  
~~Monday or Tuesday~~  
in Princes St. opposite the Castle.

I have persuaded  
them (they are  
shy) to call  
upon you; & they  
are good enough

to bring for me {133f}  
a little offering  
to my own peculiar  
"god=son," your youngest  
grand=child -  
and the printed "stuff."

[end]

Ever my dear  
Sir John, yours  
gratefully & affectely.

Florence Nightingale [end 1:724]

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 649  
H1/ST/NC3/SU134: pen letter to Sir John McNeill, typed copy 45768 f124

30 Old Burlington St  
London W

Sept 15/60

My dear Sir John McNeill

I have ventured **[15:293]**  
today to send you  
(by Book Post,) if  
you could find the  
time to glance over  
it, & to see whether  
it meets your  
requirements - a  
first Proof of the  
*Purveyor's "Regulations,"*  
which we have

been preparing, by **{134a}**  
order of Mr. Herbert.

It is intended  
to meet all the  
points you have  
raised. (I am  
afraid it meets  
none of them.)

It ought to  
tally with the  
Report of the R. Sanitary Commission  
& with the new "medical  
Regulations", of  
which I think  
you have a copy.

Without troubling

you to look over the **{134b}**  
lists of Stores, &c,  
would you consider  
whether this code is in  
conformity with  
the wants of an  
Army Hospital  
Service, especially  
as to Field  
Hospitals - and as  
to Banking or  
Accounting questions?

The Proof I  
send you, altho'  
it has undergone  
considerable

discussion (from the {134c}  
Purveyor in Chief  
downwards) will  
certainly want  
much amendment.

But I send  
it with the hope  
of obtaining your  
criticisms, additions  
& alterations on  
the margin.

The first page  
contains the  
proposed re-organization  
of the Purveyor's  
Department.

Which, if agreed to {134d}  
will be made the  
subject of a  
Warrant.

We shall be  
truly obliged to  
you for any trouble  
you will take  
with regard to  
this. Because  
we feel that no  
one else has  
anything like  
the authority &  
the judgement

which you bring {134e}  
to bear on these matters.

Were Mr.  
Herbert not  
taking holiday  
in the North,  
I am sure he  
would ask you  
himself.

[end]

ever yours sincerely  
& gratefully  
Florence Nightingale  
P.S.

The list of N.C.  
Officers for the

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 651  
Administration, {134f}  
given at P.O., by  
the Purveyor in Chief,  
appears to me  
quite exorbitant.

In a Civil  
Hospital, all this  
would be under  
one Steward,  
with servants.  
-in a Military,  
under your Captain  
of Orderlies, with  
Privates under him  
F.N.

H1/ST/NC3/SU135: pen: letter to Sir John McNeill, typed copy 45768 f126

Hampstead NW [16:755]  
Oct 13/60  
My dear Sir John McNeill  
Could you, by means  
of your Inspectors,  
tell me anything  
about the enclosed  
lady & Convalescent  
Hospital? Nothing  
would give me  
greater pleasure  
than to help on,  
as far as I could,

~~any~~ such a project. {135a}  
But, as set forth  
by Miss Wedderburn,  
there does not  
appear to be any  
project at all. -  
At least not  
definite - except  
that of getting  
subscriptions. [end]

I am sorry  
& glad to hear  
that Mrs. Stewart  
is going abroad.

She will be a great {135b}  
loss at home.  
I trust that you  
will not pass through  
London either going  
or coming back,  
without sparing me  
a few moments.

Till the end of  
this month I shall  
be here  
Mr. A. Jackson's  
Upper Terrace  
Hampstead  
And we could take

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 652

in your whole party, {135c}  
if you would give  
us a day or two's  
notice. After October,  
I shall be in London,  
30 Old Burlington St  
And if you & Lady  
McNeill sleep in  
London on your  
return, I trust  
it will be with us.  
Many thanks for  
your efficient help  
about Purveyor's  
Regns  
ever sincerely and gratefully yours  
Florence Nightingale

roll 1

H1/ST/NC3/SU136: pen: letter to Sir John McNeill, typed copy 45768 f127

Mr. A. Jackson's  
Upper Terrace  
Hampstead N.W.  
Oct 16/60

My dear Sir John McNeill  
I hear from Mr.

Clough that you  
are coming up on  
the 22nd till the  
28th. So I make  
haste to say that  
the *littlest* Clough  
who, with his sister, is here -  
has got a thing,  
which I call  
tooth=rash, but  
which the Doctor

calls measles. {136a}  
[Perhaps there is  
a new kind of  
measles since  
my time.]  
However, I always  
support mothers  
& doctors against  
myself. And,  
therefore, altho'  
the child is  
perfectly well,  
(saving his rash  
& his teeth,) &

hurra=ing at this {136b}  
moment, I think  
it right to tell  
you.

Even if Mrs.  
Stewart had been  
good enough to  
think of coming  
here with her  
children, she would  
not have liked to have had  
the rooms (for  
them) in which  
the hurra=ing  
youth is now

segregated. And {136c}  
perhaps he may  
not be let out  
before next week.  
Or perhaps the  
rooms may not  
have been aired  
long enough to be  
safe - if he is.

I hope however  
that you will  
at least let me  
see you - [We  
don't consider  
"cutting the teeth"

[2] Oct 16/60  
catching.] And {136d}  
I hope that you  
& dear Lady  
McNeill will  
stay in our  
rooms at  
Burlington St.,  
where I shall  
then be, on your  
way back to  
Scotland.  
ever yours sincerely  
& gratefully  
F. Nightingale [end]

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 654  
H1/ST/NC3/SU137: pen: letter to Sir John McNeill, typed copy 45768 f129

Mr. A. Jackson's  
Upper Terrace  
Hampstead NW  
Oct 23/60

My dear Sir John McNeill

I am very sorry  
for Mrs. Stewart's  
suspense & yours.

I hope to see you  
on Wednesday, as  
you kindly propose.  
Any time after 3  
o'clock would do  
for me - ~~And~~ my  
father is coming on  
that day. And if

you would stop & **{137a}**  
dine with him,  
he would be so  
glad.

I don't know  
what to say about  
your little grand-  
child. I am  
afraid I must  
take the part  
against myself.

The two little  
culprits are still  
here - and running  
& crawling about.  
But the Doctor

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 655

won't say that one {137b}  
has not had & that  
the other is not  
going to have, the  
measles. I am  
perfectly incredulous.  
But I think  
it might be a  
source of anxiety  
to Mrs. Stewart  
afterwards - if  
~~the~~ her child  
were to be brought  
into this house -  
altho' she might kindly consent for  
my pleasure.

ever yours sincerely  
& gratefully  
F. Nightingale

H1/ST/NC3/SU138: pen: letter to Sir John McNeill, no typed cop

Mr. A. Jackson's  
Upper Terrace  
Hampstead  
NW  
Dec 12/60

My dear Sir John McNeill

I am not in  
Burlington St. as  
you see - altho' I  
would have been,  
had you given me  
any hopes that you  
& Lady McNeill  
would have come

to stay with me.

I am still here,  
in order to keep  
Mrs. Clough & the  
children here. For  
Mr. Clough, being  
far from well, is  
still at Malvern.

I do hope you  
will be so good  
as to come and  
see me.

I know your  
plans so little

that I will not say **{138a}**  
another word to  
trouble you, till I  
see you.

Very many  
thanks for your  
visit to Suor Cordero.  
I do not enclose  
the £20 you  
were so kind as  
to pay till I know  
a safer address  
to you.

Yours most truly  
& gratefully

Florence Nightingale

I sent your letter **{138b} [15:294]**  
about Corfu to Mr.  
Herbert. And he  
told me last Sunday  
that he had  
referred it to the  
Barrack Commission.

So that I am  
in some hopes of  
something getting  
done.

**[end]**

F.N.

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 657  
H1/ST/NC3/SU139 pen: letter to Sir John McNeill, typed copy 45768 f132

30 O.B. St.

London W

Jan 17/61

[12:707]

My dear Sir John McNeill

I am really very  
sorry (for myself) about  
the German translation  
of my Notes on Nursing.  
I gave it last April  
to Miss Bunsen by  
a written form at  
her own request.  
since then, yours  
is the fifth, out of

many more, to whom {139a}  
I would much  
rather have given  
it. Poor Miss Bunsen  
has had all her  
troubles since April.  
And, unable to do  
it herself, gave it  
out of charity to  
some one who has  
done it so imperfectly  
that she herself  
says it is unfit

for publication. {139b}

I shall send  
your note to Mr.  
Clough - in hopes  
that he may  
communicate with  
Miss Bunsen, who  
herself may be glad  
to turn the thing  
over to Dr. Ross.

I have not  
liked to trouble  
her myself about  
these matters - having

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 658

felt her father's {139c}  
loss almost as  
much as she has  
done herself. [end 12:707]

Our scheme of [15:307]  
re=organization is at  
last launched at  
the War Office - But  
I feel that Hawes  
may *make* it fail.  
And there is no  
strong hand over him [end]  
ever yours gratefully &  
sincerely

F. Nightingale

H1/ST/NC3/SU140: pen, letter to Sir John McNeill

30 Old Burlington Street {printed address:}  
W.

April 7/60

My dear Sir John McNeill [15:290]

Thank you very  
much for your letter  
of the 26th & for  
Mr. Stewart's  
remarks.

It is very much  
to the hopefulnes  
of the Service & very  
much to the honour  
of so young a man  
that he should be so

awake to the state {140a}  
of things.

With regard to  
what he says about  
a standing Navy,  
it certainly would  
have advantages  
over the present  
system - which  
would be brought  
out on an enquiry.  
Among these would  
no doubt be the

possibility of arranging {140b}  
the Service according  
to Stations - and so  
saving much health  
& life.

There are many  
things which ought  
to make one very  
hopeful for the  
Navy. And I am  
sure, if ever I had  
time & strength to  
help, I should be  
too glad to be allowed

to do so. {140c}

I am too ignorant  
to make any remarks  
worth having on  
what Mr. Stewart  
says. Dr. Johnson  
used to say that  
in his time a  
man of war was a  
gaol with the  
chance of being  
drowned. And we  
all know what  
gaol=fever was  
in his time.

The Navy has

however, (in spite of {140d}  
all its detractors  
may say), improved  
much more than  
the Army in proportion.  
No doubt since  
the introduction of  
steam, the Sanitary  
state of the Ships  
has gone back a  
step. There is no  
reason however why,  
with the additional  
power supplied by  
the steam, there  
ever

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 660

should be a breath **{140e}**  
of anything else  
than pure air in  
every part of the  
largest war-ship  
by day or by night -  
as Mr. Stewart  
seems to be well  
aware. Much has  
already been done  
in ventilating ships.  
And an enquiry,  
if followed out  
in practice, would  
shew how the

most unpromising **{140f}**  
ships could be  
ventilated - as well  
as improved in  
another important Sanitary point. **[end]**

Believe me to be  
ever sincerely & gratefully  
Yours  
F. Nightingale

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 661  
H1/ST/NC3/SU141: pen, letter to Sir John McNeill & envelope, typed copy 45768  
f142

30 Old Burlington Street {printed address:}  
W.

June 21/61

My dear Sir John McNeill

[15:311]

Among the few  
practical things which  
I hope to succeed  
in saving from the  
general wreck of  
the War Office is:  
the organization  
of one General Hospital  
on your plan.

Col. Wilbraham  
has consented to

be appointed Governor {141a}  
(if offered him,) of  
Woolwich Hospital.

[It has been offered  
to him informally.]

And last week  
we made up a  
complete list of Officers  
for the Staff, including  
a capital Sergeant=  
Major, who is to  
receive a Commission  
as Capt. of Orderlies.  
These names have

been approved by {141b}  
Lord Herbert.

There has been  
an immense uproar,  
perhaps no more  
than you anticipated,  
from the Army Med.  
Dep. & the H. Guards.

Lord Herbert  
will send me the  
Governor's Commission,  
upon the framing of which every  
thing will depend,  
before signing.

If there is time

to send it to you, {141c}  
I shall. But if  
not, could you say  
what points ought  
to be especially  
guarded in the  
Commission? I send  
you a copy of the  
Regulations, in case  
you have not one  
by you v. Section VIII  
Pp 40-42.

I will answer  
your kind letter  
more at length  
another day. What

strikes me in this {141d}  
great defeat more  
painfully even than  
the loss to the Army  
is the triumph of  
the bureaucracy over  
the leaders, the political  
aristocracy who at  
least advocate higher  
principles. A Sidney  
Herbert beaten by  
a Ben Hawes is  
a greater humiliation  
really (as a matter  
of principle) than

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 663  
the disaster of Scutari {141e}  
yours ever truly

F.N.

I saw a *private*  
letter today from Sir  
James Hudson. He says  
"we must pull  
thro' as well as we  
can. At present  
the team is all right.  
The Coachman has  
a good hold on the  
reins - & the nags  
are willing."

[end]

{envelope}  
*to be left till called for*

Rt. Honble  
Sir John McNeill G.C.B.  
30 Old Burlington St.  
F.N.

H1/ST/NC3/SU142: pen, letter to Sir John McNeill, typed copy 45768 f162

32 South St {printed address:}  
London W  
Nov 7/61

My dear Sir John

I hear that you have  
been asked to the Duke of Cambridge's Meeting [15:329-30]  
for the "Herbert Memorial" on  
the 28th. And if you could  
make this house your inn,  
I should be too glad to try  
& make you comfortable.

*If you can come, I do*  
think it would be of the very  
greatest importance for  
carrying out the work of our

dear lost friend. {142a}

Lord Palmerston is to move  
the first Resolution & Lord  
Derby to second it - Mr. Gladstone  
to move the next & Genl= Peel  
to second - Lord Russell the  
next - & Bp. of Oxford to second.

It is doubtless quite right  
to nail the Ministers to a  
recognition of the worth of  
their lost comrade. But  
in all these names, I see  
none who in the least knew  
his real work - or who will  
in the least vindicate his

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 664  
real title to gratitude - which {142b}  
is that he perished in the  
midst of a great work which  
he knew himself to be *unfinished*  
& his last words were to  
recognise this.

Nor do I know any one  
but yourself who would or  
could hold up the *human*  
side of his work to the world -  
or assert his real title to  
Statesmanship which Mr.  
Gladstone & poor Lady Herbert  
expressly deny - I mean his  
settled plan to renew the  
soldier, morally & physically -

& his intention to re-organize {142c}  
the War Office, which death  
cut short.

Therefore I think it most  
important, if your health will  
permit, that you should take  
this part at the Meeting.

I send you my little  
sketch, printed only because  
I had not the power to copy  
it, of what he did do in  
office. [It is quite private].

I am come up here  
to do the Indian Sanitary  
Commission work.

[end 15:330]

Ever my dear Sir John  
Yours gratefully & sincerely  
Florence Nightingale

roll 1

H1/ST/NC3/SU143: pen: letter to Sir John McNeill, typed copy 45768 f166

32 South St.

London W.

Nov 18/61

My dear Sir John McNeill

I should be sorry  
that you should see  
first in the newspapers  
our great loss- you  
who have been so  
kind to us.

Arthur Clough is  
dead at Florence on  
Nov 12. His wife had  
rejoined him some  
months before & his

sister three days {143a}  
before.

They seemed  
not to realize the  
danger till a very  
few days ago. And  
there is something  
unexplained about  
the rapid end.

He had been  
so much better at  
first for going abroad.

He was a man  
of a rare mind and  
temper - the more so

because he would {143b}  
gladly do "plain work."  
To me, seeing the  
inaneities & the  
blundering harasses  
which were the  
uses to which we  
put him, he seemed  
like a race horse  
~~in a~~ harnessed to  
a coal truck. This  
not because he did  
"plain work" & did  
it so well. For the  
best of us can be  
put to no better use  
than that.

He helped me {143c}  
immensely, tho' not  
officially - by his sound  
judgement & constant  
sympathy. "Oh Jonathan  
my brother Jonathan,  
my love to thee was  
very great - passing  
the love of women."

~~He~~ Now, not one  
man remains (that  
I can call a man) of  
all those whom these  
five years I have  
worked with. But  
as you say, "we are  
all dying."

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 666

ever dear Sir John {143d}

yours sincerely & gratefully

Florence Nightingale

Bertha Coltman, Blanche

Clough's younger sister,

who is slowly recovering

her confinement, has

not yet been told this

heavy news. By excess

of precaution, I tell

you this, altho' it is

hardly likely that you

should be writing

to her family.

If you will change

your mind about {143e}

the meeting on the

28th (Lord Herbert's)

& come here - you

know how glad

I should be

FN

[end]

H1/ST/NC3/SU145: pen: letter to Sir John McNeill, {black-edged paper} typed copy  
45768 f170

9 Chesterfield St

London W

Ap 15/62

My dear Sir John McNeill

It is a very long

while since I have

heard from you.

It is 4 months

since I have been

much worse & not

able to leave my bed,

which is the reason

you have not heard

from me.

Pray tell Lady Mc

Neill that it was not

want of interest which {145a}  
prevented my  
acknowledging her  
letter about the new  
daughter, which I  
hope is thriving.

I work on still [9:115]  
for the War Office.  
But it is a Guerilla  
warfare, of little profit,  
altho' Lord de Grey  
is entirely on our side.

I have written the  
greater part of the  
Indian Sanitary Report  
for Lord Stanley &  
am doing the Digest

of the Stational Reports. {145b}  
That for the Bombay  
Presidency I have  
finished. Lord Stanley  
has asked me to write  
answers to written  
questions, under my  
own name. But these  
*I have scarcely begun.* [end 9:115]

I hear from M. Mohl [4:496]  
that he has "got lately  
from Teheran an  
enormous folio, containing  
the last editions."  
(to the fables on  
Alexander the Great)  
"And they are strange  
enough & illustrated  
by lithographed vignettes,

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 668

"where Alexander pays  
court to an European  
princess, who is  
represented sitting in  
crinoline on a rococo  
canapé. He is a  
Mohammedan in this  
wonderful book."

[end 4:496]

I send you papers  
of the two Training Schools  
for Nurses to which the  
whole income of the N.  
fund is now devoted.  
I wish they were more  
widely known out of  
London - especially the one  
for training midwifery nurses.

[8:167]

[end 8:167]

Ever dear Sir John  
Your affect. & grateful  
F. Nightingale

H1/ST/NC3/SU146: pen: letter to Sir John McNeill {black-edged paper} typed copy  
45768 f172

[8:168]

9 Chesterfield St  
London W

Ap 22/62

My dear Sir John McNeill

I shall be very  
much obliged to you  
if you will kindly,  
as you propose, send  
the papers (about the  
two Training Schools  
for Nurses) to your  
various parishes.

I send copies by  
this day's post of each.

With regard to  
the Midwifery Nurses,

we have a small **{146a}**  
fund, which could  
easily be enlarged,  
for paying the £10,  
(asked for board &  
lodging for 6 months)  
for those parishes  
which are really too  
poor to pay.

We also give a  
general Nurse training,  
besides the Midwifery  
training, to those for  
whom it is desired,  
(Who ~~are~~ must be willing  
to stay longer than

the 6 months) - in **{146b}**  
the general wards of  
the Hospl=, & also  
among the Out Patients  
visited at home.

King's Coll. Hospl=  
is so poor that, altho'  
it generously gave  
us the services of  
its Officers gratuitously  
(excepting the Midwife  
who is ours,) it was  
unable to pay anything  
towards the beds.  
And we therefore  
are unable to board  
the Probationers quite

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 670

gratuitously, as we do at St. Thomas'.  
{146c}  
[end 8:168]

I am well satisfied with the way in which Mrs. Wardroper does her work & her duty by our Probationers there. But I do not think that the quality of the Probationers has been such as the advantages offered would have procured us, were it more known out of London. They cost us £70 a piece. Believe me, ever,  
yours gratefully F. Nightingale

H1/ST/NC3/SU147: pen: letter to Sir John McNeill {black-edged paper} typed copy  
45768 f174

Hampstead NW

Aug 8/62

My dear Sir John McNeill

I venture to send you [9:116]  
by this post for your criticism my "Observations" on the Stational Reports from India.

If you are so good as to look it through, will you note your remarks on the margin & return it to me?

It is only a proof.

We have failed, owing to the dilatoriness of some of our members,

in getting our Report "Indian Sanitary" {147a} presented this Session, as would have been most important.

But next month Lord Stanley holds a Meeting to consider the Report.

It now stands thus:

1. All the replies to the printed books of queries have come in from India, have been abstracted & are in print.

My Digests of these for the three

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 671

Presidencies are all  
written. ~~at~~ Bombay is  
in type. Bengal &  
Madras not yet  
come back from  
press.

{147b}

Would you like to  
see these three Digests?

2. Our part of the  
Report (Sanitary) is  
written, & in type; &  
corrected by Lord  
Stanley, who pledges  
himself to carry it  
thro' the Commission  
next month. This  
embraces the oral  
evidence of course,  
rather more than or

quite as much as the  
Stational Replies.

{147c}

My "Observations,"  
ordered by the  
Commission (& which  
I now send), were ~~to~~  
~~be~~ limited to the  
Stational Replies.

-----  
I have little new,  
nothing good to tell.  
Ld de Grey & Capt. Galton  
miscalculated their  
powers or their intelligence  
when they promised  
to re-organize the W.O.  
The administrative  
work they do well.

[end 9:116]

-----  
I trust Lady McNeill  
& Mrs. Stewart & the children  
are well. Ever yours gratefully  
F. Nightingale

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 672

H1/ST/NC3/SU148: pen: letter to Sir John McNeill {black-edged paper} typed copy  
45768 f176

Hampstead NW  
Oct 16/62

Dear Sir John McNeill

I hope, when you  
have a minute to spare,  
you will be so good  
as to tell me how  
you got home with  
Mr. Stewart; & that  
you have good hopes  
of a speedy recovery,  
or (if not speedy) of  
a complete one.

It must be an  
anxious time to Mrs.

Stewart, & still {148a}  
more to you, who  
have to be his  
support, instead of  
he yours.

I would not trouble  
you to write at once.

Is it the disease  
of which you once  
told me?

ever yours thoughtfully

F. Nightingale

I hope you did not  
think that I expected  
you to come down  
here. I sent up  
a messenger to tell my

father on Saturday that {148b}  
you were at Fenton's  
and I was in hopes  
he would have caught  
a glimpse of you.  
That was all.

My love, please, to  
dear Lady McNeill -  
& tell her I am with  
her in her trouble;  
tho' that is poor  
comfort.

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 673

H1/ST/NC1/63/SU149: pen: printed letterhead: letter to Sir John McNeill {black-edged paper} typed copy 45768 f180

4. Cleveland Row {printed address:}  
S.W.

July 9/63

My dear Sir John McNeill

I am distributing a [9:220] [and 9:437]  
few copies of our Indian  
Army Sanitary Report  
to newspapers &  
Ministers, before the  
general issue. And  
I cannot forebear  
sending you a copy.  
You will see that  
your advice about  
a working organization  
has not been  
neglected. And I  
am now busy in

pressing it upon I.O. {149a}  
and W.O. No one  
knows better than  
yourself that a Report  
is not self-executive;  
and when the Report  
is ended, the work  
begins.

Our object is to  
obtain the immediate  
appointment of three  
Commissions in India,  
one for each Presidency;  
and a home working  
Commission, to be  
attached to I.O. or

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 674

W.O., as they prefer, {149a}

on the basis of the

Barrack & Hospital

Improvement Commn.

& simply consultative,

of course consisting of

Sir Proby Cautley

Sir Ranald Martin

Capt. Galton

Dr. Sutherland

Mr. Rawlinson C.E.

It is to advise till

the Presidency Commissions

can walk alone

Sir C. Trevelyan has

provided £300,000

for us in his Budget,

which he thinks is

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 675

as much as we can {149b}  
spend in the *first*  
year. But if more  
is wanted, he says,  
it shall be forth=  
coming.

I am sure if you  
can do anything for  
us in reviewing or  
pressing this Report  
on the public, you  
will. [end 9:207] [end 9:437]

Pray, my love to all  
Yours.

Believe me ever  
gratefully & affectely.  
yours

Florence Nightingale

H1/ST/NC3/SU150: pen: letter to Sir John McNeill {black-edged paper} typed copy  
45768 f182

Hampstead NW

Oct 12/63

My dear Sir John McNeill

I am so exceedingly  
sorry to have missed  
you in London; I cannot  
think how it could have  
happened. I am afraid  
your visits to London  
are generally ~~benef~~ un=  
foreseen. Otherwise,  
if you could give me  
a line but the day  
beforehand, with your  
address in London, it  
would infallibly reach  
me.

I am very much

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 676

obliged for your kind note. **{150a}**

Could you, if you see Lord Brougham, & would you, deliver the following message to him? asking, **[13:89]**

Whether, if he is coming to London for more than a day or two, he would allow me, not to introduce myself to him (for I now rarely leave my bed & never my room, except for a periodical migration) but to introduce to him the Lady Superintendent of

King's College Hospital? **{150b}**

& whether he would permit her to ask him to call upon her at the Hospital?

In his address, he mentioned the question of Hospital Nursing. And, as great weight deservedly attaches to every word he says, I trust I may be excused in making this request. **[end]**

Ever sincerely & gratefully yours

Florence Nightingale

On Nov 2 I return to 32 South St.

W.

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 677

H1/ST/NC3/SU151 fair copy of letter of Wm Rathbone to FN re nursing in workhouse inf; has had long confidential consultation yesterday with Cropper, PL inspector will anonymously over £700 p.a. for 3 years to introduce a system of nursing under a trained supt. "As to a Lady Supt that is the great difficulty--one who will be willing to obey in order to command" 25 Feb 1864; looks like similar content to 47753 f28 **000470**

H1/ST/NC3/SU152: pen: printed letterhead: letter to Sir John McNeill {black-edged paper} typed copy 45768 f183

115. Park Street W. {printed address:}

May 17/64

My dear Sir John McNeill

You will regret, as

I do, our dear friend,

Sir A. Tulloch - and

may perhaps wish to

see some account of

his very rapid illness.

The end, so soon, has

been a great shock.

It seems so long

since I have heard

anything from you

I saw the birth of another

little grand-child.

I hope it & all yours

are well.

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 678

You will wish to hear **{152a}** [9:205]  
how our Sanitary affairs  
are going on. Sir John  
Lawrence's appointment  
gave us a most  
unexpected hold on  
India. He was so  
good as to see me  
during the short time  
between his appointment  
& departure. And  
he has carried out  
every thing then  
suggested - a Commission  
of Health appointed  
for each Presidency  
&c &c

But few ~~people~~ have **{152b}**  
had such extraordinary  
chances as I have had  
twice - a Secretary of State  
& a Governor-General  
delivered, as it were,  
into my hand. And  
few have seen such  
disappointment as I  
have.

I remember well  
your saying that no  
man had ever had  
so noble a game to  
play, as Sidney Herbert,  
& had not played it.  
It was true.

And now, no War  
Office has ever had

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 679

such an opportunity, {152c}  
with such a Governor  
General actually  
asking, what would  
you have me to do? -  
& has not used it.

The instructions for  
his Health Commissions  
which he positively  
*solicited*, are still  
pending, as they were  
5 months ago. And,  
except my private  
suggestions, he has had  
nothing.

I am entirely a sick  
prisoner now. [end 9:205]

Pray give my love to  
Lady McNeill & believe  
me ever yours gratefully  
Florence Nightingale

H1/ST/NC3/SU153 letter from T. Graham Balfour, Manchester to FN, 16 May 1864

H1/ST/NC3/SU154: pen: printed letterhead: letter to Sir John McNeill {black-  
edged paper} typed copy 45768 f185

115. Park Street W.  
July 21/64

My dear Sir John McNeill  
The War Office is [15:401-492]  
always planning & never  
doing.

The following is a  
point, which you  
understand better  
than any one, & which  
I have often consulted  
you about: -

At every foreign Station  
of the British Army, there  
are four heads of  
Departments - all

to a certain extent {154a}  
independent in money  
matters, viz.

Commissariat  
Stores  
Barracks  
Purveyor.

As the Stations are  
beyond the immediate  
control of the W.O.,  
the men holding the  
appointments are all  
highly paid men, in  
order to secure efficiency  
& responsibility,  
especially as regards

expenditure. But, {154b}  
beyond this, their other  
duties would not  
warrant a large  
outlay for salaries.

Would it be  
advantageous or otherwise  
(looking to war exigencies)  
to appoint at each  
station a Controller of  
Military expenditure,  
through whose hands  
all payments should  
go, & who would act  
as head of the various  
departments in all

matters of expenditure {154c}  
- & to fill up the head  
appointments in

Commissariat  
Stores  
Barracks  
Purveying

by a lower-paid class of  
Officers.

It would be substituting  
one highly paid Financial  
Officer to regulate the  
finance of all the  
departments, and  
restricting the duties  
of the special heads  
of departments simply  
to details.

Would this diminution **{154d}**  
of highly=paid Depart=  
mental Officers be  
injurious (or not) to the  
service in case of war?

Would it limit too  
much the field, out of  
which good Officers  
could be selected for  
special War Service?

Would it be practicable,  
if the present system  
were altered, to provide  
out of the W.O. at home  
a sufficient number  
of excellent Commissariat,  
Purveying & Store=keeping  
Officers for Field Service?

In case of war, a **{154e}**  
controller of Army  
expenditure would go  
with the force. He  
would provide funds  
for  
Governors of General Hospitals  
Purveyors in the Field  
Commissariat  
& Stores, (if necessary.)

The chief point  
raised is whether  
Departments, when in  
the field, would suffer  
by having inferior  
men for their heads

in time of peace - **{154f}**  
and, if so, how this  
could be prevented.

If you would be so  
very kind as to answer  
this question, it *would*  
be very kind.

Believe me  
ever your grateful &  
affect.

Florence Nightingale  
You used to be much  
interested about  
our Mediterranean

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 682

Stations - particularly  
Corfu. I know not  
whether our Report,  
which I send,  
would reward you  
for glancing over it.  
Perhaps not, especially  
now the Ionian Islands  
are given up.

I hear Sir H. Storks,  
who is in England, is  
to have Malta [end 15:403\  
F.N.

H1/ST/NC3/SU155: pen, letter to Sir John McNeill, typed copy 45768 f188

*Private*

Hampstead NW  
Aug 4/64

My dear Sir John McNeill

So far from your  
remarks not answering  
my questions, they touch  
the real point at once,  
as you always do,  
almost without knowing  
it. And I have this  
day communicated with  
the W.O.

I send you by this [9:491]  
day's Book Post one of  
the first (signed) copies  
of the first offspring

of the joint W.O. and {155a}  
I.O. Commission,  
appointed to carry out  
the recommendations  
of the R. Indian Army  
Sanitary Commissn= [7 1/2  
months it has taken them  
to sign it, while Sir J.  
Lawrence has been  
constantly writing home  
for it with his own hand]  
It is expected that, in  
the course of the present  
century, the I.O. will  
send it out to Sir John  
Lawrence officially. But  
in the mean time copies

are speeding out to him {155b}  
direct from me by

Her Majesty's book post. [end 9:491]

You have no idea how [9:211]

heartbreaking much of  
my work is. Sidney Herbert  
has been dead three years  
on the 2nd. And these 3  
years have been nothing  
but a slow undermining  
of all he has done. Sir  
J. Lawrence writes  
discouraged - "difficulties,"  
he says to me (but this  
is quite confidential)  
he "could scarcely under=  
stand or anticipate."  
This, I think, breaks my

heart more than anything. {155c}

At the same time. I  
bear in mind how  
extraordinary are the  
chances I have had.  
To have met with  
three men like yourself,  
Sir John Lawrence &  
Sidney Herbert - While  
so many people, wiser  
& better than I, have  
gone thro' life without  
ever anyone listening  
to their plans.

I think Sir J. Lawrence  
is a really great admi=  
nistrator - do not you? [end 9:211]

ever yours sincerely &  
gratefully

F. Nightingale

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 684  
H1/ST/NC3/SU156: pen, letter to Sir John McNeill {black-edged paper} typed copy  
45768 f190

Private

{printed address:}

27. Norfolk Street.

Park Lane W.

7/2/65

My dear Sir John McNeill

I always fly to you **[9:946-47]**  
when in difficulty.

I have had the most  
enormous order from  
Sir John Lawrence  
for Matrons & Nurses  
for India, of which  
a trifling item is:  
66 Head Nurses  
112 Asst. "  
for female Regimental  
Hospitals. These are

already "sanctioned." **{156a}**

He wishes, besides,  
to nurse all Military  
General Hospitals,  
of which 10 are named  
- and to establish  
Training Schools in  
all Civil Hospitals.  
He does not, like a  
wise man as he is,  
positively engage for  
or desire any particular  
specified thing. But  
he asks for advice  
on the largest scale -

and "the Governor General **{156b}**  
in Council" states that  
"Whatever expence is  
requisite must be met."

[There is a private  
& most pressing  
invitation to me myself  
to go out. If the Doctors  
would give me six  
months there, I would  
go. There is nothing  
in the whole world  
I should like better.]

Of course I lost no  
time in consulting our  
Training Schools as  
to what we could do.

Of this more hereafter.

But they in India ask **{156c}**  
for a printed paper.  
And I venture to  
submit to you the  
first rough Draft of  
one, knowing that you,  
if you have time to  
glance at it, will  
help me more than  
any one.

Of course conclusions  
& some other things  
must be added to  
the paper.

All the rest I think  
had better be written  
privately to Sir John

Lawrence, not the {156d}  
"Governor General in  
Council."

As to what we can  
do in sending out  
women:-

We have now 23,  
an unusual number,  
at St. Thomas' - we  
would keep up this  
number if we train  
for India. All those  
now at St. T's are  
engaged. In fact, it  
is impossible for us  
to meet our engagements,

even combining King's {156e}  
Coll= and St Thomas'.  
Between the two we  
are training 19 for  
Manchester. Liverpool  
has not taken away  
~~att~~ its Nurses yet.  
Mr. Villiers, the Poor  
Law Man, called  
upon me last week,  
by his own appointment  
about a scheme for  
nursing Workhouses.  
[And I was just  
about to write to you,  
as the "Board of Supervision"

head, about this.] {156f}

But it is the material  
which is wanting.  
The more chattering &  
noise there is about  
"Woman's Mission," the  
less of efficient women  
we can find. It  
makes me mad to  
hear people talk  
about unemployed  
women. If they are  
unemployed, it is  
because they won't  
work. The highest  
salaries given to women  
at all, we can secure

to women trained by us. {156g}

But we can't find  
the women. They won't  
come.

~~Both~~ our Training Schools are most  
anxious to help.

The Superintend~~t~~ of  
King's Coll~~=~~ Hospital  
would take another  
Hospital to train  
women for us: but  
she cannot admit  
more in King's Coll~~=~~.

[end 9:947]

If we send women  
out to India, we  
should of course engage  
them expressly for this  
purpose.

I am writing most

[3] {156h}

disconnectedly. The fact is,  
I am quite "used up."  
I have had to see Mr.  
Massey who replaces,  
as you know, poor Sir  
C. Trevelyan - and  
Lord Stanley on Indian  
Sanitary things -  
about which I  
wanted very much  
to write to you.

Pray remember me  
most affectionately  
to Lady McNeill-  
I believe Mrs. Stewart  
is not with you -  
believe me

ever yours truly & gratefully {156i}  
F. Nightingale

H1/ST/NC3/SU157 signed letter, 10 pp, pen & pencil {157} John McNeill typed copy  
45768 f202

Private Sept 10/67  
35 South Street. {printed address:}  
Park Lane.  
London. W.

My dear Sir John McNeill  
I should have troubled  
you before this - and on a  
point in which you alone  
can help me, if it were not  
that I heard that you  
were absent in the Highlands.  
And I did not like to pursue  
you there.

The matter (on which I [9:965-66]  
want to consult you as to  
what my answer should  
be to the India Government)  
is that of Trained Nurses,  
upon which you were so  
very good as to help me  
before.

You will see by the papers

which will accompany this {157a}  
that I adopted your  
suggestions in full.

If you will be so very good as  
to help me again, I shall  
esteem it, as I always do,  
the greatest favour I can  
receive.

I enclose a letter from  
Major Malleson, who is  
now sole Sanitary Commn=.  
for Bengal - & the papers  
which accompanied it No III  
You will see that they have  
constructed an immense  
scheme upon mine - or  
rather ours. And then  
they condemn this scheme,

-----  
No II appears to contain p.p. 1-32 of No III  
& nothing more.

which is in some respect {157b}  
the opposite of mine - &  
call it mine. E.g. they  
propose to put Nurses in  
all Regimental Hospitals  
which is what we never  
would consent to & never  
have consented to. And  
then they write that my  
scheme is condemned.  
When, in fact, I made no  
scheme, but simply pointed  
out methods of training  
& offered to begin.

Our paper (of which yours  
was the best part) ~~is~~ was a reply  
to the letter of the Secretary  
of the Bengal Sanitary Commn.,  
of Nov. 21, 1864, which I  
also enclose, with the paper  
which accompanied it,  
No I. p.p. 136-146

asking me to send out **{157c}**  
suggestions for the  
organization of trained,  
Nursing in India, & stating  
that "Whatever expense it is  
requisite to incur for this  
purpose, should be met  
as willingly" &c &c -  
this as an "intimation" of  
the "G.G. in Council."  
Our paper, while ~~suggesting~~ doing  
the best we could at a  
distance, & without local  
knowledge, to furnish the  
desired information, at the  
same time advised that a  
small tentative experiment  
should in the first instance  
be made. And we offered  
to help in this. The cost  
would not have been very

2

**{157d}**

great. And I must say  
that, after reading over all  
the papers, I still adhere  
to that opinion.  
I cannot but feel how  
unwisely they have begun  
by rearing up in the  
first instance (on paper)  
an extensive superstructure  
of nursing for all the  
Military Hospitals [E.g.  
I have always urged that  
it is quite a question  
whether Convalescent Depots  
should have Female Nursing  
at all. *I think not.*  
At the utmost, when Female  
Nursing is established in  
every *Sick* Hospital, it may  
then be considered  
whether you should put,  
for the *sick* during 6 months  
of the year in the Convalescent Depots,

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 691

a Matron & Assistant Matron {157e}  
\* as also for the linen &c of the  
Convalescent Depot. But  
Nurses among Convalescent  
soldiers in the wards are  
quite out of place &  
always will be. They would  
become play things & very  
improper ones.]

There are not half a dozen  
Military Hospitals in India  
to which female Nursing  
would be applicable -  
certainly not at first.  
The object would be ~~for~~ to induce India  
to begin as N.S. Wales is  
beginning & many other  
places - viz. to send to us for  
a small trained efficient  
staff to take charge of one  
Hospital & to try the work

of Nursing & training Nurses. {157f}  
[I think I mentioned to you  
that for this very purpose we are going to send  
out to Sydney in December  
a Lady Supt=. & 4 Head  
Nurses, for a 3 years'  
engagement - at £150  
rising to £200 for the  
former - £50 rising to £70  
for the latter - board &  
lodging & free passage out  
via Panama for all -  
&c &c - an arrangement  
which I have just  
concluded with the Govt=.]

I think I also mentioned  
that I have had a similar  
application from the  
Madras Govt. - & one from  
the Bombay Parsees.

Now, why cannot  
the Bengal people  
do the same - instead of

making gigantic cut & dry {157g}  
systems on paper & then  
condemning them - whereas  
of all things Nursing in  
Military Hospitals requires  
painful careful trial -  
because it must always  
be an experiment, & a new experiment every time  
you try it, to put down  
a few women among a  
parcel of men - this being  
the only occupation where  
a woman is really in  
actual charge & control  
of grown up men. So much  
depends on the discretion of  
the Supt=. in the character  
of the Medical and Military  
Officers. &c &c

[3] {157h}

As to the proposal concerning Protestant nuns in Major  
Malleon's M.S. letter, inclosed,  
he falls into the common  
mistake, viz. of believing that  
if we would but lay aside  
religious prejudices, we should  
have 15,000 Protestant  
Sisters of Charity - as the  
French have 15,000 R.C.  
Sisters of Charity.

Now, this is not a matter  
to theorize about. It is already  
a matter of fact & experience  
I should have *more* difficulty  
in sending him an efficient  
Nursing Staff, composed of  
"Sisters," whether R.C. or  
Protestant - than in  
sending him ~~one~~ a staff out of  
our ordinary materials  
at St. Thomas', great as  
that difficulty is.

In these "Orders," - {157i}

The material is always doubtful. And the numbers are too few.

And the best women do not choose to enter "Orders."

Also, it is found that women who have really entered the service of God in Hospitals, (e.g. Miss Agnes Jones, of Liverpool Workhouse,) are just as little likely to marry out of "Orders" as in them.

[Miss A. Jones is remarkably pretty & attractive.]

There are now four London Hospitals, nursed by Protestant "Orders." Of these, the Nursing of two is beneath contempt - & therefore shall not be mentioned here - other than to show that, so far from

the prejudice supposed by Major M. being in active existence, every facility is given to the rising up of Nursing "Orders" in Hospitals. The other two, Kings College & Charing Cross, are nursed by St. John's House of which my dear friend & "pupil," Miss Jones, is Supt=.

{157j}

[At least she calls me her "mistress."] I have taken at least as much pains about her "Society" as I have done with my own.

[end 9:966]

We have our Midwifery School under her. I have consulted her & Mrs.

[9:966-68]

Wardroper equally about the India Nursing. I cannot therefore be supposed to speak as an enemy.

But her system of Nursing, which is first rate, has

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 694

taken even less extension **{157k}**  
than ours has.

The fact is that Orders in England (& this is quite as much the case with the R.C.s who are exactly in the same difficulty as we are) do not extend for this reason: - the best women, women fit to be heads, do not enter Orders in England - which generally consist of one good head & a number of fools, or rather a very few fools.. Add to which: - women who wish to marry *will* marry (& have married,) from our "Orders" because we *can't* take the same "vows" as R.C.'s - & women who don't wish to marry won't marry, even if not in "Orders."

4

**{1571}**

I should wish to be guided entirely by your opinion as to what reply I should make to the Govt=. of India, if you will be so very good as to take it into consideration.  
My impression is: - what they want in India is a *well considered small beginning* -and that we should advise them still to try this - & again offer our help - in training.  
[Would you advise me to do or say anything with regard to offering to try also to send out a small number of "Sisters" from St. John's? - That there is not one to spare at present, I know. They

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 695

had to stretch their *personnel* {157m}

to the utmost to spare

2 sisters to take Charing

Cross - & were obliged to

decline a Workhouse.

Also to decline putting a "Sister" over

our Midwife & Midwifery ward, (when

requested by the Physician

Accoucheur.) for there was not one

to spare.

Please consider all this as

"private."

Would you advise me to

say that the scheme to

which Dr. Farquhar takes

objection (vide papers)

is not mine. - end of No. III

-----  
that I have no scheme -

that, if the Government of

India wish for my advice

regarding a scheme (vide

5

{157n}

Major Malleson) it is for

them & not for me to

propose one -

that I consider (& experience [15:177]

has always led me to

advocate) female Nursing

as applicable only in

General Hospitals in the

Army - & not in either

Convalescent Depots or in

Regimental Hospitals -

that, as to having "Assistant

Nurses" in Military

Hospitals, the thing is

totally & entirely out of

the question, whether in

Europe or in India, - & as

far as one can see,

always will be so. [The

place of Assistant Nurses

in Civil Hospitals must

always be filled in

Military Hospitals by men.

And no woman below the **{157o}**  
class & education & position  
of a *Head Nurse* in a  
Civil Hospital should ever  
be suffered in a Military  
Hospl=.

As to that stuff about the  
"enthusiasm" of the Nursing  
in the "Crimean Campaign,"  
that is all bosh. We had,  
unfortunately for us, scarcely  
one woman sent out  
to us who was even up  
to the level of a Head Nurse.  
And we suffered for it.  
And, even now when I  
look back, I cannot think  
how we dragged through .  
But, instead of taking that  
time as an "enthusiasm"  
which cannot now or again  
be equalled, we have learnt

from it a great deal as to **{157p}**  
what ought to be the  
principle & routine of  
female Nursing in the  
ordinary General Military  
Hospl=. & as to what ought to be  
avoided & sought.] **[end]**

I am throwing a great  
burthen upon you to read  
thro' all these papers. I  
have read many tons of  
papers in the last 11 years.  
But I don't think I have  
ever seen such a farrago  
as this. They send our  
Nursing Scheme to a  
Captain of Engineers & to  
a Major in the Army  
to discuss. I hope when  
next they have a war  
in Bhotan, they will  
send the proposed  
Artillery to Mrs. Wardroper  
to criticize.

[Perhaps I need hardly say {157q}  
that such rules as are  
here proposed, e.g., that,  
as a punishment, the  
Nurses' beer should be  
"stopped," would completely  
& always "stop" (not the  
"beer" but) any chance of  
raising the Service to that  
of good & respectable women.

It shews how wise we  
were to insist upon, at  
first & as a *sine qua non*,  
that the Nurses should be  
under a Supt=. of their Sex,  
& not under the Medl=  
Officers.

If you treat Nurses like  
female convicts, you will  
have female convicts for  
your Nurses.

[6]

{157r}

The only idea these papers  
appear to have of  
business is: - to print  
my paper over & over  
again - to mount upon  
it schemes which have  
nothing to do with it -  
& then to renounce them  
as too expensive.  
See the "Resolution" of  
Govt=. First Sheet of  
No. III

I was about to write to  
you as to another  
matter - our Public  
Health Service in India -  
but will not deluge you  
all at once.  
Pray give my best love

to Lady McNeill. I {157s}  
trust her health is  
restored & to Mrs.  
Stewart my best  
congratulations- Forgive  
this immense letter from  
ever yours sincerely  
& gratefully  
Florence Nightingale

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 698  
H1/ST/NC3/SU158: pen, letter to Sir John McNeill, pale blue paper, typed copy  
45768 f216

Private

Sept 21/67  
35 South Street. {printed address:}  
Park Lane.  
London. W.

My dear Sir John McNeill

I had received your first [9:971-72]  
letter, on the subject of  
Female Nursing in India,  
which, as everything you  
always do, put the situation  
clearly before me. And I  
had written, according to  
your advice, a simple  
Protest, without proposing  
anything anew, to Sir John  
Lawrence himself.

But, rather luckily for  
me, I think - I could not  
get my letter ready for  
the mail of the 18th, because

by desire of some members of {158a}  
the India Office, I had to  
write him a long letter &  
paper on the introduction  
of a Public Health Service  
by that mail.

Then came your second most  
clear & emphatic letter.  
And I somewhat recast  
mine to Sir J. Lawrence,  
to go by next mail -  
when, yesterday, arrives this  
letter from him, enclosing  
the paper from Dr.  
Farquhar, which I also  
enclose.

I am quite ashamed of  
troubling you again, when

I had already received so {158b}  
lucid & comprehensive a  
sketch from you of the  
view I ought to take.

But I will only ask you now  
to be so very good as to  
look over the enclosures,  
in the light of the previous  
correspondence - & to tell  
me whether they in any  
way alter your opinion, as  
expressed on the whole  
question in your last letters,  
or your view of the answer  
I ought to make.

The matter is certainly quite  
hopeless at present.

I believe you hit on the right  
solution of the extraordinary  
proceeding, as it seems, of

a Govt= taking & giving all {158c}  
this trouble, not only to me  
but to a number of its  
own Officers, for the pure  
pleasure of doing a  
great deal of utterly  
useless writing.

But you can have no idea  
of the degree to which this  
has gone in every Department  
of the India Govt=. What  
we have gone

thro' in  
writing on the Public Health  
Service no one can tell,  
during these last 3 1/2 years.  
I should think myself  
impatient & restless, (tho'  
I am not much of a  
novice,) - did I not hear  
what Sir B. Frere says -  
which is much stronger than what

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 700

I say. {158d}

He thinks that this very kind  
of administration or no=  
administration is bringing  
all Govt= in India to a  
dead lock.

I could give you the most  
extraordinary instances  
derived from our own  
branch of administration  
alone.

Our foolscap is sent all over  
India to see how many  
foolsheads it will fit.  
Of course it fits a good many.  
Then there comes home to  
us a mass of papers,  
incredible to anyone who did  
not see them. And we  
have to answer them all  
seriously. Then answers  
come back from India .  
It is so easy to answer, if  
you don't want to act.

Latterly, a proposition {158e}  
about doors versus windows in  
Barracks was sent round  
to every British Department,  
6, (six) in every British province  
in India - only one of  
which Departments knew  
anything about it at all -  
& then came home to us -  
with all the opinions of  
all the Cooks printed.  
With Sir B. Frere's assistance,  
however, I hope now that  
we shall have a regular  
Department organized for  
ourselves at the India Office  
- & in each administrative  
division of India for itself -  
to save some of this fearful  
waste of time.

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 701  
Before Sir B. Frere came home {158f}  
I was getting quite desperate.  
He is to us what you are or  
would be if we had you here.  
I have often intended to  
trouble you about these  
Indian Public Health affairs.  
But it was entailing such  
an immense amount of  
"paper" upon you.

Pray remember me most  
heartily to Lady McNeill -  
& believe me ever most  
gratefully & sincerely yours  
Florence Nightingale  
Please burn

[end 9:972]

H1/ST/NC3/SU159 pen, letter to Sir John McNeill {black-edged paper} typed copy  
45768 f222 [8:638-39]

Private Christmas Day  
1868  
35 South Street. {printed address:}  
Park Lane.  
W.

My dear Sir John McNeill  
In memory of an old love,  
very deeply felt for dear  
Lady McNeill & for yourself,  
& of gratitude as deeply felt  
for great kindnesses received  
from her & from you,  
during very difficult & trying  
portions of my life, I trust  
that you will not think  
I am breaking in like a  
stranger upon your grief,  
if I try to tell you, however  
feebly, how much I feel  
personally - & far, far more  
for you the intensity of  
the loss.

For she was one of a great

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 702

& rare spirit - tried in the fire - {159a}  
a fire which English ladies  
in general with their easy  
complaining lives so little  
know - & through which  
you & her great love for you  
carried her so cheerily.  
I have never thought of her  
since the year that I had  
first the blessing of knowing  
her, in 1856, without  
thinking how unlike she  
was to other people - the  
ignoble, useless ladies of  
fashion (of whom I see  
so much not in my room  
but from my windows) - the  
people who have always a  
moral reason for doing what they like.

Like herself to the last, she {159b}  
seems to have never had any  
other thought but of  
providing for others' comfort  
& of not being separated  
from you, at least on  
this earth.  
I think the only comfort in  
thinking of such people is  
in thinking that the loss is  
irreparable. It is the test  
of a really great sorrow that  
every day makes one feel it  
more & only more. Though  
it is 7 years since I have  
lost Sidney Herbert, I feel  
more & more day by day  
what I have lost, as day  
by day teaches me that  
there is no one to take his

place - no one to carry out  
his plans. But at least {159c}  
you have not the misery in  
your case as I have, of seeing how  
his children's welfare is  
affected by his absence -  
how the Army suffers by  
the "work unfinished" - [his  
last words - "Poor Florence -  
"our work unfinished] -  
And I, tho' I have lost  
A.H. Clough for 7 years,  
can say the same thing of  
him - no one to take his place.  
I feel then that I can feel  
something of the great grief  
which otherwise would  
make it seem almost  
impertinent of me to  
approach you - did I  
not know something of what  
she was - how "worthy" - as

the good old Scripture word {159d}  
says - a very present help  
in time of trouble & in  
time of joy. And of what  
she is, (as I most firmly  
believe.)  
In your constant care & interest  
for the good of human beings,  
for which you can do so much,  
for which you have done  
so much, more than any  
man I know - in your  
love for those whom she  
has left you, - you will  
find, I know, that which  
will carry you even through  
this sorrow without any  
weakening or corroding  
effect to your great powers.  
I do not like to dwell upon  
things which you know so  
much better than I do, lest

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 704  
that might seem like one {159e}  
intermeddling with your grief. [end 8:639]

I do not hope much (perhaps [10:]  
because I am tired of hoping)  
from present Ministers - at  
least, not in our 3 Departments,  
the War Office, the India Office,  
the Poor Law Board. The cry  
for Economy seems to me to  
absorb all their faculties. To  
any one knowing, & knowing,  
feeling, what a great organization  
like a Govt=. Office really is -  
& the enormous consequences  
for weal & woe for all time  
it holds in its hands -  
retrenchment seems but only  
one element of what it has to  
do - & almost a brutal one.  
Sir John Lawrence is coming back.  
And, though he has not done  
all we expected, yet still we must

feel, on looking back, how much {159f}  
has been done during his 5 years.  
Lord Mayo, whom I did not  
know at all, came to me of his  
own accord on his appointment  
to "get up" the Sanitary question  
for India. I liked him  
better than I expected. He  
said (which I thought was  
sharp of him) that he should  
ask Sir John Lawrence - who  
has always most kindly kept  
up his correspondence with me -  
to tell me, on his return, what  
to tell him, Lord Mayo, to do  
on Sanitary points. It is  
indeed a vast field - & one  
which grows vaster every day.  
Sir Bartle Frere has been of the  
most essential service to us  
since he came home - And  
we have now a Department [end 10:]  
of our own at the India Office

I have a fresh neophyte in the [5:543]  
person of Crown Princess of

Prussia. She has a quick {159g}  
intelligence & is cultivating herself  
in knowledge of Sanitary (& female)  
administration for her future  
great career. She comes alone like  
a girl, pulls off her hat & jacket  
like a five-year-old, drags  
about a great portfolio of plans,  
& kneels by my bed-side  
correcting them. She gives  
a great deal of trouble. But  
I believe it will bear fruit. [end 5:543]

I did not hear of dear Lady  
McNeill's illness till some  
time after she was gone -  
[who would have thought  
that I should have survived  
her?] - & then quite accidentally  
I wrote to Mr. Rathbone to  
enquire - and after you and  
Mrs. Stewart. And Mr.  
John Paget was so good as to

answer. I was thankful to  
hear that Mrs. Stewart & all  
of hers were there at the  
time.

Will you give her my warmest  
love and sympathy?

Pray, dear Sir John McNeill,  
believe me ever yours

Sorrowfully & overflowingly

Florence Nightingale

Please burn

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 706  
H1/ST/NC3/SU160: pen: letter to John Paget {black-edged paper} [8:639]

Dec 26/68  
35 South Street. {printed address}  
Park Lane.  
W.

My dear Sir

I cannot thank you  
sufficiently for having so  
kindly & fully given me  
particulars about an event  
which interests me so deeply,  
dear Lady McNeill's death,  
& about him whom we  
all love so much. He  
will feel the loss every  
day more & more while he  
lives. Perhaps it is the  
test of a real loss that  
time which cures many  
woes, only makes us feel  
*that* more deeply-as we  
see how little there is to  
replace it. But his great

devotion to the cause of {160a}  
humanity & his love of his  
(& her) daughter & grandchildren  
will carry him through it  
without loss of mental power.  
She was a woman of a rare  
quality - tested by endurance  
& by chance & change which  
most stay-at-home English  
ladies never know.  
I have been long in thanking  
you for your kind letter,  
except in my heart. For  
I have been oppressed by  
business, which becomes  
more difficult to get through,  
as my health gets worse.

Pray, dear Sir, {160b}  
believe me  
With renewed thanks for  
your kindness  
ever your faithful servt=  
Florence Nightingale  
John Paget Esq  
&c &c

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 707  
H1/ST/NC3/SU161: pen: letter to Sir John McNeill, typed copy 45768 f236

Feb 8/70

35 South Street. {printed address} [5:203-04]  
Park Lane.

W.

My dear Sir John McNeill

Your great kindness  
encourages me to ask you to  
help me as no one else can: -

I will refer to some points  
in your conversation: -  
1. If there are (as you say &  
as I entirely agree,) great  
objections to Government  
interfering directly in Emigration,  
would there be the same  
objection to: the following?....

Poor Law Guardians in England  
have moved surplus labour out  
of their parishes into the  
manufacturing districts with  
great benefit to all. Instead

of paying land conveyance, might {161a}  
they not pay ship passages?  
Could not a scheme, in which  
Guardians & private persons  
in the parish might co-operate,  
be framed whereby, through  
the medium of the Colonial Office  
& the Colonial Governments -  
emigrants, children & others,  
might be conveyed & be trained  
in the Colonies for Colonial life -  
& so take their place as  
agriculturalists, stock-keepers &c  
and the girls, as they grow up,  
as women where they are so  
much wanted.

I confess, tho' I have always  
tried to help, as far as I could,  
those fine fellows among the  
unemployed workmen who will  
pinch & pawn to help themselves  
out, & afterwards their families,  
to the Colonies - that I think  
these are the men whom we  
should the least wish to part  
with. If Emigration is only  
practicable in this way, it may  
almost be said that it is only  
practicable as far as it is  
unnecessary. It is the orphan  
& deserted children who can't  
help themselves - the young girls,

{161b}

not yet vicious, who are as it  
were predestined to sin &  
pauperism in the Old Country,  
who might be good & industrious  
& happy in the new; - it is  
these who want our help -  
but then they must have  
industrial training in the Colonies  
to make them do well there.

{161c}

Would it be impossible, as  
Glasgow sends its children to  
Arran, for any scheme to be  
devised by which London  
might send its children to  
Canada? [Melbourne once  
offered to our Government  
to form Industrial Schools  
for our pauper children, "not  
yet confirmed in pauper habits."]

2. *India*

Might I ask you to glance [9:642-43]  
over this good natured but  
startling letter from Lord Mayo  
(which I received just after  
I had the pleasure of seeing you)?  
startling, because it shows  
that not one of the men, from  
Lord Mayo downwards,  
understands the question.

[I shall not answer Lord  
Mayo till I have seen Dr.  
Cunningham, as he desires.]

I know Dr. Cunningham by  
correspondence. He is a good,  
excellent man, who has gone  
head foremost into all the  
"theories" against which we have

warned them - but who is {161e}  
clever & candid & now  
acknowledges that he "knows  
nothing" - a great step in  
knowledge.

The causes of the failure in  
the healthiness of the "new  
Barracks" we could tell  
them, every one.

Yes surely: I remember your  
Memo= on preparing the  
ground. We made great  
use of it. Also: you will  
perhaps remember that  
we sent them out "Suggestions,"  
asked for & approved by  
the India Govt= here - asked  
for & approved by the Govt=.

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 710  
of India there - on water- {161f}  
supply, drainage, sewerage,  
Stational improvements,  
every kind of matter affecting  
the Public Health. And  
the Govt=. sent a copy to every  
official whom it concerned.  
And this is the result.

We have greatly succeeded  
in native & Civilian health.  
The Military alone is *stupid*.

Should anything suggest  
itself to you as to what  
questions I should ask  
Dr. Cunningham - as to how  
I should fix him to stating  
(to us) the objections to the  
"new Barracks" &c - Would  
you kindly tell me?

It was hardly necessary for {161g}  
me on Sunday to put in words  
to you how much I am  
discouraged.

As for the War Office, one  
may say that they have  
"crucified" Sidney Herbert  
afresh, & "put him to an  
open shame."

The sticking up a man's  
statue in the Court Yard &  
destroying his work within,  
is an organized hypocrisy  
which Jesuits might envy.

India is after all our best  
hope. But, when the work  
there does not progress,  
it retrogresses.

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 711  
[3] {161h}

For me to see you is at once  
the highest hope & the  
deepest pain. It reminds  
me of days when a great  
career was just begun, when  
great works & great purposes  
seemed so prosperous, when  
the goal seemed in view.  
Now, all our hopes  
seem blasted & all our plans  
destroyed. But it reminds  
me too of your patient  
courage & devoted endurance  
in a long life of successful  
sacrifice to the good of our  
country. And, tho' it will  
not be given me to see of

the fruit of my toil, of the {161i}  
travail of my soul - yet, who  
am I that I should complain? [9:643]  
Pray believe me  
My dear Sir John  
ever yours affectely. & gratefully  
Florence Nightingale

MOST PRIVATE {161j}  
I hesitated, when you told me [6:317-18] copy 45768 f240-43  
what Mr. Rathbone had said  
of the failure of the Liverpool  
Workhouse Nursing, whether  
I should tell you the facts.  
It seems to me that a short  
summary is due from me to  
you, as you are so good as to  
be on our Council.  
They have not now one woman  
left there of our training.  
All our Trained Nurses  
whom dear Agnes Jones took  
with her they have now  
got rid of - not because  
they deserve dismissal but  
because they "deserve promotion."  
To us it appears madness.  
Some we have taken back -  
(at their urgent request - I mean, at Mr. Rathbone's -)

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 712

- one is gone as "confidential" {161i}

Nurse to Agnes Jones' mother -  
three have just been taken  
as "Sisters" at Middlesex Hospl.  
Not one has left in disgrace.

[~~One~~ Another, I regret to say, (whom  
I do not know,) who was  
sent there after Agnes Jones'  
death, as Assistant Matron,  
they allowed my Committee  
to recommend to a Liverpool  
Hospital, - saying that they  
had no fault to find with  
her, - as Matron. And she  
has disgraced herself - & been  
dismissed - for intoxication.  
With her, of course, our  
connection is quite at an end.  
She is struck off our books.  
After her being struck off, I

4

{161j}

received a letter from Liverpool  
Workhouse, stating that we had  
"recommended" her after we  
had been "faithfully warned"  
of her character.

I simply answered that the  
statement was so entirely  
new to me (I having been  
in constant confidential  
communication with them  
the whole time & never heard  
a word of it) that I should  
submit the statement to my  
Committee.

~~An answer~~ reply immediately  
came, withdrawing the  
statement & asking me to  
accept their apology.

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 713

Lastly, the Supt=. (Matron) {161k}  
there, is I regret to say, of our  
recommending - not of our  
training. I am sorry to say  
that I believe all (and more)  
of what is said against her.  
After Agnes Jones' death, Mr.  
Rathbone put us to the  
torture to find a successor.  
He admitted no reason - he  
accepted no delay. We found  
this woman. He would  
scarcely allow us to give her

3 months trial & training - tho' we  
told him a year was not  
enough - We had already made many  
searches & many trials.  
[Two very unwise but most  
excellent old ladies, Agnes  
Jones' aunts, were meanwhile

(most praiseworthy) keeping {1611}  
the Workhouse Infirmary.]  
I look upon Agnes Jones' work  
as completely wrecked. In a  
few days she will have been  
dead 2 years. And as these  
days come round, I cannot  
even think of her without  
tears which I have not  
time to shed.  
But I have striven, tho' in vain.  
to uphold her work. For  
more than a year I am  
certain that I gave Mr.  
Rathbone, the two aunts &  
the successor more time  
in answering their questions  
than was taken by my  
correspondence ~~about~~ with the  
whole of the Hospitals in the Crimea -  
sometimes as much as 8 hours a day.

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 714

It was all in vain: - {161m}

~~But~~ there was not one of them who had the smallest idea of Hospital organization.

I do not blame Mr. Rathbone.

- I do not see how, in any particular thing, he could have done otherwise -except in his headlong haste. Some time ago, he was seriously angry with us! that we would not incorporate Liverpool Workhouse (under this untried woman) as a Training School of our own recommending their Probationers with our own to Institutions. And, shortly afterwards, he said it was unfit to exist at all. (in which I believe him to be right

Please consider this as private. It seems to me an explanation due to you but to no one else. It has been one of the great misfortunes of my life. F.N.

H1/ST/NC3/SU162: pen: letter to John McNeill

Please address

Embley 35 South Street  
Romsey Park Lane  
Hampshire London W

Aug 27/72

My dear Sir John McNeill

I was very glad to hear from you again. I cannot afford to lose friends. So many are gone before me - scarce older than myself. And just when they were most wanted - not alone by me: that is nothing - but by the country. And what friends I have had. Surely no woman ever knew what it was to have such friends.

Exhausting illness has been increasing

upon me every day especially  
during the last year. [You kindly  
ask.]

The death of Lord Mayo was  
a great shock. He was  
the kindest of friends. He  
was not only willing but  
wanting to ~~to~~ hear all he  
could, in order that he  
might do all he could.

There was something grand &  
heroic about him, in that  
he always acted up to the  
highest ideal of duty he  
could make, at whatever  
cost to himself. He  
had not done practically

so well the last year of his  
Governor-Generalship. Else  
he would have been a loss  
indeed.

We have seen too much of the  
present man in Offices here  
to expect much of him.  
I have never seen Administrative  
power in Governmt= Offices  
here at so low an ebb as  
now. I am certain that  
capacity in Administration  
has sensibly diminished  
during the last 10 years.

I have my own facts to  
account for this. But I will  
not trouble you with them

{162a}

{162b}

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 716

for 1. it is impossible to {162c}  
make up the arrears of  
history of the last 2 or 3 years  
to you in a note 2. I am  
thinking that you may  
know more of some of the  
offices than I do.

You are so good as to care [12:213-14]  
about one of your children -  
our Training School for Nurses.  
We have been obliged to remodel  
our Training=Staff, having  
more than doubled our  
number of Probationers &  
obtaining now, I hope &  
believe, a much better *material*  
- since we moved into  
the new St. Thomas' Hospital.

[2] {archivist: 1872} {162d}

Do you know  
a lady, who has been to me  
a second Agnes Jones & more,  
*Miss Torrance*, whom I  
remember mentioning to you  
last time I had the pleasure  
of seeing you? we had then  
just sent her to take  
charge of the new Highgate  
Workhouse Infirmary (530 beds)  
with a numerous Staff of  
our own Nurses. This she  
organized in 3 years under  
great difficulties. She is  
now by as great a/piece of  
obscure self-sacrifice as  
any I know offering  
herself to be our Under-Matron

or Mistress of Probationers at St. Thomas', where our excellent Matron, Mrs. Wardroper, has much too much to do. And we accept her. For Torrance's & Agnes Jones's are not to be had every day. She is Scotch & Presbyterian. We have sent another lady to be Matron at Highgate - Whom Sir S. Waterlow, Chairman of the Board, & Co., have appointed.

She is not at all equal to Miss Torrance. And much I fear that our little Training School for Workhouse Nurses which we had started there will

not extend itself now.

{162e}

And now I come to the chief object of this long-winded note. We have been asked to send a Lady Supt. (Matron) to the Edinburgh Infirmary - to be followed, I wish it were to be accompanied, by some of our trained Head Nurses.

[13:309]

We propose to send a Miss Barclay, sister of Hedworth Barclay, of Quaker connections, she nursed at Sedan as member of a Nursing party sent out during the war by our Aid Society - has now been in training at St. Thomas' for the last year.

I wish that, to so difficult {162f}  
a post as Edinburgh Infy=-,  
we could have sent some  
one of more experience  
(tho' she is 40.) - but that  
we have a very high opinion  
of her you may judge from  
the fact that we wished her  
to take Highgate- But she  
preferred the idea of Edinburgh  
- and there were other reasons  
with which I need not  
trouble you. [Also - there is a  
lady, not one of ours, who is  
a candidate for the Edinburgh  
Matronship whom I know  
to be thoroughly& alarmingly  
unfit.]

[3]

{162g}

*Can you give us any hints?* (as  
to our line with the Edinburgh people).  
THERE are none who could give better.

I see our Nurses one by one  
to tea & talk as much as I  
am able. But I am not  
able to be in their midst.  
And I venture, tho' hardly  
hoping that you will read it,  
to send you, with the object  
of showing you our kind of  
(moral) difficulties, a copy of  
a letter I addressed to them  
at our Annual Meeting in May.  
How very much I wish they  
could have the benefit of  
your presence sometimes!

I am so stifled in dirty anxious  
cares & sordid *defensive* business {162h}  
like the maid of all work who  
has to wipe her dirty hands on  
her dirtier apron before she  
can shake hands with her  
Master - that *I* feel that  
I cannot shake hands with  
*my* Master & only write  
this melancholy scribble in  
hopes of an answer.

Our Sanitary affairs in India  
are at this moment not  
encouraging. We have no one  
to press the practical  
application of questions  
long since solved;- as once  
we had.

E.g. we have just made an {162i}  
abominable exposure of the  
Water-supply in the (whole) Bengal  
Presidency.xx.  
And this *ten* years! after my  
attack on the Indian Water=  
pipes!! the truth & accuracy  
of which were so fully  
acknowledged then. *And nothing done*  
It is 16 years this month  
since I came back from the  
Crimea. It is 11 years  
this month since Sidney Herbert  
died. It is 9 years this  
month since our Indian  
R. Comm: concluded its  
Sanitary enquiry.

Well, I suppose, God works.

xx I would send it you  
but am afraid of boring  
you.

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 720

I conclude at last bargaining {162j}  
for an answer. You are  
younger than I am.

You kindly promised me too  
a criticism of my little book  
("Lying-in Instns.")

Pray give my grateful  
acknowledgments to Lady  
Emma McNeill for her  
kind message - & make mine  
acceptable to her.

And pray believe me  
ever, both in memory and  
in the present, yours always  
gratefully & sincerely

Florence Nightingale

[end 12:214]

H1/ST/NC3/SU163: pen, handwr copy of letter to Lady Tulloch [for obit of Sir A.  
Tulloch] pub in Macalister

Copy

25 South Street  
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 & Sir A. Tulloch's  
reporting was the salvation of the  
army in the Crimea. Without them  
everything that happened would  
have been considered "all right."

Mr. Martin's note is perfect: for  
it does not look like an afterthought,  
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 nadir [?]  
into the current of the subject,  
the Prince Consort, to shew that  
he too recognized the report &  
its truth & value. Thank

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 721  
you again & again for sending {163a}  
it me. It is the greatest consolation  
I could have had. Will you  
mention 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  
signed, Florence Nightingale

H1/ST/NC3/SU164: pen: letter to Sir John McNeill, typed copy 45768 f244

April 9/81  
10, SOUTH STREET. {printed address:}  
PARK LANE. W.

My dear Sir John McNeill  
The full flood of recollection [14:1033-34]  
which comes over one  
at the sight of the reprint  
of that book I know by  
heart - the deepest heart  
that is in me - Sir Alex  
Tulloch's book which  
you have been so kind  
as to send me, is almost  
overpowering. And I was  
so glad to hear from you  
again.

You are oh! how right  
to have re-issued it,  
but alas! for the persistent

falsehood that makes that {164a}

*right so right*. It makes  
one almost despair of  
history & of progress -  
ah me -

To tell the truth, I have not  
read, I could not read  
Mr. Kinglake's Vol= he  
sent it me with a very  
kind note, - At least it  
was meant to be kind,  
but it was fulsome,-  
(acknowledging my Statistics,)  
which I never answered.  
The book I did not open.  
To go over all that time

again, that time the {164b}

history of which we had  
written with our best  
heart's blood, knowing  
how I should see it  
travestied by his opinions,  
- a sort of grotesque or  
ghastly caricature of it -  
was beyond my strength,  
overworked & ill as I am.  
And yet I had no idea  
to what a degree his  
misrepresentation had  
reached, till I read  
your most terse & able  
"preface" to Sir A. Tulloch's  
book.

As for reading the part  
about my own work,

that was, if possible, {164c}  
still more impossible  
to me. That master  
of juggle & stage deception  
- that pantomime manager  
- to see him putting the  
sufferings of our men,  
so nobly borne, into a  
melodrama - & for the  
sake of stage effect,  
tho' I did not know to  
what extent, making  
the ~~honest~~ faithful nurse into  
a tragedy queen.  
I could not undertake to  
bear it. The more so as  
I of course received letters  
from Doctors who thought  
themselves aggrieved, & who

{black-edged paper}

[2]

{164d}

I have no doubt were  
aggrieved= & to whom I  
could say nothing but: 'if  
'you "answer in The Times,"  
'I think you are right.  
'But I have not read the  
'book.'

With regard to the Chelsea  
Report. I do not know  
whether you are aware  
that in 1857, I think, (when  
Sidney Herbert's R. Commission  
on the Sanitary State of the  
Army was sitting,) I, in  
consequence of a conversation  
with Mr. Kinglake, took  
the Reports of the Chelsea  
Board & your own, &

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 724

pasted out for him on {black-edged paper} {164e}  
opposite sheets of large  
foolscap the parallel  
or rather contradictory passages.  
- I mean the passages of the  
Chelsea Board Report as  
completely refuted by yours.  
The Duke of Cambridge was  
present at our conversation.  
At that time Mr. Kinglake  
professed himself convinced.  
But the true thing to deplore  
is - how little is left of all  
the good work of 1856 & those  
five years till 1861 for  
the Army. It would really  
seem as if they had told  
more for Civil than for

Military life. The Army {black-edged paper} {164f}  
Hospitals have sunk back  
to what they were. The Army  
Hospital Corps is, if possible,  
worse than the old Regimental  
Orderlies. The Army Medical  
School completely ignores the  
~~gigantic~~ steady strides of the last  
20 years of Civil life in  
Sanitary things, in Hospital  
administration, in Nurse-  
training. The Army Medical  
Department is but the name  
of what it was under Alexander.  
All the Regulations are altered  
-the Purveyors & the  
General Hospitals abolished.  
It is true that an immense  
Sanitary work has been done  
& is doing in India.

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 725

{black-edged paper}

But, after all, we must {164g}  
not judge year by year,  
day by day, & moment by  
moment.

Wisdom & justice must  
prevail, as sure as there  
is the God of Wisdom &  
Justice not only 'in heaven'  
but everywhere, 'that dwelleth  
in secret everywhere.'

What you have done can  
never be lost or undone A million  
of Kinglakes can never  
shake it. It is as firm  
as God Himself. And when we come to see 'not  
thro' a glass darkly' we  
shall see the eternal progress  
towards right & truth.  
Pray believe me, dear Sir John,  
with the deepest affection & veneration [end 14:1034]  
ever yours.

Florence Nightingale

H1/ST/NC3/SU165: pen: pale blue paper, letter to Sir John McNeill

00555

Mar 1/69

35 South Street. {printed address:}

Park Lane.

W.

My dear Sir John McNeill  
I wrote a little note to  
Sir Bartle Frere last night,  
telling him that you were  
in London, & sent it  
by hand.

His address is

22 Princes Gardens  
(or the India Office).

It was a very great pleasure  
in a life in which the  
pleasures are few & far  
between to see you

again. Thank you for it. {165a}  
-ever yours affectely &  
gratefully

Florence Nightingale

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 726

H1/ST/NC3/SU166 Sir J. McNeill to his child 25 July 1869, re seeing FN

H1/ST/NC3/SU167 J. McNeill to his daughter: "I saw Miss Nightingale. She did not say anything about her own health, she never does; she has become very large and fat looking; she was kind and cordial as ever" 2 March 1869 00560

H1/ST/NC3/SU168: pen: letter to Florence Stewart, grand-daughter of Sir J. McNeill

Feb 3/85

Dear daughter of my old  
friend & of my still dearer  
& older friend, Sir John McNeill,

I should so like to see you.

But alas! I am quite  
unable to see any one  
without an appointment,  
or to see more than one  
at a time.

Are you staying in London?  
& will you make my excuses to  
Miss Paget?

This week I am afraid I  
have no chance.

F. Nightingale

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 727  
H1/ST/NC3/SU169: pen: part of a letter regarding the Nurses' Training School

10 South St.

[2]

The builder went (with  
Capt. Galton) & removed  
a Board, as you  
suggested, in the floor  
of my small Drawing  
room, "but could," he says,  
"detect no smell beyond  
"that arising from the  
"pugging". [but that  
is just the smell  
which you thought it  
was.] "And to remove  
"the pugging would be  
"expensive, as the joints  
"would have to be taken up,  
"cut & re=arranged."

What would you {169a}  
kindly suggest?  
Pray believe me  
ever most truly yours.  
Florence Nightingale

Our Training School for Nurses {169b}

Should you meet with  
any young lady of sound  
body & mind. Who  
would like to make a  
career of Nursing,  
would you kindly  
remember us?

Our Michaelmas  
vacancies are all filled:  
& we have always many  
more candidates than  
room - but not  
always of the right sort.

I venture to enclose a  
Mem= of what is wanted.

F.N.

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 728

H1/ST/NC3/SU170: pen: stamped & franked postcard to Mrs. Harrison Blair: 22/7/80

{addressed:} Mrs. Harrison Blair  
Finchcocks Park  
Staplehurst

In answer to yours

My "book on Hospitals" is  
{obscured by franking: sadly?} out of print  
I will send you my own copy  
tomorrow, which you need  
not return.

F. Nightingale

22/7/80

{archivist: Page 112}

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 729  
H1/ST/NC3/SU171 note: roll 1 war wo]

both (French & Irish) consider that moral truth  
lies rather *in loyalty of intention* than *exactness of statement*  
- they are *perfectly equal at the game*

H1/ST/NC3/SU171: notes by F.N. on Trained Army Midwives: no date

*Trained Army Midwives*

A Report to the F.O. from a Brit. Consul [15:494]  
in Italy (in wh. he attributes ye- good veins  
& good lungs of the Romans to the babies  
being swaddled & hung up on a nail to cry  
- the only parallel I know to this Dublin  
Report.

In it we learn that the characteristics  
of a good *Midwife* (i.e. in *Ireland*) are  
"fluency of reply" !!!

buying goodies for the Patients  
& this the Reporter "can most conscientiously  
vouch for."

As for the rest, the practical instruction given,

I see we have all been quite wrong.

None is necessary.

I shall form my future Midwives' Sch: on the  
model

O tempora! O mores

I mean to ask Dr. Massy's [?] leave  
(which he will triumphantly grant)  
to print this Report *in extenso* in my  
book.

"Comment is needless"

I shall then print opposite  
the 6 month's practical course we  
in our ignorance thought necessary  
at K.C.H for mere Midwifery Nurses.

*Midwives* the 2 years' course of the  
Paris Maternité & the Vienna Midwives'  
Clinique

[Truly might the Cr- Pr- say: Our  
Wissenschaft is Germans' Unwissenschaft.]

(?) But, we are all wrong [end 15:494]

H1/ST/NC3/SU172: pen: draft {of letter to Probationers?}: n.d.

If ~~wo~~ duty means work for a high object  
& a Nurse has no high object, she cannot do  
her duty, she may work for her credit or  
her pay. But she is not worthy the name  
of Nurse.

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 730  
H1/ST/NC3/SU173: pen: letter to Mr. Taviner

May 12/96

10, SOUTH STREET. {printed address:}  
PARK LANE. W.

Dear Sir,

Will you be so kind  
as to send me here  
to-morrow (Wednesday)  
one of your beautiful  
nosegays of roses &  
lilies of the valley  
by 6 o'clock

& oblige

yours faithfully

F. Nightingale

Mr. Taviner

H1/ST/NC3/SU174: pencil: copy of FN letter, original in 68889 f6

Feb 23/97

10, South Street. {printed address:} [8:929]  
Park Lane. W.

Thank you, thank you,  
dearest Maude, for  
defending me about the  
"relics" - representations  
What are the "relics" of the  
Crimean War?

The tremendous lessons we  
have had to learn from  
its tremendous blunders &  
unavoidable ignorances

Sidney Herbert's Royal Commission

1. The want of resource &  
Lord Stanley's in India  
initiative. [I do not here  
*Think of S.H's* enter into the  
*splendid R.C.* horrible blundering  
*which struck the*  
*keynote of progress at home† the green*  
*in the Brit. Army* Coffee &c &c &c]  
But had Lord Raglan with  
all the qualities (and the défautes  
want of system

de ses qualités) of a great {174a}  
noble & Lord Stratford de  
Redcliffe our Ambassador  
at Constantinople combined  
their heads, our men could  
have had rice from Constantinople where  
every man, woman & child  
eats rice every day (~~the~~ our men  
said they had rather have  
lost their rum than their rice)

So with roasted & ground coffee -  
Our men were dying of  
Scurvy from Salt Meat &  
biscuit. The shores of the  
Euxine were crowded with  
cattle which would have  
walked themselves up to camp  
Mattresses - Every man in  
Constantinople had one & c & c & c  
1. All of this requires a grain of explanation-

trained nurses/ paid nurses {174b}  
in the books/ in the books  
2nd Lesson Untrained Nurses are  
useless & often worse than  
useless, because they have  
no character.

~~To train~~ The training  
of Nurses was our second  
lesson. and Hy Bonham Carter  
3. Hygiene - Sanitation -  
The want of this cost Lord  
Raglan himself his life  
& thousands of our gallant  
soldiers.

What filled our Hospitals  
at Scutari?  
Fever Frostbite (so called)  
Diarrhaea really Scurvy  
Dysentery Cholera -  
We took in 4000 from

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 732

these diseases in 17 days. {174c}

We had 4 miles of beds  
in one Hospital alone at  
Scutari-

Lord Palmerston sent out  
the Sanitary Commission  
in March- And with  
their help we learnt the  
terrible lesson of the  
Crimean War on Hygiene.

But *I have not seen*  
*one book on the Crimean War*  
*even now which gives it.*  
Think of the unwearied toil of  
the Sanitarians

~~At~~ Bombay Plague

O these enthusiasms without  
facts

[2]

{174d}

Please tell the ladies who  
ask (as civilly as possible)  
*These are the "relics" of*  
*the Crimean War - the*  
tremendous ~~relics~~ representatives.

And I will not give  
my foolish "Portrait" Which I have not got or  
representatives  
anything as "relics" of the  
Crimea - It is too ridiculous  
You don't judge even of  
the victuals inside a  
public house by the Sign  
outside - I won't be  
made a *Sign* -

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 733

I am sorry to say that {174e}  
Lady Wantage, a woman  
who sometimes reminds  
one a little of blessed  
Margaret, is at me about  
the same thing. And I  
write to you in haste  
because I want to take  
comfort in you.  
I want to take  
firm footing in you

Think of Sidney Herbert's  
splendid Royal Commissions  
which struck the key note  
of progress in the British  
Army - think of the  
unwearied toil of the  
Sanitaricians - & you ask for  
the photograph of a rat -  
and this is not even the moment  
When there is the Plague  
at Bombay.

O these enthusiasms {174f}  
without facts.

I am so sorry about  
Kathleen. But I hope it  
won't be much.

Think of S. Herbert's  
Royal Commissions &  
Committees which struck  
the keynote of progress  
in the British Army

H1/ST/NC3/SU175: cheque to Ly Canning from C. Bracebridge, 8 July 1855

H1/ST/NC3/SU176: to FN from Jane Shaw Stewart

H1/ST/NC3/SU177: reprinted article from *Quain's Dictionary of Medicine*. n.d. by kind permission of Messrs. Longmans, Green & Co.

*What a Nurse is to Be*

A REALLY GOOD NURSE must needs be of the highest class of character. It need hardly be said that she must be—(1) Chaste, in the sense of the Sermon on the Mount: a good nurse should be the Sermon on the Mount in herself. It should naturally seem impossible to the most unchaste to utter even an immodest jest in her presence. Remember this great and dangerous peculiarity of nursing, and especially of hospital nursing, namely, that it is the only case, queens not excepted, where a woman is really in charge of men. And a really good trained ward "sister" can keep order in a men's ward better than a military ward-master or sergeant. (2) Sober, in spirit as well as in drink, and temperate in all things. (3) Honest, not accepting the most trifling fee or bribe from patients or friends. (4) Truthful—and to be able to tell the truth includes attention and observation, to observe truly—memory, to remember truly—power of expression, to tell truly what one has observed truly—as well as intention to speak the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. (5) Trustworthy, to carry out directions intelligently and perfectly, unseen as well as seen, "to the Lord" as well as unto men—no mere eye service. (6) Punctual to a second, and orderly to a hair—having everything ready and in order before she begins her dressings or her work about the patient; nothing forgotten. (7) Quiet, yet quick; quick, without hurry; gentle, without slowness; discreet, without self-importance; no gossip. (8) Cheerful, hopeful; not allowing herself to be discouraged by unfavourable symptoms; not given to depress the patient by anticipations of an unfavourable result. (9) Cleanly, to the point of exquisiteness, both for the patient's sake and her own; neat and ready. (10) Thinking of her patient and not of herself; "tender over his occasions" or wants, cheerful and

kindly, ingenious and feat. The best definition can be found, as always, in Shakespeare, where he says that to be {177a} "nurse-like" is to be

So kind, so duteous, diligent,  
So tender over his occasions, true,  
So feat.

A patient wants according to his wants, and not according to any nurse's theory of his wants or "occasions." "Tender over his occasions" she must be: but she must have a rule of thought; and this the physician or surgeon has to give her in his directions which her training must have fitted her to obey intelligently, using discretion. The nurse must have simplicity and a single eye to the patient's good. She must make no demand upon the patient for reciprocation, for acknowledgment or even perception of her services; since the best service a nurse can give is that the patient shall scarcely be aware of any—shall perceive her presence only by perceiving that he has no wants. The nurse must always be kind and sympathetic, but never emotional. The patient must find a real, not forced or "put on," centre of calmness in his nurse. To call upon a patient by emotion for emotion is the most cruel, because useless, demand upon his strength. It is asking him to bear

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 735

your troubles and your anxiety as well as his own. Suppressed emotion is as bad-it makes the nurse constrained. It is exposing the patient to both frost and fire. Half the battle of nursing is-to *relieve your sick from having to think for themselves* {belongs to line above}  
at all-least of all for their own nursing.

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE

H1/ST/NC3/SU178: to FN from H. Verney, 31 Jan 1878

H1/ST/NC3/SU179: to Miss Lloyd Still from C.E. Vincent, 3 Sept 1929

initialled incomplete letter, 1p, pen

the warmest thanks I have for  
the pleasure & honour you have  
done me in sending me  
the precious little red book  
with the names of the survivors  
of that never to be forgotten day-  
I should like to send my warmest  
good wishes to every man of them  
if it were only possible= as I do  
in my heart And these are my  
heart's wishes= that those who  
have shown themselves such good/noble  
men in the field, such gallant/true subjects  
of our Queen, our country & our God,  
may show themselves at home  
where perhaps more terrible enemies  
still to our country exist to fight  
-in vice & drunkenness & meanness  
& selfishnesses & pettinesses of all  
kinds as good/great & gallant  
British men & Soldiers  
May the B. Commn "Socy-" 'commemorate  
its glories daily in such a glorious  
fight as this. And may I be admitted  
as one of them-" Onward, comrades

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 736

Onward go - If I may honour  
myself by calling myself comrade of  
yours.

Again & again thanks for your kind  
remembrances of the soldier's  
ever faithful servt=

F.N.

Engraving of  
Miss Thompson's Balaclava  
promised

March 2/78

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 737

H1/ST/NC3/SU180: Letters to Rachel Williams, 1873: 1-13 letters with envelopes  
check date in first item

**73/1:** incomplete letter, 1f, pen H1/ST/NC3/SU180/73/1

March 2. [or March 20? in cat]

My dear friend

I am very ill: & we have had a terrible time  
with Sir Harry Verney & my mother, both of whom  
have been at the point of death.

But I cannot decline seeing you, if you wish it -  
How are you?

Will 5 o'clock on *Thursday* do? And may I write  
beforehand if I cannot?

But could you not give me a line, if it is on business,  
to tell me what the business is that I may have time to  
consider? I hope it is nothing bad about our Nurses.

**73/2:** incomplete letter, 2pp, pen. 00596

35 South St.

Park Lane W. May 13/73

My dear Miss Williams

Pray, pray give us the  
comfort, us who love you so  
well, of going to Boulogne  
with your friends.

Surely this is the best  
thing to do at once.

If there had been time  
to ask to see you., I think  
I could have convinced you  
of this.

Mr. Croft told me with  
his own lips that you must

be a month or 6 weeks {2a}

at the Sea before doing  
anything. He said this  
after seeing you. And I  
understood from you yourself  
the same thing.

I have no expectation of hearing  
from Miss Barclay  
to-morrow morning. But  
I will telegraph to you  
the moment the post comes  
in.

I expect her here in the  
afternoon. And I will  
send to take the chance  
of finding you.

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 738

But please, please {2b}  
 make up your mind to go  
 to Boulogne at all events.  
 Surely you can trust us  
 to find you work.  
 One cannot go down on  
 one's knees in a note or  
 a telegram. Else would I.  
 It is my strongest conviction  
 that the right course for  
 you is to go to Boulogne.  
 I cannot write more  
 tonight - but I cannot rest  
 without writing this.  
 Please send me  
 your address at Boulogne.

**lis** {2c}

{illeg work?} photography -----	{amount cut off}
{illeg lettuce?} water cress etc -----	- 6
cheese, lunch, pastry,	1 - 8 ½
Stamps -----	- 6 -
-As-	6
Books &c - -- .....	4 - {possibly 3}
Church -- -- -- -- --	- 6
Lodgings -- -- -- -- --	15.
Our {illeg living? livery?} -- -- --	13
Porter {illeg & servant?}	- 1 - 7
stamps, gloves & dolls - -	5 -
pastry	1 - 5 ½ {possibly 2 - 5 ½}
present - - - - -	6 - 4

73/3: signed letter with envelope, 3pp, pen. roll 1

{envelope:} ~~Miss Rachael~~  
 Miss Rachel Williams  
 Rue de Boston 140  
 Boulogne=Sur=Mer  
 (France)

23/5/73

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 739

35 South Street

Park Lane W.

May 23/73

[12:271-73]

My dear Miss Williams

I was indeed very glad to hear from you- (I had felt anxious about you - ) this morning.

I hope that when you return to London - on Thursday, if it must be so - you will perform your promise of coming to stay 2 or 3 nights here - doing what you like in the day - going to St. Thomas' to see after your 'berth' - and - I only bargain for one hour a day for myself.

But - my dear soul - you must remember that all your medl= advisers - including you yourself who are your own best Medical adviser -

spoke of "a month or 6 weeks" {3a}  
"at the sea" - as the shortest  
time for your restoration.  
Mr. Croft told me so with  
his own lips - & said that  
you had intended it.

You must do me the favour  
of allowing me to contribute  
£10 to this very laudable  
purpose. Or rather - I will  
not speak in this formal way  
-you are all my children,  
& I only wish God gave me  
a mother's duties, as He has  
given me a mother's heart  
towards you - so, my dear  
child, I must really send  
my little mother's gift towards  
your expences, whether at

Boulogne on at any other {3b}  
watering-place.

[The 7/s is for your cab, which  
my stupid Messenger, tho'  
strictly enjoined to pay, says  
he 'forgot,' the day he brought  
you here from Peckham to see  
Miss Barclay.]

Anyone at Boulogne will, I  
believe, change your Cheque -  
you must sign your name at  
the back.

I will not say a word about St. Thomas'  
now. You ought, like the babies, to  
divide your time between eating,  
sleeping & being out-of-doors -  
I saw Miss Barclay after your interview.  
She went back to Edinburgh on  
Saturday by night-train.  
But not a word about Edinbro' either now.

When I see you, you shall tell me your impressions upon the Hospital Augustinians. And I will tell you mine about those at Paris whom I once knew well. Their standard is higher than ours. But their nursing of men, from false notions of delicacy, & their want of cleanliness, was lower. And they knew it. You shall tell me whether

{3c}

the fees, so often given by Patients to Nurses but never to nuns, are possible at St. T.'s.

Excuse my brief note - from (tho' pressed by business & illness)

Yours ever tenderly

Florence Nightingale [end]

God speed you -

73/4: incomplete letter, 2pp, pen.

35 South St. May 27/73  
Park Lane W.

My dear Miss Williams

It is "quite convenient" to me, & I am delighted if you come on *Thursday*.

If you have the opportunity, send me a line to say what *hour*.

But do not trouble about this.

If it is before 4 or 5, I shall hope to see you for an hour the same afternoon,

if you are not too tired. {4a}

If it is later, then I hope - the following day. for an hour.

To go to the place best for you is all we care about for you. But you *must* have some farther health-place, whether at, or not at, the sea.

Mr. Croft did not say (to me) "a month or 6 weeks"

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 742

at *Boulogne*. For when {4b}  
he spoke to me, he did  
not know that you  
were going to *Boulogne*.  
Nor did I.

But he did say:  
"a month or 6 weeks"  
"at the sea". If "the  
sea" does not suit you, he  
would have added: or, other  
healthy place. {So you see, I don't  
{ think you are "cheating" me.  
F.N. [end 12:273]

73/5: signed letter, 1p, pen,

35 South St. June 4/73  
Park Lane W.

My dear Miss Williams

I have nothing definite to  
announce - *nor nothing* at  
all the contrary - nothing,  
upon which you have any  
right to become 'rageous.

Your right is: to drink in  
all the health you can.

I have hopes of success.  
God bless you. God guide us  
all.

I will write again - &  
was so glad to hear from you  
ever yours. (in a stream  
of Nurses.)

F. Nightingale

73/6: signed letter with envelope, 2 pp, pen  
{envelope} to be forwarded

Miss Rachel Williams  
at Christy's Esq  
Chignal St. James  
nr *Chelmsford*

12/6/73

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 743

Burn

605

35 South St. June 12/73 [June 6 in cat]

Park Lane W.

My dear Miss Williams

I am afraid that you will become 'rageous.' So I think it better to inform you that I had a long conversation on Tuesday with dear "Matron" [She was not well, but professed herself better for the "out."] The only really definite thing I have to tell you is: that she does not mean to write to you "certain" as she is, she says, that you will come & see her "before the 24th=".

I therefore propose that

you should come & stay {6a}  
here a night or two  
"before the 24th=" & "go & see" her.

I do not see any good in my saying any more about the 'Sistership' - tho' nothing would surprise me less, if she were to give it you after all.

But- she is very anxious to take Huddersfield. And she engages "at least" to take you "for 3 months," "in charge of Wards during Sisters' absences" -we, i.e., the N.F., paying the salary.

I said (as you may suppose)

that I thought Alexandra {6b}  
Ward for 2 or 3 years  
would suit you better -  
that it was a great fatigue for you to take 'Sister's duty' of one ward after another -  
that it must be 6 months at least -  
& that I thought, even if it were only 6 months, those '6 months', (tho' the other plan sounded plausible,) were better passed as 'Sister Alexandra'.

She did not say 'Nay' to any of this.  
And I think you (& we) may have the best hopes -  
tho' I am not usually a sanguine

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 744  
person. {6c}

At all events, you shall  
not have Crockett if you  
go to Huddersfield.

I spoke to 'matron' about  
this.

[She said something -  
she was throughout most  
affectionate towards you -  
about your succeeding her at  
St. T's.- at which I howled  
& said you must be 'twice 7'  
years' first - as S. Alexandra  
as Matron, &c &c -]

Now God speed you - &  
get strong first.

ever yours

Florence Nightingale

[Burn]

[end 12:273]

73/7: signed letter with envelope, 1p, pen.

35 South St. June 17/ 73  
Park Lane W

My dear Miss Williams

Pray come & sleep here  
on Monday 23rd=, as you  
propose.

And, if you will write me  
word what hour it is  
convenient for you to come,  
we will have our talk  
that afternoon or the next  
morning before you go  
to Mrs. Wardroper - & after too.

Keep up your heart. It is  
'thro' much tribulation' that we  
enter the 'kingdom of heaven' in  
God's work - (or in any part of it  
-specially nursing-) - God guide us all  
ever yours

F. Nightingale

{envelope} Miss Rachel Williams  
"The Cottage"  
Walton=on=the=Naze

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 745  
73/8: singed letter with envelope, 2ff, pen roll 1

{envelope} Miss Williams [12:282-83]

{Elizabeth Ward}  
St. Thomas' Hospital  
Westminster Bridge  
London S.E.

Private

Lea Hurst  
Matlock  
Derbyshire  
Sept 19/73

My dear Miss Williams

Do not think that because  
I have not answered your letter  
I am not thinking of you &  
your future.

The truth is: tho' my life  
is full of tearing anxieties, for  
one cannot undertake this  
sort of thing without having  
to bear other people's sorrows  
& even their faults. as if  
they were one's own [and  
you will find this if you  
embrace this life for good,  
I mean for a term of years]

I have at this moment no {8a}  
heavier anxiety than to  
know how you are to be  
'disposed of' - whether in the post  
you like best: if without danger to your health.  
For 'Michaelmas' is so near -  
It does not further your  
cause for me to 'worry'.  
And I have been afraid  
to write to you personally, till  
I knew you were in 'Elizabeth'.

I have written many times  
to Mr. Bonham Carter: but  
I cannot find from him  
that anything is spoken of  
'beyond Michaelmas.'  
And he is now away in the  
island of Lewis  
If I could but be assured that

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 746

your were safe and well {8b}  
at St. Thomas' for  
another (say) six weeks,  
I should despair of nothing.  
Because time would give  
us a handle.

What I am afraid of is:  
your being whisked off before  
we are all in London together.

You know that Huddersfield  
is given up for the present.

There are few things that  
I desire so much at this  
moment as that you  
should "have your Ward," or  
a similar Ward, for a  
year or two at St. T.'s,  
IF it is right for your health.

I pray God earnestly: by night

as well as by day: that He {8c}  
will do what is best. And  
we know He will. Perhaps He is  
at this moment preparing the  
way for you - God bless you -  
in great haste  
ever yours

F. Nightingale

A little bird told  
me how much  
you had done for Miss Machin in the Home.

73/9: pen

*Burn*

My dear, impatient, masterful,  
terrible child Miss Williams:  
Don't 'worrit' yourself.  
The advice given to children:  
"Open your mouth & shut your  
eyes: & you'll see what'll  
drop in": is for you.  
You will know soon that one  
great tho' perhaps temporary change, alas! is to take  
place: and you will be sent  
for by the Committee to act  
as temporary Assistant in  
all probability to one you  
love & I love above all,  
in a distant Hospital.

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 747

This is already in train: {9a}  
too soon you will know more.

And now let us two pray -  
you in the vigour of your cruel,  
splendid youth - & I in the  
sadness of my much=tried age -  
that patience may have her  
perfect work in us: & above  
all that we may be gentle  
in our judgments of others: of

for the much=stricken most particularly -  
who made thee to differ  
from another?'

"Teach me to feel another's woe

*To hide the fault I see:*  
That mercy I to others show,  
That mercy show to me."

God bless you, my dear {9b}  
child.

I hope to see you soon here  
for an afternoon. Believe me  
ever yours  
F. Nightingale

35 South St. W.  
Oct 22/ 73

[end 12:283]

{envelope} Miss Rachel Williams  
22/10/73

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 748  
73/10: signed letter with envelope, 2ff, pen

{envelope} Miss Williams [13:339-40]

Nightingale Home  
St. Thomas' Hospital  
Westminster Bridge

7/11/73 S.E.

Private

35 South St.  
Park Lane W.  
Nov 7/73

My dear child Miss Williams

I think that yours is a  
position very trying for its  
uncertainty to your (im)patience;  
and as I don't wish to be  
myself another inducement to  
impatience, suppose you  
come & drink tea with  
me at 4 on Monday or  
Tuesday. And I will tell  
you what I can.

[I would ask Matron:  
but she is away: and we  
must not trouble her on

her holiday.] {10a}

I had merely put off seeing  
you in order - besides being  
very busy-to have a definite  
proposal to make you.

But other people's  
uncertainties are as great  
as yours.

And as you may be  
wanted by the 15th= or 17th=,  
and it is rather hard  
upon you to give you such  
short notice. I think I had  
better tell you all I can  
at once.

The "duties" have been

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 749

sent me by your friend. {10b}

They are those she is  
doing now herself: as  
Assistant and Housekeeper.  
They have meals for 90  
now to prepare in the  
Nurses' House.

She says, if you and I  
think the duties too much,  
you can have one of their  
Lady P.s "annexed" to you -  
in the housekeeping line.

Au revoir then  
God bless you  
ever yours affectely

F. Nightingale

Excuse Haste

[end 13:340]

73/11: signed letter with envelope, 2ff, pen [13:340-41]

Tuesday

My dear Miss Williams

I have had a Telegram  
from the Pearl. They  
think that you had better  
not come *till Friday* - tho'  
Miss Barclay *is* gone.  
Don't let this be a disappointment  
to you: When you were so  
willing to go.

I seem to understand so well the  
Pearl's feeling. She thinks  
that it will look as if we  
were in such a hurry to  
step into Miss Barclay's shoes.

If that is her feeling, whether  
she is right or wrong, it

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 750  
must be God's leading for {11a}  
us.

I shall hope to see you  
again before Friday  
& will send you any word  
I hear.

Please tell Mrs. Wardroper  
with my best love.

ever yours

F. Nightingale [end 13:341]

{envelope} Miss Williams  
Nightingale Home  
St. Thomas' Hospital  
18/11/73

73/12: signed letter with envelope, 1f, pen.

35 S. St.

Nov 20

My dear Miss Williams [13:341]

They gladly expect you  
to-morrow (Friday) at Edinburgh.

I have written to & received  
answers from Mr. Fasson &  
Miss Pringle.

Will you not come & bid  
me good-bye to-day at 4  
-or any other hour that is  
more convenient to you?

yours affectly

F. Nightingale

[end 13:341]

{envelope} Miss Williams  
20/11/73

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 751  
73/13: signed letter with envelope, 3ff, pen

{envelope} Miss Williams  
Nurses' House [12:288-89]  
Royal Infirmary  
Edinburgh

12/12/73

Private  
Burn

35 South St.  
Park Lane W.  
Dec 12/73

My dear Miss Williams

Thank you very much for your letter. It  
enlightened me very considerably.

But more than this I must thank you  
for your good work, in that which I know  
you least prefer: & for your wonderful help  
to our dear Pearl: who with your support  
is saving the poor Edinburgh business: Thank

God & you both.

{13a}

Shall I tell you a little about our  
St. Thomas' affairs? your old home? --

Strengthened a good deal by your views  
about Yarnley & Berryman, I had a long  
talk with dear Matron, after we had  
exhausted the all-absorbing subject, absorbing  
to me as well as to her of her daughter, living  
not dead. She is so good & so gentle.

Matron had proposed to put Miss  
Vincent into what your Ward, as I cannot  
help calling it, was: to make Berryman  
Magdalen Sister, in view of Miss Hornby to  
whom she had offered it, & Yarnley Night  
Supt=. to whom also she had offered it.

After conversation, she agreed to make  
Berryman Night Supt=., send Yarnley to Miss  
Leslie, make Miss Hornby Magdalen, & Miss Vincent  
Alexandra.

But Berryman declines Night Suptcy=.

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 752  
and Mrs. Wardroper has, I fear, fallen back {13b}  
upon Yarnley as Night Supt=., leaving  
Berryman in Alexandra, Miss Hornby as  
Magdalen: & Miss Vincent perhaps in Leopold  
-sending Miss Notcutt back to Arthur

I am sure that this will terrify you as much  
as it does me to leave your dear Ward  
in the hands of a Berryman.

I am trying to persuade Matron to persuade  
Berryman to take the Night Supcy=. for 6 months:

[2] {13c}

And I am sure I shall have your prayers  
with mine that some such arrangement  
for the good of the Ward you so loved -  
& for what is best for all - shall be come  
to.

Dear Matron was much pleased & soothed  
(& she remembered to tell me this even in  
the midst of her sorrowing tears)  
that you told her you were satisfied that  
your health would not have stood Ward work.

I am sure that her love for you & her  
fears for your health were, notwithstanding!  
her little roughnesses, her real motive for  
all she did.

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 753

You know how I wished to keep you with us - {13d}  
- for our own sakes.

Yet I cannot but see that God's hand has  
directed all this.

No one but you could help our Pearl as you  
are doing. That has been a fire so terrible  
as nearly to have burnt up both her & me.

And I thank God for having sent you to  
our help: in saving His work. [end 12:289]

Now, my dear masterful baby & Goddess:  
I must leave off, for I am sore pressed.  
Of course this note is only for Pearl, besides  
yourself. God guide us all.

[Burn] ever your affect=.  
F. Nightingale

Letters to Rachel Williams: 1874.

74/14: signed letter, 1f, pen.

35 South St.  
Park Lane W.  
3/1/74

My dear Miss Williams

I feel a little uneasy  
(I scarce know why) both  
about the Pearl & you -  
I am sure that you will  
not let her be overwrought:  
but you may be overwrought  
yourself.

Please tell me  
May the highest blessings of  
the New Year be yours  
is the fervent prayer  
of yours ever affectely.  
F. Nightingale

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 754  
74/15: signed letter with envelope, 5ff, pen  
{envelope} Miss Williams  
Nurses' House  
Royal Infirmary  
Edinburgh

17/1/74

35 South St  
Park Lane W.  
Jan 17/74

Dearest Miss Williams

I am so grieved & do so feel for our dear Pearl in this sad, sad news. I believe that it is the very best for her dear Mother that God should release her with a rapid end from this world's death into life. But *that*, as I know but too well, does not take from the shock, the intense desolation afterward. It is like the rending of soul from body to the Survivor: whereas it is the releasing of soul

from body to those who depart.

{15a}

I will not write to Pearl till I hear from you again.

I feel a little uneasy about you. Would it be of any use to you if we were to send you one of our best Lady Probationers (I believe we could) who has finished her year, to do her best for you as a stop=gap for the time?

I am very little able to write, for I am overwhelmed with painful business: not only private (for it is impossible to speak to my poor mother about any business) -- but other business also.

{15b}

But I must just tell you what you probably know already: or rather ask you what you wish done.

Mr. Hope has accepted (& asked for) our best recommendation that matters should remain

[13:341-42]

as they are for at least 6 months at Edinburgh Infirmary: that is, that Miss Pringle should continue acting as Supt=, for at least that time: with you acting as her Assistant: - [You know that we very much wished for a Housekeeper: but both you & she think it best not: and, of that, if you can get good Servants, you are certainly the best Judges]

{15c}

You may trust us not to ask you to do

{15d}

what you ought not: and had we asked you  
to take the Supcy=. of that terrible place,  
before a trial of at least 6 months in  
the second post, you might well have  
said that we had done very wrong -  
We have therefore left it on this footing  
We thought that the above arrangement was  
what would approve itself best to your  
best judgement.  
But as I am well aware that my dear

Goddess-baby has --- well, a baby-side,

{15e}

I shall not be surprised at any outburst,  
-tho' I know full well that, in the dear  
Pearl's terrible distress, you will do every  
thing & more than everything possible  
to drag her thro' & to spare her &  
keep her up & the place going.  
Only don't break yourself down - my dear  
child.

I wrote to Pearl all we had written to Mr. Hope in  
the midst of my terrible press of last  
week. I then wrote again an answer to  
her, also last week. To that she has not yet  
answered: tho' she wrote, saying she would.  
Mr. Hope did not write, accepting our  
recommendation, till a day or two ago:  
probably because Miss Barclay's resignation  
had not *then* been formally accepted.  
I wrote *this* week to Mr. Fasson, as he  
deserves it from us, a statement of what  
we had recommended: even before we

received Mr. Hope's reply.

{15f}

Mr. Fasson has not yet answered: that is  
merely, I know, because he is busy.  
And I ought not properly to lay this before  
Your Imperious Highness till I have  
his answer.  
Now, my dear child, it was never intended  
-and your child-ship knows it - to ask  
you to serve "under ~~another~~ fresh Supt=." So your Royal  
little protest goes to the winds.

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 756

3

{15g}

Also, my dear child, I would so fain relieve  
you of your "bitterness" - You say you are "bitter";  
& indeed you are. You speak again,  
even now, of the "disappointment" & "injustice"  
about "Alexandra". WHOSE "injustice"?  
GOD'S? My dear, dear soul, think of  
this. What are you saying?

You told me yourself, & I honoured you  
for telling Mrs. Wardroper, the truth; viz.  
that your health would not stand it.

{15h}

As for the rest of your "bitter" complaint:-  
you have, of all others, the place one  
would have thought you would have  
liked best:  
& the very best place we have to give:  
first: to be under your best friend:  
and secondly: ?? &c &c -  
Now I cannot write more: &, at such a time,  
~~and~~ I would not have written thus much,  
unless urged by seeing my Goddess=baby  
suffering from delusions. And how can a woman  
be a Supt=. unless she has learnt to superintend herself?

I think that our dear Pearl will find  
a sad comfort, notwithstanding her last  
terrible 9 months, in having been near  
her dear Mother - during that time.

I cannot write another word.  
God bless & keep you: you can scarcely  
tell what a fortnight I have been going  
thro'-

ever yrs F. Nightingale

4

{15i}

About Nurse Miller:  
as I mentioned when I saw you:  
send her back -  
I never had any hope.

17/1/74

F.N.

[end 13:342]

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 757

74/16: initialled letter with envelope, 3ff, pen.

000636

{envelope} Miss Williams roll 1 [13:342-43]  
Royal Infirmary  
Edinburgh

20/1/74

35 South St

Jan 20/74

My dear Miss Williams

I am uneasy beyond all expression about  
the Pearl - & also about yourself -

Ask, beg the Pearl to go with me  
to Embley for a complete rest: Where I  
go next week. I will, as you know, gladly  
pay her expences.

If I could be amused just now, I should  
be amused at your saying that you are "willing"

"to go on" "for 6 months" "AS" I "PROPOSE" "as {16a}  
"Housekeeper!" & "Pearl as Supt=."

When the Pearl has actually scolded me  
(as roundly as Pearls can scold) for my  
persistence with her & the authorities  
that you should *have* a *Housekeeper*.  
And, notwithstanding Pearls who are  
dissuading & you who are persuading: I  
begin again:

Will you have *Batstone* (St. T's Night Supt=.)

-you *both* know her - as *Housekeeper*?

I have not one morsel of strength  
to-day but to enclose the accompanying  
List which I made out from *Matron*  
last night?

I cannot tell you more about  
*Nurse Harvey* than that *Agnes Jones*  
thought her an extraordinarily capable  
woman: but noisy: that is 6 years ago-  
and that *Mrs. Wardr=.* thinks it a catch for your *Fever House*  
her being at liberty now.

Jan 20/74

{16b}

Mrs. Batstone

would come as *Housekeeper*:  
-was Assistant *Housekeeper* &  
*Housekeeper* for 18 years  
before she came to us:  
-has been *night Supt.* for  
2 1/4 years at St. Thomas'

Miss Pyne

will come on the 31st  
as arranged with Miss Pringle

Nurse Keene

it is feared cannot come  
so soon, on account of  
Mother's illness

Nurse Babb

has been 2 1/4 years on *night*  
duty at St. T's - would  
come on *day* duty [steady -  
not brilliant]

Nurse Berry

is I understand in  
corresponde=. with *Miss Pringle*  
I do not know her -  
no one knows, her so well as so well as  
*Miss Pringle* herself - or could  
manage her so well.

{16c}

Nurse Harvey

is at this moment seeking  
a situation  
She was under *Agnes Jones* for  
3 years at *Liverpool Workhe.*  
[-a very large charge: *Sick*  
*Nursery*- ] up to 1868 -  
-manner used *then* to be  
rather wild & rough:  
-prodigiously active & efficient  
-left *Liverpool* after *Agnes*

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 759

Jones's death:

{16d}

-Sister at Middlesex Hospl=  
for some years:

-left some little time ago  
to take charge of a  
Gentlewomen's paying Hospl=  
where she had Probationers under her.

-this failed as a paying concern  
-Mrs. Wardr=. thinks her well  
suited for the *Edinburgh*  
*Fever Charge* - has seen  
& spoken with her -  
[I only knew her from  
*Agnes Jones'* account]

Her address:

*Mrs. Harvey*  
*26 New Cavendish St*  
*Portland Place*  
*London W.*

Miss Spencer

{16e}

has written to me to say she would come  
if you want her -

But she is much wanted at St. T's -  
I am quite concerned at your list of sick

God bless you: and God save dear  
Pearl: in greatest haste

yours ever

F.N.

[end 13:343]

roll 1

74/17: signed letter, 2ff, pen.

[13:343]

35 South St.

Jan 22/74

My dear Miss Williams

I feel the terrible strain upon our Pearl

-Please telegraph to me when it is all over.

-Get her off, if you possibly can, to me here;  
if only on the pretext of talking over things

with me & seeing Nurses before engaging them.

If once I have her, I will keep

her safe for ten days or a fortnight-at least

[For at least 10 days previously to her being /{next line cut off}]

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 760

called to her mother, I felt that she was **{17a}**  
overtasked: from a certain something in her  
letters: thinking I had not written when I had:  
& that she had written answers when she had not.

This is for my Goddess: not my *baby* -  
-I will tell my Goddess about it another time.  
- I have nothing in this letter for my baby.]

**YOU MUST NOT SIT UP:** or rather make night rounds:  
do you hear, my Goddess?  
If you can secure a good cook, which please  
God you may, you are certainly the best Judges,

(as I said to Pearl,) as to whether you want **{17b}**  
a Housekeeper- or not.  
Would Batstone be of use to you in  
any other capacity, if she would come?  
It *must* be day duty.  
The advantage is: your both knowing her.  
*Miss Pyne* will come to you this day week,  
*the 29th*=. I dare say she has written to you.  
I am so very much concerned about [piece cut out]

I think we may be able to hel{missing corner} **{17c}**  
in a month or two -  
- But Highgate has been in great distress  
too.

May we only do everything in God's strength.  
~~we~~ & all will be well: we know that if we  
do anything in our own, that moment it  
dries up & fails us.

God bless you all **[end 13:343]**  
in gt haste ever yours  
F. Nightingale

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 761

74/18: pen: no return address: to Rachel Williams

O my dearest let us thank  
God who has taken this  
good woman to His  
everlasting arms: no more  
pain or sorrow for *her*:  
since last night *she* is  
rejoicing in Heaven.  
I do not forget the blow  
to our Pearl: indeed I fear  
that she will feel it more  
now all is over.  
But what a blessing she  
was with her.

I am immersed in painful **{18a}**  
business: am besides  
seeing some one from St. T.'s  
every day: but could  
not but write a word,  
as tomorrow is Sunday  
& no post. Take care of  
yourself. God guide & bless you  
all.

ever yours

F.N.

Jan 24/74

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 762  
74/19: pen {envelope} Miss Williams [13:344]  
Royal Infirmary  
Edinburgh

29/1/74

35 South St  
Park Lane W.  
Jan 29/74

My dear Miss Williams

I am obliged to start immediately for  
Embley: I have not heard from the Pearl:  
& almost fear that a letter I wrote to her  
own home on Monday may have miscarried  
or that she is ill.

I write now to you that Mrs. Wardroper  
fears she cannot give a "Supernumerary" Nurse

instead of Miller. I think it might {19a}  
be quite different if Pearl would come  
& talk to her. I believe she might have  
her pick of Nurses. But I have  
seldom seen poor Matron so worried &  
troubled as now - or so suffering.  
Miss Mackenzie (Pearl & you both know her) leaves  
Highgate in March. Is it possible that  
she might do as Nurse at Edinburgh?  
-I have written to Miss Hill to ask.

3

{19b}

You ask after our weather: I think I have  
never seen such orange fogs & inexorable frost:  
we have been burning lights all day.  
I have known pretty nearly the extremes of  
heat & cold: they are tolerable, if you have  
*light*. But these dark fogs suffocate  
me. "Out of darkness into His wonderful  
light" is a text which touches me,  
body & soul.

[end 13:344]

{no signature}

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 763  
74/20: letter & envelope, 2ff, pen.

{envelope} Miss Williams  
Royal Infirmary  
Edinburgh

2/5/74

35 South St  
Park Lane W  
May 2/74

My dearest child Miss Williams

I have this moment received your charming letter, which is just like yourself. And I must write & thank you for it at once.

It has taken a load off my heart  
-You are quite right: the Pearl has been making "disagreeably mysterious letters":  
-and she has mystified me quite as much as she has you.

Your letter is a pure joy to me: because {20a}  
I see yourself (& not another) in it.  
And life has not many joys for me,  
my darling.

I entirely agree with you - & bless you for saying it so heartily, as I knew you would. that the Pearl "is not to think of running away & leaving us all in the lurch in June"  
And I will do my little best to back you

up, my Captain, in this most sensible {20b}  
declaration.

Now I must leave off, for I have been immersed in hard & sorrowful business here at Embley: & am just going up to London, where I have been due some time for the same.

I will write to 'Pearl' as soon as I have a moment.

I agree with you about Nurse Monk, as far

as I know: that is, I do not believe that a {20c}  
woman who has once done what she has,  
can ever after be a true woman.  
And I was sorry to see her put down for a gratuity.

I will write soon about other things.

-most thankful Miss Pyne is convalescent: & glad to hear she does not mean to leave you  
[-we could offer her a country Matronship tell Pearl]  
God bless you & Pearl & the work: [Now you are my Goddess, & not my baby.] ever yours F. Nightingale

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 764  
74/21: pen.

Lea Hurst  
Matlock  
Oct 15/74

My dear Miss Williams

I hope that you will be able to fulfil  
your kindly promised visit to us next  
week: & to fix a day & train convenient  
to yourself so that we may send to  
meet you at our Station *Cromford*.

Mercy & truth be with you: as the old  
fashioned people say: I have not power  
to say a word more but that hoping to see you,  
I am ever yours F. Nightingale

74/22: pen {envelope} Miss Williams  
Royal Infirmary  
*Edinburgh*

5/12/74

35 South St  
Park Lane W  
Dec 5/74

My dear Goddess

I answer your imperious letter at once.  
-I do not plead guilty to your heavy charge,  
for, if you had conferred with a certain  
little Pearl not 300 miles off as I am -  
you would have found that she had ~~had~~ not only  
"written" ~~not only~~ to me "a few days ago" but  
that she had had an answer in her pocket  
from me nearly a week.

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 765

But as I have observed all this year that {22a}  
there exist certain mysterious but insuperable  
obstacles to the Goddess & the Pearl  
in the same room communicating, but  
that they are obliged on certain topics  
to ascertain each other's meaning thro'  
an unfortunate hard-worked individual  
in another kingdom, I will say that  
the substance of this my letter was: that  
after much consideration my "suggestion" was  
that you should remain "another 6 months"  
(I said) in the same position: [but I will  
now say another few months more or less]:  
& this not because I had any idea of your  
remaining indefinitely on & on as you are,  
but because Edinburgh serves as a capital &  
indispensable preparation to what I had  
to "suggest," had I seen you at Lea Hurst,  
but which is postponed (not by me): & will  
be more ready in another 6 months: or, if not that,  
something else.  
Miss Pringle further told me that you  
were in no hurry to part: & indeed the wonder

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 766

to me is rather how you can look forward {22b}  
to parting at all with any equanimity:  
& that you were too busy till Christmas to  
come to me with any convenience.

I now come to the only thing I have to add  
to what I said to Miss Pringle:  
the Pearl says: 'I must go'-  
the Goddess says: 'I must go'-  
I agree with the Goddess: the Pearl had better stay.  
And it was this very thing for which I wished

2

{22c}

to see the Goddess *first*: to ascertain from  
her her own wishes & her friend's: as  
that sly little friend had very much  
misinterpreted her last February to me.  
But all this is only an old woman's advice:  
which probably the Goddess will not much  
regard: & which is subject any way, of  
course, to hearing your own wishes, ideas  
& reasons for one course or another.  
I cannot now see you before Xmas: for I

have filled up my time far more than {22d}  
my strength will allow.

And I said 'February' to Pearl: but if  
there is such violent haste, telegraph to me  
any day, & come up by the next express  
or on the wires. And I will turn out  
India, my mother, & 'all the Queen's horses  
& all the Queen's men': together with one  
sixth of the human race: & lay my energies  
(not many left) at the Goddess' feet.  
I cannot myself understand: but that is my  
stupidity: how there can be such a deficiency  
of employment for 3 in such a place as  
Edinburgh. And indeed it was an  
*unwillingness* TO DISTURB such a place at  
*present* which made my Triumvirate,  
here, advocate another 6 months: quite independent  
of any other work.  
[I am sure too that my Goddess will regret  
*this* time when she has either left or is  
left at Edinburgh]

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 767

NB Were it not that I conclude it was a brief & temporary revival of 'the baby' which provoked the word 'killing': I would suggest to my Goddess that, to one whose life has been & is like mine, the word savours rather of the melodramatic: & that I wish I had ever had or was ever likely to have on this side the grave anything so little 'killing': as to be with such a friend in such a post.

{22e}

3

{22f}

And now, my dear & imperious friend: seriously I must stop: seriously I have nothing more to give but this opinion,- well weighed, tho' you may not think so.

But, as you say that 'little Sister' too does 'want & ask for an idea' & c & c: &, as this letter really contains but one ~~thing~~ idea that mine to her did not, I have little hope but that I shall have by 3 successive posts: "we do want & ask for" & c & c & it is

"killing" & c & c. [My Goddess will remember that in the week of my Father's death last January, after having written 3 times (to 'little Sister') & had no letter, I received a very imperial nod to the effect that I had not written the letters which I had: & that I had received the letters which I had not.]

{22g}

And so seriously, dear soul, A Dieu & God bless you: & receive my warmest congratulations on your good work: *I give you joy:*  
Mercy & Truth be with you:  
& believe me ever yours aff'y.  
F. Nightingale

I saw Mrs. Wardroper last night: looking so aged

You do not tell me Nurse Lyons' new address:

I would add: but this is expressly for the Pearl, (& your Goddess: ship can surely *penetrate* any *impenetrable* barrier to get at her): as

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 768

well as for yourself: that, if your Serene Highness graciously  
{22h}

accedes to another "6 months," there will probably be  
some correspondence anent between this miserable  
black beetle & Mr. Fasson: & then I think something  
might be said about two real grievances:  
Miss Forsyth: & the reporting students.  
F.N.

74/23: pen.

35 South St  
Park Lane W  
Dec. 30/74

My dear Miss Williams

From the depth of my heart I grieve with you  
that our 'Pearl' has so much sorrow & trouble.  
I am sure that you will kindly let me know  
how things go with her. Perhaps already her Father  
is with God.

I wish you & her & all our Nurses 'Godspeed'  
with all my soul & strength at the beginning of  
this New Year, which I hardly expected to  
live to see. May it bring every blessing to them:

tho' sometimes do you know I am so cowardly  
that I scarcely dare to say 'God bless you' to  
those I love well: because we know what  
His blessings are: Blessed are they that mourn:  
Blessed are they that are persecuted for righteous=  
ness' sake: Blessed are the pure in heart:  
& as we get on in life, we know both how  
truly those ~~are~~ blessings ARE blessings: and  
how much there is to go through to win them.

{23a}

You are young, my Goddess: much younger  
than my Pearl: a thousand years younger than  
this old black beetle. And I have often a  
shuddering sort of maternal feeling in roll 1 Dec. 30/74 74/23  
wishing you 'blessings'. [13:344-45]

In the midst of sorrow, I am glad to hear  
you say that "the question of" your "staying  
with" the Pearl "for some time to come" is  
"quite settled"- You cannot know how I wish  
this.

I shall be very sorry about your "gathering";  
either if you have to go thro' it with a heavy  
heart: or if you have to put it off.

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 769

About our Nurses:

{23b}

I dare say the Pearl knows that Nurses  
Barnard & Winsall are doing exceedingly  
well at Highgate:  
that poor Nurse Westle has been for weeks in  
the Canterbury Infirmary with a severe return  
of Flooding tho' she is better. I have a letter  
from the Dr. now before me: but never  
likely to be able to resume Nursing.  
that Nurse Chisolm has left Netley: none of  
ours will stay with the Supt=: & I was very  
sorry she tried: but has a good place as

2

{23c}

Head Nurse on the Female side of the Islington  
Fever Hospital: where the Assistant Medl= Officer  
~~at~~ formerly of Highgate is now Physician: & also  
some Dr. from Edinburgh, whose name at  
this moment escapes my memory.  
I say nothing about Pearl's friend Miss Torrance  
for the news is nothing but bad: except that  
the child is well.  
I had a nice letter from Nurse Lyons-  
I suppose I must say something about myself  
to your kindness:

my year is ending on sorrows as it began:  
it began with my Father's death, & Mrs.  
Bracebridge's, who had been the Angel of  
my life: it ends with the death of the last  
of my friends & fellow-workers of the Crimean  
War after a few days of Bronchitis: & my  
poor mother is failing, & failing painfully,  
craving after home & *him* & me: & I cannot  
be with her. I have been so ill & busied  
with other than Indian cares that I have  
been obliged to give up finishing some  
voluminous Indian work asked for by the middle  
of January: a trial which I do not bear  
as I ought: for after all we have a  
higher & a better hope than from anything we  
can do or not do: namely, that, whether we live to  
see it or not, He who is Perfect Wisdom  
will complete His work, even thro' our failures  
& disappointments.

{23d}

[end 13:345]

And now, my dear child, I must not talk  
any longer. I cannot tell you the comfort  
it is to me to think of you with Pearl -  
Give her my love: & thank her for her Christmas

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 770

greeting. May, as she would say, the  
infant Christ be indeed born in all our  
hearts!

{23e}

Matron is much aged: but otherwise well.

Miss Vincent is with a sick sister in  
Devonshire but returning to us.

Miss Spencer is well.

The frost & orange fogs in London beat everything

May God bless you, my dear soul!

Pray for yours always

F. Nightingale

74/24: pen. {Dec. 31/74}

35 South St.

Park Lane W.

New Year's Eve of

1875

My dear Miss Williams

I do indeed feel for our Pearl's sorrow: I cannot  
say how much: I am afraid that it will  
entail so much that is trying & grievous: the  
giving up of the old home perhaps. But  
death itself, or rather the passing from death into  
life, is not grievous: at least *I* think not,  
perhaps because, tho' I have seen death in all  
its ~~the~~ most terrible forms, I have also seen

how much more terrible life is.

Pray tell our Pearl how much I am with her:

-I will not write to her in her first grief.

I think she must be glad to be in Edinburgh  
-& glad now to have a prospect of staying in  
Edinburgh.

I suppose the sisters have no vocation  
Hospital=way.

My dear Friend

I do not like this Old Year to pass away without a meeting at least in spirit with our dear Nurses: ~~please ask my dear friends ask them whether they~~ did you as we said we would in December 1873, join in prayer every morning & evening (through the year 1874) that now on this last day of 1874 we might and if it please Him, meet together, & ask each other Him - how fares it with this our Master's work committed to our hands?

Can we say - it is - well? Can God say so? I believe from the bottom of my heart that

there is great cause for joy & thankfulness in His Edinburgh work.

Perhaps we had better ask *Him* - each in our own secret soul - does *He* say it is well? And let *Him* answer each one of us.

For myself, I have only to thank you all for your steadfastness in well-doing or in well-nursing:

& to say for myself that, as I grow old, I feel more & more every day the need of

being renewed every day: me & my nursing  
& all my works.

And I have no doubt that all do too.

And on this last night of the Old Year  
I kneel in spirit with our dear friends  
of the Edinburgh Infirmary (as before)  
& ask God with all my heart & with all  
my soul & with all my strength that  
we may do His work, which is ours,  
better & better every day, with fresher &

more lively hearts every year: & every night  
-with the night nurses I join that we may  
do our work better & better every night.

Livingstone, the great African Missionary,  
used to say that people often make  
the mistake of thinking that the great,  
the heroic spirit was in indifference to  
trifles: but that Christ came to  
teach us that real greatness is in doing  
every detail & every little thing we have  
to do so well as to make a perfect  
whole: doing it ~~as~~ for God.

I think he must have said that for us  
Nurses-

"Be ye perfect, even as our Father in heaven is  
perfect."

And may God give us His best blessings for  
the New Year is the unceasing, fervent  
prayer of your affectionate friend

Florence Nightingale

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 773  
75/1: pen & pencil roll 1 00674

35 South St [13:655-56]  
Park Lane W  
March 6/75

My dear Miss Williams

I am very sorry to say that the orders for  
matrons are 'out' for *Cleveland St.*

Applications to be sent in *by the 15th=*  
to enter upon duties *by the 25th=* (for *Matron*)  
[How can they do things in such a hurry? - As if  
it were not putting a great difficulty in the  
way of getting a real good woman to give  
her only 3 weeks notice!]

Sir Sydney Waterlow writes to us {1a}  
that she, the Matron, ~~must~~ is "required" to have been  
'trained' as Nurse":

"With a knowledge of CONTROLLING &  
*directing the TRAINED Nurses under her.*"  
that is good.

He also asks us to provide the  
"Nursing Staff."

£80 salary of Matron  
Beds 280

Mrs. Wardroper writes that she cannot  
now give Nurse Perry to Miss Mackenzie,  
as she will be wanted for *Cleveland St.*

[I am afraid, and I feel it myself, that  
it is a very serious thing to ask  
you to decide your fate & ours by  
the 15th=.]

Mr. Bonham Carter told me what you had

said:

{1b}

as also that you, "without feeling able  
to come to a decision at once, which  
of course was not expected, would like  
to have the offer."

Mr. B.C. will go to see the place  
*Cleveland Street* to-day & will write  
to you, saying that the appointment  
is open, giving some particulars, & that

"we are considering it."

For fear that he should not be able to write to-day, & because Pearl will be expecting to hear from me, I write these few words.

Mr. B.C. thinks that you will undertake it, "if we request it" - of course on the ~~understanding~~ supposition that we propose to make a Training School of it.

This letter is as much for Pearl as for you, to whom I shall not now write as to propose to her to come up to talk to me, when you & she will want every moment to consult together, would be cruel.

{1d}

& the hurry of the Cleveland St. affair alters the case as to what I should have written to her .

But I hope that she will write to me her views.

You & I discussed your leaving or no Edinburgh so fully together that you will know that I scarcely dare to form a wish either way: & must leave it to God & your deliberations: which may He guide, I intensely pray, for the good of His work & your own.

[Thank the Pearl for her packet.]

I see Mr. B.C. on Monday to talk it all over.

I am terribly pressed by business & illness.

{1e}

but one word is as good as a thousand, (or better), to tell you that there is nothing nearer my deepest heart than this decision

ever yours & Pearl's

F. Nightingale

[end 13:656]

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 775  
75/2: pen. letter with envelope

{envelope} Miss Williams  
Royal Infirmary [13: 656-67]  
Edinburgh

7/3/75

My dear Miss Williams

I shall not see Mr. Bonham Carter till  
tomorrow: & do not know what he has  
written to you.

But I cannot help writing without  
delay any further information that I  
gleaned last night after post-time  
about Cleveland St.

And first it is supposed that it is

impossible for the Patients to go in {2a}  
till June or even July:  
the place is not furnished, nor the Matron's  
rooms even: nor are sheeting or  
Patients' clothes or &c &c ready: much  
not even begun.  
Nor has Medical Officer yet been  
advertised for.  
It cannot be even intended that the  
Matron should take up her residence  
"on March 25": only that she should  
then begin to think about collecting her  
staff [This is right]

-----  
] [

There are, (but I have not yet seen the  
plans: it is only an old building re-arranged)  
6 Wards (Pavilion shape) at 34 beds each:  
these have each Nurse's room & other  
appurtenances adjoining:  
at the middle however I believe  
instead of at the end of the Ward:

there are other 12 Wards {2b}  
of from 5 to 11 beds each  
holding about 72 beds in all  
These have no Nurses' rooms adjoining:  
& they are in inconvenient groups,  
tho', the Wards of each group are on the same floor.  
The Nurses' rooms for these are inconvenient,  
passage rooms to one another.

Roll 1 FN Museum old LMA3 i 776

2

{2c}

There are to be 9 Head Nurses  
5 Night "  
1 Night Supg= Nurse  
10 Ward Assistants

Wages for all same as at Highgate,  
which are very good.

No Assistant Matron allowed:

Only one Medical Officer

Dr. Dowse has been refused:

A very excellent man, Dr. Lyddiard,

{2d}

has sent in his application.

This is the gist of what I have  
gathered: but I shall hear it all  
tomorrow much more fully.

If we get a Matron to whom we  
can entrust a Training School, we  
shall have to provide the Assistant &c  
& Probationers.

in haste (with love to the Pearl)

ever yours anxiously

F. Nightingale

35 S. St. Sunday

March 7/75

[end 13:657]

LMA FN Museum roll 2, microfilm 230 pages

note, 1f, pencil {archivist:} FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE TO RACHEL WILLIAMS LETTERS 27-43 1876  
Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, St Mary's Hospital, Paddington

signed letter & envelope, 2ff, pen SU180/32

{envelope:}

for Matronship:}

*Mrs. Williams* }

Candidate: }

To the Governors

of

St. Mary's Hospital

London

Florence Nightingale

17/6/76

To the Governors of St. Mary's Hospital  
London.

[13:111]

Gentlemen

Miss Rachel Williams having offered herself as a candidate for the Matronship of St. Mary's Hospital, I beg to be allowed to have some share in her introduction to you.

Miss Williams entered as a Probationer the "Nightingale" Training School for Nurses at St. Thomas' Hospital In October 1871. Having known her intimately & personally during a great part of the following years, I am able to give my testimony to her as a Probationer, - as a "Sister" in St. Thomas', -as Assistant Superintendent in the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, which post she has held since November 1873: & still holds.

She was one of our most distinguished Probationers: showing rare ability in making

herself mistress both of the technical & theoretical parts of the Nursing art: for which she has an innate genius & love.

During her "Sister-" ship- too short for us- at St. Thomas' Hospital, she showed the same ability in managing the Nursing of her Ward (a Female Surgical Ward): to the more than satisfaction of her Surgeons= & in training her Probationers: as she had shown as a Probationer herself.

She is indeed as successful as a teacher, & trainer: as she had been, is, & will doubtless continue to be all her life as a learner of the noble Art of Nursing.

But it is as Assistant Superintendent in the vast & difficult Edinburgh Hospital,- where, with a Medical School of 800 students in daily attendance the most acute Medical & most severe Surgical cases are passed thro' the 517 beds of the Hospital, (-making often 560 Patients,-) in rapid succession - a very real test of capacities & for Nursing superintendence

-that her great administrative powers,- her powers of command over women,- of teaching, training, managing for & governing Nurses, are shown.

We venture to introduce her to you as a real Superintendent of Nursing & Nurses, as well as a real Matron of a Hospital.

She had at Edinburgh 124 Nurses & wardmaids to manage in 'Home' & Hospital (under her friend, Miss Pringle, the Lady Supt.) & latterly with a second Assistant or 'Home' Sister: for indeed at the Edinburgh Infirmary there was enough & to spare, to do for 3: & a great deal too much for 2: in Nursing superintendence.

She is a thorough woman= of= business: & has good knowledge of Household & Kitchen management for this Staff.

She is of a noble character: above all jealousy or pettiness of any kind: of singular intelligence This implies a strict conscientiousness & control in carrying out duties, rules & discipline: as well over herself as over others. She has thus been implicitly trusted & esteemed to the highest degree by those who had the right to command her: by the Governing body as well as by the

Medical &amp; Surgical Staff.

(32)

It is a rare thing to be able to say of any woman that she has succeeded equally with those who had to command her: & with those she had to command- This key to all superintendence she holds.

To sum up: She has distinguished herself as a trainer, teacher, & manager of Nurses. She has great influence over & love from the old= school Nurses still remaining on the Edinburgh Nursing Staff And she has won golden opinions from the Board of Management, the Secretarial & other Officers, & from the Medical & Surgical Professors of the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary.

Edinburgh's loss will be St. Mary's gain: if as we trust for St. Mary's sake Miss Williams is elected Matron of your St. Mary's Hospital.

Pray believe me, Gentlemen,  
ever your faithful servt=

Florence Nightingale

London June 17, 1876

{Foundress of the "Nightingale"  
{Training Schools for Nurses

signed letter & postmarked envelope, 4ff, pen & pencil  
{envelope:}

*Immediate*

Miss Williams  
Nurses' Home

Royal Infirmary

8/6/76

*Edinburgh*

35 South St {printed address}  
Park Lane W.  
June 8/76  
6. a.m.

My dear Miss Williams

St. Mary's Hospital,  
Paddington, is (about to be)  
in want of a Matron:  
the principal Physician  
has asked us whether  
we can recommend a  
first rate trained  
gentlewoman: & holds  
out the prospect that  
any one that we do  
recommend would be  
appointed: notwithstanding  
the necessity for advertising,  
[which is one of their  
rules, as it is of many

[13:106-07]

Institutions:] that is to  
say that the Hospital Committee  
appoint the good trained  
woman first (in their minds):  
& advertise afterwards.  
The salary begins at £100.  
The Nursing arrangements are  
defective.  
The Matron must enter on her  
duties soon:  
Exact particulars will be  
given us as soon as obtained  
It is probable that the "National  
Nursing Association" may  
make arrangements for this  
to be their Training= School:  
if (not otherwise) it has  
a Trained Matron from  
us.

We think that you had  
better come up to see for  
yourself at once:

And I beg you to consider  
this house your home during  
your visit.

If you ask my judgement,  
I think that St. Mary's is  
a great opening for noble  
work in the good Nursing  
cause: an opening I  
have long been wishing &  
praying for: & that it  
will not know itself in a  
year, if you take it: because  
it is ripe for great progress: -  
but I think there should be  
as little delay as possible in  
your ascertaining this for yourself.

====--

And now, 'fine (other) wandering (27)  
'planet that moves in mystic'  
- very 'mystic' to me- 'dance':  
my UN'fixed' star & Goddess: -  
your bed here has been  
kept expecting you vacant (with  
clean sheets on it) all thro'  
April & May: I expecting  
you on the wings (of the  
Telegraph), as Goddesses  
should come: when no  
ordinary mortal's word reached me:  
our 'little' Chief having, as  
you know, announced you  
here for April:

'Souvent femme (ever his Diana, a Goddess) 'varie'  
'Bien fou qui s'y fie'  
as poor Frances I wrote.  
This is how you are 'mystic' to me:

[2]

I will not say more about the  
Matronship: because I can  
tell you, by word of mouth,  
I hope what opportunities  
I think it will open.

You wished for a London

Hospital

Here is one.

May it prove suitable!

May God 'prepare a place'  
for you Himself in it!

yours ever affly

F. Nightingale

I have written to a Lady, a dear  
friend of yours & mine, Miss  
Pringle,- knowing that, at so  
great a distance from each  
other, there is grave difficulty  
of communication between you

either by land or sea, post or  
steam- or wire -

Please let me know as long  
beforehand as possible  
day & train of your  
coming here.

F.N.

{letter continues vertically on same folio page as above:}

These are some of the things  
upon which we must seek  
fuller information:

It is proposed that Matron's  
salary should be £100,  
rising £10 annually to £150  
[£120 rising as above might  
be suggested.]

It is proposed that  
Matron should superintend besides the Nursing  
Cooking as well as Laundry.  
Having seen so much of Nurse  
& Hospital suffering from  
bad cooking as well as  
bad washing, I do not  
think this a bad plan,  
provided Matron be allowed  
an efficient Assistant as  
well as a Head Laundress.

There are: Cook & Kitchen maid:

2 House maids:

2 General Servants:

6 Sisters

2 Special Nurses: pay ~~Class~~ between that of Sisters & Day Nurses

13 Upper Day Nurses

Lower " "

8 Night Nurses:

Plans have long been ready for building a new Wing  
to St. Mary's.

St Mary's might easily become with zeal &  
perseverance a first Class Hospital.

[end 13:107]

]

draft, 1f, pencil

P.1 last word: not "elected" appointed:

P.2 last line but one: not "elected" appointed

I should put:

"This soon proving a post of ~~illeg~~ too heavily many duties to work properly ~~worked a post~~,  
the Managers appointed a lady as &c

p.3 I would describe the Hospl= more completely  
its enormous School of Students & Professors  
its consequent enormous proportion of acute  
Medical & Severe Surgical cases-

after "517 beds" I would say: 517 beds always ~~case~~ full &  
indeed more than full of the most acute Medical &

the most severest Surgical cases: 560 being not an unusual number of Patients- last line but 2

"carried out by a Matron who has nothing to do with the Wards-

last line

This post I am still holding at the present time then add some civil speech of request -

note, lf, pen

St. Mary's

6 Sisters	£30	rising to	£40	
2 Spec= Nurses	£25	" "	£35	
13 Day Nurses} Class A	"	"		£24
Class B	£16	" "	£20	
8 Night Nurses	£20	" "	£26	

initialled letter & postmarked envelope, 3ff, pen {envelope:} SU180/28

19

Miss Williams  
Royal Infirmary  
10/6/76 Edinburgh

35 South St.  
Park Lane W.  
June 10/76

My dear Miss Williams

Your coming on "Tuesday" [13:109]  
will be welcomed: & I put  
off all discussion till then:

Believe me I think I  
have always felt more at  
your leaving Edinburgh than  
any one: even yourself -

I am glad you do not  
travel at night.

If you write again, just  
say what time the Day  
Mail gets in: & what meal  
you will have that night.

God speed & Au revoir:  
ever yrs affly

F.N.

[end]

Dr. Sieveking  
(Principal Physician of St. Mary's) [13:109-10]  
will be happy to see

Miss Williams  
this morning at 10

at 17 Manchester Square:  
My dear Miss Williams

I have nothing to suggest:  
your own wisdom will  
suggest to you much better  
than mine: not to  
frighten Dr. S. by starting  
at once any proposal  
"to reform the Nursing  
system": or "to have a  
Training School"  
Of course *St. Mary's* is his

primary object:

the proposition of the  
Training- School will have to  
come from us:  
[he is Chairman of the Medical  
Committee of the National  
Nursing Association: &  
that will not be a difficulty.]

Mrs. Wardroper went over  
*St. Mary's* with him yesterday:  
(we wished she could have  
put it off till to day:)

I send to Mrs. Wardroper this  
morning for her answer to  
my suggestion that she should  
say what time you can see  
her to day:

Mr. Carter will also come  
& see you here this  
afternoon or to morrow.  
[I am to telegraph to him:]

You will of course suggest  
to Dr. Sieveking that you  
should see *St. Mary's*:  
he may possibly say: "Now  
at once."

At all events I shall  
expect you back here

after that: (29)

I shall then have my the  
answer from Mrs. Wardrr-

And I shall hope to see  
you myself in the afternoon.

God speed: [end 13:110]

yours ever F.N.

June 14

6. a.m.

incomplete letter & envelope, 1f, pen SU180/30  
{envelope:}

Miss Williams

14/6/76

June 14 9. a.m -

My dear Miss Williams

Mrs. Wardroper can see you *after* you have  
seen Dr. Sieveking to-day:

[13:110]

it rests with you whether you will come  
back here or not (*before* going to St. T.'s.)

Applications & testimonials must, we understand,  
be sent to the Secy- of the Hospl- *by the*  
*end of this week*

*Will you particularly ask Dr. Sieveking not  
only what the Matron's duties will be: but*

*what assistance she will have given her:*

*i.e. about her being allowed ~~an~~ one Assistant at least ~~Matron~~*

(The Kitchen is to be under her:

as well as the Wards & Nursing:)

Mrs. Wardr= did not see the *Matron's* rooms:

-----  
You understand that your fate does not  
rest at all with Dr. Sieveking: alone:

there will be other measures to take:

& if he is unfavourable to some exigencies of ours,  
it does not follow that we shall not get  
them otherwise.

16/6/76

My dear Miss Williams

I return your T.s: & agree with you in preferring  
Sir R.C.'s: but what surprises me in all  
Ts: & even in Sir R.C.'s: but in *all Medical* T.s:  
is: that they invariably omit the ~~only~~ essential point  
[a thorough knowledge of Nursing: in order to be  
able to teach, "Superintend", & train in it:] for a  
"Superintend" of "Nurses" -  
[What would they think of me if I were to  
recommend an "amiable" lawyer for the post  
of Surgeon?]

[13:110]

Mr. Bonham Carter was at Sir T. Pycroft's  
when my Messenger went -  
he could not write then: but would send me  
word -

You will not like to miss Mrs. Wardroper a  
second time:

but perhaps will not stay Dr. Bernay's Lecture: [Bernays?]  
as it would be such a 'drive' for you if you had  
to go to St Mary's this afternoon:

-----  
Please give my best love to Mrs. Wardroper: &  
tell her that SIR HARRY VERNEY is going on well-

[2] (31)

"amiability" is not an international power, nor  
an Institutional power: nor is it by any means  
our characteristic: I agree with you -

-----  
I would certainly send Sir R.'s letter to *Dr. Sieveking?*

1. *Shall our Messenger go with it now?*
2. Or were you thinking of going *yourself* to *St. Mary's*  
at one?
3. *What time will you have luncheon?*
4. And did you mean to *SLEEP* out to night?  
ever yrs  
F.N.

signed letter & envelope, 2ff, pen

{envelope:}

for Matronship:}

*Miss Williams* }

Candidate:

To the Governors

of

St. Mary's Hospital

London

Florence Nightingale

17/6/76

To the Governors of St. Mary's Hospital

London

Gentlemen

Miss Rachel Williams having offered herself as a candidate for the Matronship of St. Mary's Hospital, I beg to be allowed to have some share in her introduction to you.

[13:111]

Miss Williams entered as a Probationer the "Nightingale" Training School for Nurses at St. Thomas' Hospital in October 1871. Having known her intimately & personally during a great part of the following years, I am able to give my testimony to her as a Probationer; - as a "Sister" in St. Thomas', -as Assistant Superintendent in the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, which post she has held since November 1873: & still holds.

She was one of our most distinguished Probationers: showing rare ability in making

herself mistress both of the technical & theoretical part of the Nursing art: for which she has an innate genius & love.

During her "Sister" ship- too short for us - at St. Thomas' Hospital, she showed the same ability in managing the Nursing of her Ward (a Female Surgical Ward) : to the more than satisfaction of her Surgeons: & in training her Probationers: as she had shown as a Probationer herself.

She is indeed as successful as a teacher, & trainer: as she had been, is, & will doubtless continue to be all her life as a learner of the noble Art of Nursing.

But it is as Assistant Superintendent in the vast & difficult Edinburgh Hospital,- where with a Medical School of 800 students in daily attendance the most acute Medical & most severe Surgical cases are passed thro' the 517 beds of the Hospital, (-making often 560 Patients,-) in rapid succession - a very real test of capacities & for Nursing superintendence

- that her great administrative powers,- her powers of command over women, - of teaching, training, managing for & governing Nurses, are shown.

We venture to introduce her to you as a real Superintendent of Nursing & Nurses, as well as a real Matron of a Hospital.

She had at Edinburgh 124 Nurses & wardmaids to manage in 'Home' & Hospital (under her friend Miss Pringle, the Lady Supt=) & latterly with a second Assistant or 'Home Sister': for indeed at the Edinburgh Infirmary there was enough & to spare, to do for 3: & a great deal too much for 2: in Nursing superintendence.

She is a thorough woman= of= & has good knowledge of Household & Kitchen management for this Staff.

She is of a noble character: above all jealousy or pettiness of any kind: of singular intelligence This implies a strict conscientiousness & control in carrying out duties, rules & discipline as well over herself as over others. She has thus been implicitly trusted & esteemed to the highest degree by those who had the right to command her: by the Governing body as well as by the

Medical & Surgical Staff. (32)

It is a rare thing to be able to say of any woman that she has succeeded equally with those who had to command her: & with those she had to command. This key to all superintendence she holds.

To sum up: She has distinguished herself, as a trainer, teacher, & manager of Nurses. She has great influence over & love from the old= school Nurses still remaining on the Edinburgh Nursing Staff And she has won golden opinions from the Board of Management, the Secretarial & other Officers, & from the Medical & Surgical Professors of the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary.

Edinburgh's loss will be St. Mary's gain: if as we trust for St. Mary's sake Miss Williams is elected Matron of your St. Mary's Hospital. **[end 13:111]**

Pray believe me, Gentlemen,  
ever your faithful servt=  
Florence Nightingale

London June 17,1876 {Foundress of the "Nightingale"  
{Training Schools for Nurses

postmarked postcard, 1f, pen SU180/33  
{front} To

Miss Williams  
R. Christie's Esq  
Chignal St. James  
near Chelmsford

23/6/76

{back} 35 S. St.  
June 23/76

The Committee was to meet **[13:112]**  
yesterday for the first time  
not likely that you will be  
required before to morrow  
(Saturday) at earliest:

I shall of course telegraph at  
once: the moment I hear:

F.N. **[end]**

initialled letter & envelope, 1f, pen & pencil SU180/34  
{envelope:}

Miss Williams

R. Christie's Esq

Chignall St. James {Chignall here with 2 'l's  
near *Chelmsford* prev. folio had it with 1}

24/6/76

35 South St.

June 24/76

My dear Miss Williams

[13:112]

Your letter came *after* post-time to-night:

I shall expect you on "Wednesday at noon": which I think is quite time enough to give you the 'dinner treatment' before going to St. Mary's on Thursday: And you are much better in your leafy shades than here where the heat, amid clouds of dust & East wind blacks, is very oppressive.

Did you mean to give Mr. Jenner the Meeting at St. Thomas' Hospital on "Wednesday"?

Don't overtire yourself on Thursday:

God- speed:

I wrote a line to our little Chief by to-day's post about you & St. Mary's appointment for Thursday: I knew she would be in an agony about you: ever yrs affly F.N.

You will take your letter from Mr. Jenner (Edinburgh Board) with you to-day: will you not?

I hope, if you have no more pressing engagement, you will come straight back here:

& tell me all about it:

[end]

29/6/76 F.N.

signed letter, 1f, pen & pencil, SU180/36

October 1/76

[13:113]

6.a.m.

My dear Miss Williams (& dear Matron)

Good speed, good cheer & welcome home.

'Don't talk of "cheer" or of "home". I feel so very dreary:' you will say, I am afraid.

Yes, dear heart: if you knew how I feel this:

And I clasp your hand & pray with you

that you may make a good start: &

look forward to doing the work for God

which, now you have it, we must conclude

that He has given you.

I am so glad that you have some of your own people with you.

Now, dear goddess: this is only a word of greeting: I dare say you & I shall have many a 'confab':

May the Almighty bless you: & enable you to "proclaim His name" & not your own: at St. Mary's is the fervent prayer of yours ever affly

F. Nightingale

I may be in London any day:

I think it will be safest for you to address  
35 South St. Park Lane W.

it will always be forwarded:

-----  
It is 5 years since you came to us: [13:113]

it is 3 years to day since the affair you know of (relating to Edinburgh) in this very room at this very hour. Do you not think God has led you? May He ever lead you! F.N.

[end]

initialled letter & postmarked envelope, 2ff, pen SU180/37

{envelope:}

Miss Williams  
St. Mary's Hospital  
Paddington

12/10/76 London W

Address 35 South St.  
Park Lane W.  
Oct 12/76

My dear Miss Williams

I was getting so anxious to hear how you [13:113-14] were going on or rather beginning: that I was just writing to you: when your welcome letter came: welcome because it is brave: which however who could doubt of you?-- not because your difficulties are small or few -

[The worst case of all is: where you see much to reform: & your authorities

nothing:

see none: but ~~at~~ that is fortunately  
not the case here].

I should like to know that you are  
well: & tolerably comfortable as to  
personal accommodation: & of that -  
you say nothing -

That you are (not overpowered but)  
beset with work I am sure:  
And success there will be in good  
time I am also sure.

I am afraid if work were not so {overtop of 'too'} heavy  
(or perhaps because it *is* so heavy)

you will miss the *home* you had  
made at Edinburgh with "Little Sister":  
-who must be sad enough without you.

Your own three will stick to you bravely:  
& St. Mary's ought to bless the day  
it has you. There is no danger of  
that making you or any one imperious:  
for people who are thoroughly in earnest  
must always be humble. They  
cannot but see how much there is to  
do: & how little they do do.

I am constantly interrupted:

Dearest friend: I commend you to God:

I am kept away from London (tho' it is  
much more distracting, at least to me,  
to transact much business which  
awaits me by letter) by the  
impossibility of finding any one to  
take charge of my Mother.

And I have a baby! besides!

I am wanting much to see you: {I *may* come up {any day: if  
{I can be relieved.

If I do not let this go, as it is ~~I am sure~~  
it will never be finished

God for ever bless you & your work -

yrs always F.N. [end 13:114]

initialled letter & postmarked envelope, 2ff, pencil  
{envelope:} SU180/38

Miss Williams

St. Mary's Hospital  
Paddington

28/10/76

London W

Address 35 S. St.

Oct 28/76

6 a.m.

[13:114]

My dear Miss Williams

I am very glad to hear from you:  
 very glad that you are (so wisely & IN COMMUNITY)  
 rid of one old Sister: & about to fill her place  
 with one of your own training: which will be  
 'company' for you, (provided you don't make  
 it visible to your little world.)

[I suppose Miss Vetch had some experience of  
 Operations at Edinburgh.]

Also: I congratulate you upon the successful

progress of Dining apparatus -

I am busy upon your plan, which looks very  
 promising, of remodelling the Staff- But  
 it only reached me yesterday: & you cannot  
 think how much this place (I have many  
 "Engines", moral ones, "bumping" under me!)  
 takes out of me: I am not sure that  
 I shall have any "suggestion" to make -

-----  
 Mrs. Wardroper was very ill for a day or two after her  
 return. Since that she has been jaded with very great  
 annoyances. If she has "ignored your existence", this is the only reason!

-----  
 I refuse many Dedications: but if it would  
 give you the slightest pleasure to append my  
 poor little name to your book: (I wish it God speed  
 & all usefulness in the work:) I like any  
 connection with you, tho' I should not dissemble my  
 dislike to a dedication. Put only, please,  
 if you put anything: To {lines box in 'To F.N.}  
 F.N.

Rachel Williams

in greatest haste  
 ever yours F.N.

Private {up diag}

My heart sinks within me as to Miss M. in your place with "Little Sister"- whose letter about her I have not dared to answer. The impression she made at St. T.'s was almost ridiculous. If she were so superior to St. T.'s benighted ignorance that she came to teach, why could she not reprove their darkness with less rudeness? Superiority shows itself in grace: strength in gentleness. And her manners to some at least of the Surgical Staff so offensive!

What will "Little Sister" do?

[end]

signed letter, 3ff, pen & pencil SU180/39

Address

35 South St.

Oct 29/76

My dear Miss Williams

I return your Table, which scarcely admits of a "suggestion".

[13:114-15]

Of course one would not *begin* in that way: but it seems to me to do all that is possible under the circumstances: & very cleverly.

"2." A *Night Supt*= is positively necessary: one would naturally rather give her charge of the *Night Nurses* than of the "Maternity Dept=" But I suppose

that merely means looking after  
the *Maternity 'bags'*.

Ultimately, this would more naturally  
come to a Linen woman: or Assistant:  
when you have one: would it not?

"*Bagnton Ward*"- For a ward of "8 beds",  
a Sister or "Special Nurse, at £35,  
a Probationer  
a Night Nurse

does not seem a good division.

The Probationer would be a mere  
drudge: & learn nothing?

a Staff Nurse

a Ward Maid- - {with something to do

a Night Nurse {somewhere else

would seem a better division

But I can quite understand that  
you have weighed all this: & cannot  
do otherwise.

If I retained the "*Special*" at £35  
for 8 beds, I think I should be  
almost inclined to give *her* ~~the~~  
"charge of the *Maternity bags*", if  
otherwise desirable.

Is it not better to give a Night Supt=  
nothing but *Night* duty?

She might hand out a *Maternity*  
bag at *night*, if this is ever wanted.

Will she have any charge of *Female*  
Out Patient Accidents or {sudden cases  
coming in at *night*? {e.g poison

We do so sadly want this at St. T.'s.

---

I do not know what the proximity of "*Albert Victor*" & "*Bagnton*"  
are. I suppose it would not do to put them both under  
one "Special" Nurse perhaps one Staff Nurse:  
one Probationer  
one Night Nurse  
one Ward Maid?

{upside down:} (39)

[2]

"4". I should not like to be your Probationers, to begin with.

They are so certain to be made drudges: & 5 at least of your Sisters to be incompetent to teach -

And you will be worn out in preventing them from becoming the 2nd Class Assists- Nurses," (Assts or donkeys,) whose places they are to fill.

But it cannot be helped.

"6" I am very glad to see that the "Ward Maids" are to live in the building: & very sorry that the "Scrubbers" are *not*.

But neither can this be helped -

I consider that every woman *not* living in the house is a perpetual anxiety to the Matron: a responsibility which she cannot fulfil.

especially when there are Nurses not of her training: to whom all sorts of things may be brought in by these out- door women:

But I think your plan excellent: & I wish you 'God speed' with all my heart & soul:

no time for more: **[end 13:115]**

yrs ever

F. Nightingale

initialled letter, 1f, pencil SU180/40

Oct 31/76

My dear Miss Williams

I suppose I must consent to your kind & wicked wish about the 'Dedication' -

I shall feel as grateful to you, as any one can be, for the proof - when I see you - that Miss M. is a good Asst= for "Little Sister". Her troubles & yours are my own: & I shd= feel as much her having a ~~not~~ bad Asst=, as if I had her myself -

God speed: yrs ever

Address 35 S. St

F.N.

incomplete letter, 1f, pencil SU180/41

My dear Miss Williams

[13:107-08]

You should telegraph at once as you propose to Miss Pringle: & write to her too :

[We did not know till last night: & Mr. Carter does not know yet: that St. Mary's wants the Testimonials this week]

I will immediately send to Mr. Carter to ask him to meet you here *this afternoon* at ~~5~~ 4.30

He is very clever in these emergencies, as you perhaps know - [Of course there are "a great many "Candidates"].

I believe our recommendation will have some weight with St. Mary's Commee-

*Was any arrangement made for you to see St. Mary's? by Dr. Sieveking? -*

*Will you go to St. Thomas' this morning? And may I see you at 4. ~~30~~ before Mr. Carter comes: & again afterwards?*

incomplete letter, 1f, pencil SU180/42

My dear Miss Williams

I think it would ~~bee~~ be too great a hurry for you to go to St. T.'s to-day.

I will telegraph to Mrs. Wardroper that you cannot: till tomorrow:

You had better not make the thing a drive. Go to St Mary's: come back here to luncheon: or have luncheon before

I will arrange with Mr. Carter, as afore said.

incomplete letter, 1f, pencil Monday [1876?] SU180/43

*Pray stay here till Wednesday, at least.*

*Night Supt-*

I think it *might* possibly be of use for you to go to Brit: Nurs: Ass:, Royal Free Hospl=, Gray's Inn Road - they *may* have a Night Supt= to recommend:

- (they train) [Ask whether a Miss Isabella Walmsley they

(once trained there *might* do: & is at liberty- [I doubt her doing

-----  
If 'Sydney' Barker answers yes, will you not have *her* up to look at?

-----  
What time shall I see you to-day?

[end 13:108]

note, 1f, pencil {archivist:} FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE TO RACHEL WILLIAMS  
LETTERS 44-65, 1877 ST MARY'S HOSPITAL PADDINGTON

signed letter & postmarked envelope, 1f, pen & pencil SU180/44  
{envelope front:}

Miss Williams

St. Mary's Hospital

Paddington

19/1/77

W.

{envelope back: misc notes not FN, not transcribed, except has: SU180/44

35 South St.

Park Lane W.

My dear Miss Williams Jan 19/77

[13:116]

I am rather in a muddle about the List  
of books you sent me:

In the first place, there is no

"*Druitt's Physician's Vade Mecum*":

the book seller cannot find one: & I never  
heard of it:

I have got you *Hooper's Physician's Vade Mecum*

(not a very good book: the *Nursing Article*  
seems a compilation of all the errors of the last

century: before fresh air or cleanliness had  
 ever been heard of:]  
 but this is the only *Physician's Vade Mecum*" I  
 know:

-----  
 Next: I cannot find any "Bell's *Surgery*"

but his "Manual of ~~Op~~ *Surgical Operations*" -  
 this has nothing whatever about after=

=treatment or Nursing: or symptoms: - or anything but the actual *cutting*:

but I have got you a copy -

It is very likely that there may be Bell's

*Lectures on Surgery*: but my bookseller's  
 benighted ignorance cannot find it.

-----  
 Next:

did "Spence's *Anatomy* with coloured diagrams"

mean *Spence's Lectures on Surgery*?

a 2 Vol: book: it has beautiful  
 colored diagrams -

And I can find no "Spence's *Anatomy*" -

I have got you a copy of this (*Spence's Lectures  
 on Surgery*:)

~~At~~ in great haste ever yr affecte [end]

Excuse my stupidity F. Nightingale

signed letter & envelope, 1f, pen

{envelope:} {word in top corner torn off}

*with a parcel of books*

{A package of 'pictures' framed  
 & glazed FOR EDINBURGH

Miss Williams

St. Mary's Hospital

20/1/77

Paddington

Back of envelope: Manners Probat, over in pencil

sisters at 10 a.m.

List of Nurses

Waiting Room

Cap for Albert Vic Bognton [spelling?]

Sister Mattress

linen room

illeg

chaplain 2. Monday

35 South St  
Park Lane W.  
Jan 20/77

My dear Miss Williams

God speed on your holiday!

Here is the 'token' which you are kind  
enough to undertake to carry to Edinburgh:  
I said it should be packed 'with love': but  
it appears to me to be packed with  
a very dirty cover. [I sent it to a Cabinet-  
maker to pack: he says that it will carry  
quite safely so, but of course that it would  
be better if it could go *with you in* your Railway

carriage: & not in the Van -

I thought a box should be so cumbrous  
for you to take.]

If you are dissatisfied with the packing,  
please detain Messenger, & send it back  
to us: with your instructions

---

I shall be so thankful if that terrible  
Engine can be deadened

---

I shall expect Tearoe & Mason on  
Tuesday & Wednesday

---

With love to 'Little Sister' which cannot  
be held in any package  
& to all at Edinbro'

ever yrs F. Nightingale  
Yes, please: get the "Bell" you want for  
me at Edinburgh

I send Garrod's *Materia Medica*  
Bell's *Surgical Operations*  
Hooper's *Physician's Vade Mecum*:  
on 'spec':  
F.N.

initialled letter & postmarked envelope, 1f, pen SU180/46

{envelope:}

Miss Williams  
care of Miss Pringle  
Royal Infirmary  
24/1/77 Edinburgh

letter

35 South St.  
 Park Lane W.  
 Jan 24/77

My dear Miss Williams

[13:116]

This is only about *books*:  
 the first part of *Annandale's 6*  
*"Abstracts of Surgical Principles"*  
 is quite out of print here:

would you like to have me send  
 the other *five* parts to St. Mary's  
 - & you beg, borrow or steal the  
*first* part at Edinburgh, which no

doubt you could easily do: -  
*or what shall I do?*

I have got a copy of  
*Spence's Lectures on Surgery* for  
 you

it is a 'delightful' book -  
 with 'books' of love, which it  
 would require a Special Train  
 to carry, & even then 2 Engines  
 could not draw it,

to "Little Sister" -  
 & I hope her Neuralgia is gone,  
 in gt haste ever yrs

F.N.

I saw your *Tearoe* yesterday: *all well*:  
 & see your *Mason* to night.

[end]

initialled letter & postmarked envelope, 3ff, pen  
 {envelope:} Miss Williams

St. Mary's Hospital  
 Paddington  
 W.

2/4/77

[letter 2 April 77, with envelope] SU180/47

My dear friend Miss Williams

[13:116-17]

I am intent upon making out all I can to help you about Nurse Morford.

She is reported from the Wards as "very willing" & "a capital worker".

She is "bumptious" & "conceited": but she has been constantly "snubbed" for it & told her fault in the Home: & has never resented correction:

She is not a favourite with her fellow- Probationers "on account of her opinion of No= 1."

As to "Nurse Hancock", that fault was with the men, as has been too terribly proved: Nurse Morford has neither the temptation, nor the

inclination to this, so far as is known:

As for "Nurse Millar": that fault was with the drink: No suspicion of the kind attaches to Morford. Is it possible that Nurse Whayman can know something we do not? Of course you asked her the reason of her outcry.

It is so very easy to say: "no worse person could be sent:" & it may only mean 'no person W. would have liked worse'-

It is terrible to me how wonderfully little forbearance these Probationers have with each other: & the 'friends' have perhaps too much.

[end 13:117]

[2]

sees to it herself: at Highgate the Medical Officer gives 2 Lectures upon it in his Course.

But perhaps I may find this important subject farther- on: as I found Normal Temperature which I thought had been omitted. Don't take this as a criticism of the book which I have only glanced at: as yet.

Good cheer: good speed: ever yrs

35 S. St.

F.N.

Ap 2/77

[3]

I do so agree with your  
last Para. at p. 15.

Lastly: I understand that  
at St. T.'s they were "much  
more anxious about Whayman  
than about Morford:

& that "the faults" they  
knew of in Morford were what would  
"be overcome by increasing  
years & responsibility &  
by Miss Williams' supervision":

- & that they can "see  
no risk in Miss Williams  
trying Morford for 3 months."  
[Unfortunately I have never  
seen her: but will try &  
do so before she comes to  
you]

This is the gist of what I have

[4]

(47)

been able to extract from

St. T.'s, where they know  
"nothing bad" of her. [I have  
said nothing to Mrs. Wardroper  
as yet: I would fain help  
you if I can]

If W. does know "something  
bad" of her, she ought to  
speak: & then nothing  
should induce you to take  
her.

I like your little book very

much: as far as I have  
gone. I should have asked  
for some hints as to how  
to make *dying* easy in  
"Modes of dying": a thing  
terribly neglected in Hospitals  
At St. T.'s a careful Sister

signed letter & postmarked envelope, 1f, pen

{envelope:}

Miss Williams

St. Mary's Hospital

Paddington

20/4/77

W.

35 South St.  
Park Lane W.  
April 20/77

My dear Miss Williams [13:117-18]

I have been able to buy a copy of the 6  
parts of Annandale's Surgical Abstracts.  
Would you like to have it?  
[I have only just glanced at it: have you not  
found it more fitted for Students than Nurses?]

-----  
2. I have been having Finger & Thumb Stalls  
of vulcanized gutta Percha manufactured  
for our Nurses to save them from poisoning  
their fingers in dressing wounds & giving vaginal  
injections. Would you like some?

3. Mrs. Wardroper asks me whether you  
would be likely to have a vacancy for  
"Miss Shillington" in June?

I do not know, but suppose from this  
question, that you know from her  
about who & what Miss Shillington is:

4. You will not resign before Midsummer?  
ever yrs

God speed: F. Nightingale

signed letter & envelope, 1f, pencil  
{envelope:} SU180/49

Miss Williams  
St. Mary's Hospital

28/4/77

35 S. St.  
Saturday

My dear friend

It is a fix: Unhappily it is just what I  
thought they would do -

I *must* have time to think about what  
you should decide: I would gladly, (no gladly  
not's the word,) I would anxiously see you for  
a few minutes to-morrow (Sunday) afternoon  
at 5 - Or if that is not convenient, I would  
write to you by *tomorrow night* by hand:  
Don't be downcast: yrs ever F. Nightingale

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180 806  
initialled note & envelope, 1f, pen SU180/50

{envelope:}

1 leg Pork/Hampshire  
6 Eggs  
1 Lilies of the Valley

Miss Williams

St. Mary's Hospital

28/4/77

To enquire - 1 leg of Hampshire Pig  
for the inner man  
- 1 Lilies of the Valley  
for the outer man  
- 6 fresh eggs from country

with F.N.'s best love

28/4/77

signed letter & envelope, 1f, pencil SU180/51

{envelope:}

Miss Williams

St. Mary's

28/4/77

35 S. St

Saturday: 28/4

My dear Miss Williams

I will write you a note ~~tomorrow~~, containing my  
best thoughts, before 5 to- morrow.

If then you think anything can be cleared up by  
our talking together, you will come. But if your time  
will be better occupied by seeing Mr. H.B. Carter,  
or any one else, you will tell my Messenger, who  
shall be with you by 4 -

You can hardly be more anxious than I am:

yrs ever: F. Nightingale

initialled letter & envelope, 1f, pen SU180/52

{envelope:}

To enquire with a bit of Irish {illeg too dark}

-----  
& 1 Meadow sweet

Miss Williams

St. Mary's Hospital

3/5/77

Paddington

My dear Miss Williams

[13:118]

I am very anxious to hear how you are going on: & especially if evidence were admitted on Monday that the leg was *not* dressed & *not* intended to be dressed: & more especially how you are. Cheer up, brave woman:

I hope Martin & Morford are going on right: Do you want any more finger stalls?

[end 13:118]

3/5/77 yrs ever  
F.N.

Initialed letter & postmarked envelope, 1f, pen  
{envelope:} SU180/53

Miss Williams

St. Mary's Hospital  
Paddington

17/5/77 W.

35 S. St.  
17/5/77

My dear friend Miss Williams

I know how trying the prolonged anxiety is to you: If it is any comfort to you to know it, it is hardly less so, perhaps even more so, to me your friend & admirer. [13:118]

- I was almost in hopes to have heard from you.  
- I sent up last Friday to know the result from Mr. B.C. & shall do so again to morrow.

- But now, my Goddess, you must be a fighting Goddess & a Goddess of Wisdom you know like Pallas Athena.

To 'Fight the good fight- of *faith*' against difficulties

I am sure may as well be done by a Matron with a Board as by St. Paul's converts: yrs ever F.N.

initialed letter & envelope, 1f, pen SU180/54

{envelope:}

To enquire 2 pigeons  
6 fresh eggs  
{1 lilies of valley  
{1 lobchi [illeg]

Miss Williams

St. Mary's Hospital

19/5/77

We must be distressed but not overcome: [13:118]

Never say 'die':

all will be for the best in the end: for you.

Don't let us do anything in a hurry:

next week will be decided whether there shall

be a 'Special Board':

God be with us all always:

& His Spirit be with us to morrow: F.N.

19/5/77

initialled letter & envelope, 2ff, pencil

{envelope:} SU180/55

1 heath

wait

a verbal answer

Miss Williams

St. Mary's Hospital [13:119]

20/5/77

Burn

35 S. St.

Whit Sunday/77

My dearest friend & child Miss Williams

I cannot say that resignation may *not* be imperative

-But the woman (S.V.) must have arrived at a great

pitch of fool, hardiness to risk what you tell me

while the decision of the Board was still pending.

- I cannot help fancying that she will now in

the elation of vulgar success 'hang' herself in

some way or other patent to all, before long.

It would be a pity if this were to be the day

after your resignation.

-It certainly was a great misfortune that Miss E. did

[cont'd in pencil]

O my dear friend we were just as much in

the battle as you: & I thank God that

so far He has gotten us the victory -

But I am not satisfied: there must

now be a special Comm: to *revise the rules*

Please let me know what you propose

doing ) (about "peace" & details) "more fully", as you say.

If I might venture to send a message

of gratitude thro' you to Mr. Lane, I would

You know perhaps that I think the next

two years will see us every where on

our trial again: especially as to the

trained Matrons' authority - we require, & justly -

May we not be found wanting!

[end 13:119]

F.N.

26/5/77

Private

30/5/77

My dear Miss Williams

I am afraid that the re-action after such a strain  
is making you feel rather dispirited.

[13:119-20]

Never mind: or rather do mind: No man is  
worth anything without 101 trials. Even our great  
Master said that of Himself.

But I am not writing to preach: for I assure  
you there is one person who wants preaching to  
more than any one else in the world: & that  
is your lunatic mother who now addresses you:

- only to ~~tell~~ answer your question about *Miss Wright*  
I am sorry to say I do not "know her": her "character"  
with us is: undecided: rather 'swingy' in manner:

not business- like: likes petting:  
kind & amiable:  
at the same time, I suppose, many Nurses know less:  
wants experience when she might 'do'-

-----  
You would not think, I suppose "for a few months" as a stop- gap of

Miss Peskett,

1 year Probationer & 1 year Head Nurse (Female Ward) at Highgate  
Infirmary: tried District Nursing with Miss Lees-  
not suited: went back to Highgate:

I know her: exceedingly good, modest, *slow*, clever  
in some ways: called their best Probr=: slow &  
helpless: loyal & trustworthy: & devoted to

Patients à toute épreuve: much praised by Dr. Dowse

Pray tell Mr. Lane that in the rubs &  
wounds & crosses of our work - of which Crosses  
we have had sometimes as many or almost more than  
we can carry these 20 years & more - (few  
or none know how heavy:) nothing has  
ever touched or raised me so much as his  
great persevering & 'clever'/wise} kindness to you  
& to ~~the~~ us standing upon our trial again  
as it were in the main feature of our work

Weave this message as you please: you can do it

much better than I: only you ask for  
the "message" to be "special":

God bless you: yours ever  
F.N.

[end 13:120]

initialed letter & envelope, 1f, pen  
{envelope:} SU180/58

Miss Williams

St. Mary's Hospital  
Paddington

31/5/77

35 S. St.  
May 31/77  
7. a.m.

My dear Miss Williams

[13:120]

I think of your troubles night & day:

It seems to me the important thing: to fill that  
Sistership with a person whom you know  
& who knows you: & if possible trained by  
yourselves.

Pray excuse the following suggestions: useless I  
fear, because if they could be done they  
would have been done already:

1. Could you have some one from Edinburgh, if  
only for a few months?

You have praised a Miss Webb very much:  
where is she? would she do?

2. If not, could MISS RICHARDSON take the Victoria

Ward for a few months, & Miss Enderby  
prowl on as *Night Supt*= for a time?

3. Miss Shillington is a very superior person  
to Miss Wright. & has done Leopold well.  
She would take *temporary* duty: but  
must see her Sister (spitting blood) at  
Edinburgh first

How would *this* do?

(a terrible blow to us)

Nurse Warman to come directly

(confd= Nurse Warman)

- private!!

to release Miss Shillington at St. Thomas' -

Miss Sh: to go to see ~~the~~ her Sister for a week:  
& then come to you as S. Victoria for a few months

God bless you:

ever yrs

F.N.

initialed letter & envelope, 1f, pencil SU180/59

{envelope:}

31 May 77

Miss Williams

My dear friend

I have not seen Miss Shillington: but I was told  
yesterday Wednesday: *not* by Mrs. Wardroper - that there was  
a *chance* of her doing what I suggested to you:

viz. taking *TEMPORARY* duty with you: after she had \_\_\_\_\_  
seen her sister

at Edinburgh.

Mr. B.C. asked *me* to write to Miss Vincent. And

I have done so - but I don't believe she *can*  
come.

-----  
I don't admire Miss Peskett too slow: but I know her to be loyal:  
She *could only* be a "pis aller".

-----  
|Over

I have some one coming to me on business  
almost at once: So I am unable to  
have the pleasure of seeing you now -

-----  
Would it be possible for you to go on to  
St Thomas' now about the *Shillington*?  
yrs ever

31/5/77

F.N.

You had better not quote *me* to Mrs. Wardr=

initialed letter & envelope, 1f, pen

{envelope:}

Miss Williams

St. Mary's Hospital

Paddington

1/6/77

My dear Miss Williams [13:120-21]

I am very sorry to say that Miss Vincent cannot come to you: & I am sure that it is not for want of will.

I do not myself feel at all sure about Miss Shillington: as you say.

And what would set one's heart most at ease about you would be that you should place *one of your own people* (Miss Richardson) temporarily in that Ward, & keep on Miss Enderby Temporarily as Night St=  
- if Miss McLaughlin will not 'do' to go on temporarily.

*Miss Shillington:*

Failing this, I would go to St. T.'s, & see Matron, & (with her permission) *Miss Shilln-*  
- proposing to each what I have suggested, if you yourself wish it:

-but *without* mentioning me to either:  
(as that would only divert their minds from the real purpose under discussion:)

F.N.

Don't be down hearted: I know you are not:  
we shall know one day that we are all much the better cause & all, for this wrong: God is always right.

ever yrs F.N.

Take as much exercise as you can:  
1/6/77

initialed letter, lf, pen

35 S. St.

June 2/77

I think your present plan excellent: [13:121]

*Miss Mayne* would make a good Sister:  
(was intended by Mrs. Wardroper for a Sister for St. T.'s:) is loyal, contented, hard working,  
age:

healthy: 40: Training= time up in August:  
must have more *Medical* Training before that:  
If *Miss Shillington* fails, *Miss Richardson* for 3 months, & then *Miss Mayne* is an even better arrangement, to my mind, under the circumstances.

Dearie, do take a Hansom cab, & go out every

day. I venture to enclose 30/ for the purpose & 30/ for the frame:

God speed you My dear friend  
is the ever present wish of  
yrs ever F.N.

Let me know the decision

35 South St.  
Park Lane W.  
July 3/77

My dear Miss Williams

I am told that I must take charge of  
my Mother into Derbyshire this week.

And I do not like to go without letting  
you know.

I feel very anxious about you. How  
does Miss Enderby get on with Dr. Broadbent  
as 'Sister Victoria'? And who is to fill her  
place- or is she to remain?

I look forward to your taking your  
holiday with "Little Sister" on August 20.  
And if Lea Hurst, Cromford, Derby, is on

your way anywhere, to your both coming  
to spend a week with us. Do:

May all your troubles be blown away: or  
rather only strengthen you (after your  
holiday) to triumph over what may come.

I do not ask to see you: but should there be  
anything in which I can be of the least use,  
here I am. How are you? &  
how do you get on with the enemy?

Mrs. Wardroper is coming: (here:) so  
in haste God bless you, fare you very  
well: ever yrs F. Nightingale

Miss Hill, of Highgate, is we fear dying:  
the day I go must depend on this

F.N.

Lea Hurst  
Cromford  
Derby

July 30/77 6. a.m.

My dear Miss Williams

I don't know whether Mr. B.C. has told you of what has happened to us: & has prevented me from answering yours:

a fatal case of Small pox in the house.

I am quite unable to say whether we shall be able to have the great pleasure of seeing you & Miss Pringle at the time I had so much hoped.

I feel bound to tell you this in case you

should wish to alter your plans:

But if you would kindly write again when it comes nearer the time I trust we *might* be "safe" & able to receive you.

I feel so very sorry for all your troubles:

I mean I wish we could supply you -

I always felt sure that there would be no ~~other~~ danger for you of not having vacancies from {illeg}: no other danger but that of not being able to fill them.

You will come back quite fresh, I trust, from your holiday:

Morford did very well as Probr= under the Sister whose

Ward Miss Enderby took temporarily at St. T.'s

- but when Miss E. took it, she did not like Morford. I think you might do worse than keep Miss Enderby. I believe you would like Miss Mayne  
God bless you: in great *discomfiture*, yrs ever

F. Nightingale

The Small pox case was that of a lad just entered my Mother's Service  
{ 'Service' vert. in right marg. }

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180  
signed letter, 1f, pen SU180/64

815

Lea Hurst  
Cromford: Derby  
11/8/77

My dear Miss Williams

I am glad to think that the prospect of  
seeing you & 'Little Sister' is only a pleasure  
deferred. Please write to me

as soon as you want to settle your plans:  
And oh how glad I am to think that you  
& she are going on your holiday: much needed: well  
earned.

I am very sorry about Nurse Tearoe's illness:  
but thankful that 'peeling' is on the 'go':  
If you could contrive anywhere for them to go  
& 'convalesce' (She & Nurse Mason: to both of  
whom my kindest regards) I would gladly pay

(64)

I send up vows- I hope not altogether fruitless  
for your 'Sister'hood.

God be with us all  
ever yours & 'Little Sister's  
F. Nightingale

We are unable to receive a creature here yet  
F.N.

envelope, pen unnumbered SU180/65  
Empty {vert. in l. marg, not F.N.}

Evergreens  
1 leg Hampshire  
unromantic Pork  
1 doz. Mince Pies

Miss Williams  
St. Mary's Hospital  
Paddington

with F.N.'s love: & may the best  
Christmas blessings be showered  
on our dear Matron & all, all her  
faithful Nurses & Sisters: 20/12/77

note, 1f, pencil {archivist:} FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE TO RACHEL WILLIAMS LETTERS 66-73, 74-81,  
1878 1879 ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL PADDINGTON

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180  
signed letter & envelope, 1f, pen SU180/66

816

{envelope:}

To enquire:           with 3 [8?] pots tulips  
                          2 " Cyclamen  
                          & a packet

Miss Williams  
St. Mary's Hospital

1/1/78 {upside down not FN: 1878} L66

[13:122]

New Year's Day: 1878

My very dear Miss Williams & my Goddess:

I have done your behest: tho' not very sure  
I quite understood your meaning. If I have failed,  
put it all in the fire, I need not say.

I was so very glad to hear from my cousin  
Shore that he thought that tremendous Engine  
could & would be moved           Pray tell me:  
And tell me how you are

Over & over again I wish you the highest  
New Year's happiness- a thousand and one  
New Years.           And a thousand and one times  
I pray that my Goddess may walk worthy of  
her high calling

Our Nurses are such a source of irritation &  
vexation to my Goddess, as I mourn to think,  
that grievous as it would be to me, I  
cannot but ask: had she not better get  
rid of them?

Shall I send you any good (untrained) Nurses

I hear of    for you to see?

I heard of one lately from a Doctor, a brother  
in law of Miss Irby's Miss Johnston, who wished  
for a "permanent" place- [I suppose her a private Nurse]

Would you like to hear more of her?

Good work is being done. Thank God for it!

When the Engine is gone my Goddess will be herself again

Fare you very well, my dear Goddess:

wear a few clothes, this world is too cold

to go about in your shift: And don't look too tall  
down upon your worshippers:

& believe me ever your faithful servt=  
(whatever you may think) & loving  
old friend

F. Nightingale

Am I to expect Nurses Whayman, Mason & Tearoe?

[end]

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180  
initialed letter, 1f, pen SU180/67

817

35 South St.  
Park Lane W.  
Jan 9/78

My dear Miss Williams

Thank you for your very kind letter:  
The days the Nurses are due, if it is  
convenient to you to let them come, are:

Nurse Whayman Jan 12}  
Nurse Tearoe " 23} at 5.  
" Mason " 24} if convenient

But as Nurse Whayman leaves you alas! on  
the 18<sup>th</sup>, will it be more convenient to you  
to send her on that day, at 5, unless she  
is going out of London

I hope to see you, my Goddess, very soon:  
but unless there is anything you would  
kindly wish to say to me about these  
women before I see them, shall  
we make some appointment with  
my Goddess about the end of the month?

ever yours  
F. Nightingale

signed letter, 1f, pen SU180/68

35 South St.  
Jan 10/78

My dear Miss Williams

May I send you with your kind permission  
the 'Charity'?

I too have heard from 'Little Sister': I am  
very anxious to keep her quiet while she is  
here. I am afraid she is much pulled down:  
- I have been casting about in my mind in all  
directions how this could be done. You must  
help me. Do you think you & she could  
go somewhere into the country? I should be  
so glad to help. Or do you think she would  
go to Embley (not my father's now) where she

has been before?

I am sorry to say I must put off Nurse Whayman  
after all: for another engagement - which I  
cannot put off. Would 5 on *Monday*  
14<sup>th</sup> suit you as well for *Nurse Whayman*  
to come to me?

If not, I will find another day:  
ever my 'Goddess'  
F. Nightingale

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180  
signed letter, 1f, pen SU180/69

818

You never told me how it fared} 35 South St.  
with the Engine: } Park Lane W.  
----- Feb 18/78

My dear Miss Williams

I am so very sorry that you cannot come  
& sleep here to- night.

I want to do what is best for "Little Sister" -  
whom I thought very tired on Thursday:

If it is best for her to stay quiet to- day, I would  
forego the wishing her good bye -

If otherwise, would you both come & dine  
here to- day? - & at what hour?

And would she come an hour before to say  
farewell?

With best love to both  
ever yrs affly  
F. Nightingale

signed letter, 1f, pen SU180/70

35 South St  
Park Lane W  
April 9/78

My dear Miss Williams

I have been longing to hear, but *always*  
*thinking* of you -

I now take the opportunity- of sending you  
12 copies of the "Bandages" sheet- [you can have  
as many more as you like] - which "Little Sister"  
told me you wished for - to ask oh so many  
things- about that dreadful Engine - about  
the Nursing Staff - & first & foremost how you  
are

Alas! I do not hear very good accounts of "Little Sister".

Your Night Supt= - I did not neglect Your  
Imperial Highness' orders - but when I thought I

had found one, Mr. Bonham Carter told me  
you had already engaged one. I trust  
she is good.

And does the "Cook- Housekeeper" do well, as  
well as I hope?

Would you come on *Thursday, Friday* or *Saturday*  
at 4, if you want to be back for dinner  
or at 5, if you do not?

& let me hear Your Highness' news from  
the Goddess' own lips?

Please thank Nurses Mason & Tearoe  
very much for the photograph of  
the Goddess & her train.

And *that* too I shall want to have  
expounded to me:

under great stress  
ever yrs affly  
F. Nightingale

signed letter & envelope, 1f, pen SU180/71  
{envelope:}

*with a geranium*  
Miss Williams  
St. Mary's Hospital  
Paddington

8/6/78

35 South St.  
June 8/78

[13:122-23]

My dearest Goddess

I am so very, very thankful that that  
terrific Engine is going to be moved at  
last- (I think you can scarcely have suffered  
from it more than I have)- that, tho'  
under stress of business & illness, I cannot  
help giving a cheer loud enough to be  
heard at St. Mary's.

Also I am charmed about the housekeeper  
- If I can hear of a proper woman, I will  
write at once but I am afraid I am not  
likely. Your need of a housekeeper was *urgent*

Hurra for the Nurses' sitting room  
 & its 'opening' - May I not have a  
 finger in the pie? Or in those  
 kinds of things have you carte blanche?  
 Might I send you £2 for goodies or flowers?  
 or something more for a bit of furniture?  
 I should be so glad. say what {line from 'bit' to 'say'}

I am thankful that the dear 'little Sister' is  
 better: even before her looked for holiday  
 with you-

- I have felt very anxious about her:

That Miss de Broen is such a good woman  
 My brother in law knows her very well.

- I am so glad you are training for her.

And may you have a grand new Wing.  
 Thank you, thank you for telling me about

the Engine. Fare you very well: [end 13:123]  
 in great haste, always in thought your own  
 & ever yours, my dearest Imperial Highness  
 F. Nightingale

signed letter & postmarked envelope, 1f, pen SU180/72

{envelope:} Miss Williams

St. Mary's Hospital  
 Paddington  
 W.

10/6/78

35 South St.  
 Park Lane W. [13:123]  
 June 10/78

My dear Miss Williams

I must bid ~~you~~ 'God speed' to the Nurses' new Sitting  
 Room - you do not tell me *where* it is - in the same  
 breath as ask you to 'speed' kindly my present to it  
 with the enclosed £4- which is giving *you*  
 all the trouble: but I do not know how to save  
 it you. I don't know what you would like best  
 And pray tell the Nurses, with my kindest regards,  
 that I give them joy & shall think of their  
 pleasant nest in their new room. And especially  
 renew my thanks to Nurses Mason & Tearoe  
 for their picture of you all.  
 God bless you ever yours F. Nightingale

[end 13:123]

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180 821  
incomplete letter, 1f, pencil SU180/73 [late 1878]

I am so rejoiced that the creature (the Engine) is gone [13:123]  
that I sang a 'Te Deum' & could, have danced a jig.

All hail to your Xmas without the beast: & to all the Nurses:  
And may you have many, many happy New Years.

-----  
You know that 4 of our trained Nurses were wrecked on  
their way home from Montreal- I venture to send you  
& yours copies of their little account -  
God for ever bless you & your work: is the loving  
wish of yours ever affly- F. Nightingale  
I have not forgotten your "Trained Nurses' Annuity Fund": but  
it is so long to write about. I hope to see you soon-  
{printed address vert. in r. marg:} 10, SOUTH STREET,  
PARK LANE W.

[end]

signed letter & envelope, 1f, pen SU180/74

{envelope:}

To enquire for

Miss Williams

St. Mary's Hospital

Paddington

10/3/79

March 9/79

10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}  
PARK LANE. W.

My dear Miss Williams

I was very sorry to hear not  
a very good account of you  
from Edinburgh. I was in  
hopes when that atrocious  
monster was made to flee -  
you would be all right.

I have written to Miss  
Pringle to ask her to come  
here on her way to Paris &  
back: whither I hope she  
is going for her holiday  
with you. Will you not  
meet her here?

I have had some difficulty  
in struggling thro' the winter  
with its overwork: alas! so  
little of it done. Or I should  
have asked you to come long ago

Will you not kindly make  
 an appointment to  
 see me some afternoon  
 (after Thursday) at 5: if  
 that is convenient to you?  
 Would you have some dinner  
 here afterwards?  
 God bless you & your work  
 ever yrs affly  
 F. Nightingale

initialed letter & postmarked envelope, 2ff, pen SU180/75

{envelope:}

Miss Williams  
 St. Mary's Hospital  
 Paddington  
 W.

20/3/79

March 19/79 [date in cat is Mar 20]  
 10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}  
 PARK LANE. W.

My dear Miss Williams

Very many thanks for your [13:126-27]  
 kind offer of Nurse Mason:  
 & more for the very kind  
 words & feeling which  
 accompanied it: But I  
 have thought it better on the  
 whole never to tempt a  
 trained Nurse (from St. T.'s)  
 even thro' her employer with  
 a private domestic situation:  
 but rather to dissuade trained  
 Nurses, if they apply to me for  
 advice from domestic service.

There is such temptation (in  
 London) for a trained Nurse to  
 refuse a Hospital place offered  
 her - perhaps *on purpose* to break  
 off & go into domestic Nursing,  
 where she can get more than a  
 Sister's pay, a housemaid to wait on her  
 &c &c &c

Since I wrote this, your  
kind note about  
Nurse Forde has come: many  
thanks. I am sorry she is  
not to be had.

We are in treaty with  
one or two domestic women,  
one of whom I devoutly hope  
may do for such a difficult  
situation as a new place with  
a very old lady

Many thanks for all the  
trouble you have taken.

I am 'doing' your "System":  
& hope to send you my  
unworthy remarks to morrow  
morning.

Love & blessings  
ever yrs F.N.

It struck me that perhaps,  
after I had sent you my  
packet, I might get valuable  
information from you on  
the subject from our own  
Probrs- as to how to manage  
certain points if you  
could kindly come to me  
for half an hour again  
on any day you could fix  
at 5 o'cl.

[end 13:126]

heard from "Little Sister"  
this mornng.

great haste  
F.N.

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180 824  
initialed note with envelope, 1f, pencil SU180/76

{envelope:}

Miss Williams  
St Mary's Hospital

1/4/79

the little Guild book returned with a very  
great many thanks: & I am anxiously expecting  
'my' copy -

The two Sermons & the Organization M.S  
received with thanks, many, many, many:

And I will write again

I hope good news from Miss Pringle

1/4/79 F.N.

signed letter, 2ff, pen SU180/77

April 16/79

10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}  
PARK LANE. W.

My dear Miss Williams

I am very much obliged  
to you for writing. I do feel  
so very uneasy about 'Little  
Sister'. My comfort is that  
she has not the build nor  
the complexion of a person  
with lungs. But none the  
less is it a very anxious thing.  
Do you know exactly what  
the Doctors call this attack?

Certainly London should  
be the last place she should  
come to now. I have spent  
23 consecutive Easters in  
London & never known such  
an one as this. But she

should not come to London  
at all except to rest in  
passing thro'.

I hope the Doctors will  
say exactly *where* she is  
to go. If it is to  
Bournemouth or Torquay,  
could you go with her?

I have the comfort of  
saying to you that she is  
worth us all put together,  
because I know you will  
agree & not be offended:

I am grieved not to see her  
tomorrow, but I shall not  
commit the unfriendliness of

having her here at all,  
(except to rest in passing  
-through) on her way to better climes.

Pray let me have news  
God bless you & her,  
yrs ever

F. Nightingale

signed letter & envelope, 1f, pen & pencil SU180/78  
{envelope:}

with a pink Azalea  
a white "  
& a Cytisus

-----

Miss Williams  
St. Mary's Hospital  
Paddington

22/4/79

I shall send up tomorrow }  
 early to enquire after } April 22/79  
 Little Sister. My best of } 10, SOUTH STREET,  
 love to her & to you: } PARK LANE. W. {printed address}  
 -----

Dearest Miss Williams

I was so VERY much obliged  
 to you for your kind note  
 on Saturday: It was quite a relief.

I hear (with some terror)  
 that dear 'Little Sister' is  
 coming up to ~~day~~ such a  
 day! But I am sure  
 she will rejoice so much  
 at being with you that,  
 as it is decided, we must  
 be satisfied that she comes.

God bring her safe thro' the  
 journey, & help us to do the  
 best for her, & restore her  
 to perfect health.

After her stay with you,  
 I'm your man. God bless you:  
 in gt haste ever yrs F. Nightingale

initialed letter, 2ff, pen SU180/79

April 30/79

10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}  
 PARK LANE. W.

My dear Miss Williams

I was so frightened (*unduly*  
 as I hope) about 'Little Sister'  
 that I cannot be too thankful  
 for your continued good reports  
 of her- 1000 thanks for writing.

I too am wearying to see her,  
 but I have been so driven &  
 am. And tomorrow my sister  
 leaves London: & Friday is my  
 India mail day.

You say you hope to be off  
 early next week.

To Paris?

Let me see her on Saturday at  
 5 o'clock, if that is quite  
 convenient: or on Sunday or  
 on Monday. And won't you  
 come & dine with her on

the day she comes, at 7, or any  
hour she likes & you?  
Or would it be desirable for  
her to come here to stay  
from Saturday till Monday?  
Or do you think it better not to  
move her till you start for  
Paris? God bless her.  
Please tell me what *is* best  
and with very best love to  
her, believe me  
ever yrs devotedly  
F N

Thank God.

I promised Mrs Wardroper  
to ask her to stay here a  
Sunday to meet Little Sister  
when she came  
but I think I had better put that  
off till you come back from  
Paris - had not I?  
Ought not 'Little Sister' to be  
kept rather free from ~~worries~~ cares? &  
talking of cares?  
F.N.

I was very sorry not to see  
Miss Spencer, but it was  
really impossible to me:

initialled letter, 2ff, pen FNMUS2/ SU180/80a {letter written entirely on an envelope, inside and out}

Lea Hurst

Cromford: Derby

[13:127] and [13:770-71]

Aug 12~~7~~/79

My dear Miss Williams

I have never ceased thinking about you & your work if that wd= do any good

I trust we shall be able to place some Probationers under your training. I talked at length to Mr. Bonham Carter about it: & you will have seen him.

It makes one so very uneasy this falling off of 'District': of 'Poor' Nurse Probationers from the reason you stated viz that they are 'half starved'

sometimes & badly lodged in nursing the poor. Because, do you know, I think the Nurses are right. Should a Nurse ever be sent to the poor without an agreement with the clergyman or other authority who sends for her (it, is, I believe, generally the clergyman)-- that she should be supplied with proper food & with a proper sleeping room, to herself-- the clergyman or other authority *to be responsible* for this: [he may send

her the meals from his  
own table: at all events  
*he is responsible*] Without  
this, no Nurse to be sent.  
[This is the rule in force  
in the only successful  
'Home' I know from  
which Nurses are  
sent out to a *single*  
poor case at *ANY distance*

And I believe if it were  
in force everywhere this  
(so desirable) 'Poor' Trained  
Nursing can & would be  
carried out. If not, not.

Do not you think so?]  
May all the best blessings

[end 13:127]

be yours & the work's.

I am always with you-  
B if that could do you  
any good.

Do tell me about Little  
Sister: alone as she is  
without either of her  
Lieutenants (but I hope  
that is so no longer)  
it makes one very anxious

God bless you ever  
& the work.

F.N.

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180  
initialed letter, 2ff, pencil SU180/80b

830

Aug 27 [1879]

My very dear Miss Williams

I have never sent the  
enclosed:

I have come down here  
in charge of my Mother.  
Perhaps you know it is  
always 'neck or nothing' to  
me the coming. Last year  
it was 'neck,' this year  
'nothing'. I suppose I  
must confess to  $\pi$  (short)  
acute nervous fever:  
with no sleep for 90  
hours & an uncountable  
pulse.

Even now there is no  
possibility for rest for me.

But we won't talk

about that.

I am very anxious

about "Little Sister."

Since I wrote this, I have  
had your note about  
returning the papers as to  
the Rates of Hospital pay:

[13:127]

I ought to have returned  
them long before. But  
I will look them out  
the *first* moment I am  
able & send them directly.

Have you made any  
progress in asking  
your people whether  
they would subscribe

to a Trained Nurses' Friendly  
 Socy- or Union?  
 I think you & I talked  
 about this. Could you make out what  
 the rates and allowances  
 in Guy's Hospl= Nurses'  
 Union (compulsory) are?  
 Shall you & Little Sister  
 be able to have a holiday  
 this Autumn & come here?  
 God bless you ever  
 F.N.

Could you make out what  
 the rates and allowances  
 in guy's Hospl Nurses'  
 Union (compulsory) are?

incomplete letter, 4ff, pen & pencil LMA L81 {this letter has folios out of sequence, they  
 have been transcribed to flow properly} SU180/81

Lea Hurst  
 Cromford: Derby  
 10/9/79  
 6.30 a.m.

My dear Miss Williams

Forgive me: that is all I  
 can say. I have no excuse  
 to make but increased  
 illness, the heavy charge  
 upon me here, in addition  
 to all my other business  
 - and your kindness  
 which is the most valid  
 of all the (too true) excuses.

Pray forgive me for my delay  
 in returning you your papers.  
 [The only time I have to work  
 is before 7.30 a.m., generally often  
 after a sleepless night.  
 The Dr. tells me, as all my  
 Drs tell me: 'you must go

away for 3 months &  
 speak & write to none'.  
 And that is totally impossible  
 for me.]

The information given in  
 these papers is so very  
 vague - They cannot at  
 all be compared with  
 each other. And therefore  
 are so far valueless for  
 our purpose.

2. I have not heard from Mr. Bonham Carter whether he has entered into farther negotiations with St. Mary's for our having Probationers with you.

[13:128]

I do hope he has.

3.

And I hope that the other thing about which we talked viz. the impossibility of getting Probationers - to serve as country *District* Nurses (so noble a calling) will be obviated somehow in this way: [you know I think the Probationers are right:]

Let the clergyman or other person who sends for the

Nurse be *responsible* for the Nurse having a proper bed- room to *herself* - & for proper food to be found (perhaps sent from his own house) for the Nurse.

This is done in the case of the E. Grinstead ~~Nurses~~ Sisters. No board & lodging provided, no Nurse. And they are quite right I do it, when I employ a Nurse, in this village. If the case is non-infectious, she sleeps, whether by day or by night, here: & her meals are sent her from here.

If the case is infectious (as now we have Typhoid

[2]

Fever, in this healthiest  
village in the world,  
owing to bad drainage-  
I don't believe Typhoid  
infectious) the ~~she~~ Nurse has her  
meals sent from here,  
& a bed provided for her  
afternoons' sleep in the house  
of an old woman, who  
is to watch the Patient  
meanwhile.

[If a ~~room~~ permanent lodging is kept for the  
Nurse, then it is shut  
up when Nurse not there:  
& she has to come back to  
it cold, & then to go out  
to buy her victuals.  
Clearly the person lady or gentleman who  
sends for the Nurse ought

to be responsible for her board  
& lodging

I feel the more earnest  
about this, because many  
District Nursing Societies  
are breaking up because  
they cannot get candidates  
And quite naturally

[end]

3. Have you been so good [13:771]  
as to enquire among your  
Nurses about the other  
thing we were talking  
about: whether  
they Ladies and Nurses would be willing to  
pay into a *Trained Nurses'*  
*Provident Socy-*, if we  
were able to start one:  
and *how many?*  
and *how much?*  
& whether for all or which  
of these advantages:  
a sick allowance  
a central "Home" or Lodging  
House -  
an Old Age allowance  
a Savings' Bank might be  
in connection

[end 13:128]

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180

834

note, 1f, pencil {archivist:} FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE TO RACHEL WILLIAMS  
LETTERS 82-84, 85-93 1880 1881 St. Mary's Hospital Paddington.

signed letter & postmarked envelope, 6ff, pen & pencil  
{envelope:} SU180/82

Miss Williams  
St. Mary's Hospital  
Paddington

30/3/80 W.

10 South St.

Park Lane W.

Easter Day 1880

My dear Miss Williams

How long it is since I have  
seen you. My first Easter  
thoughts are for you & yours.

But first I want to ask  
you about the Nurses' saving.  
The idea originated, I think,  
with some of the Nurses  
themselves - that we should  
have a sort of Central Home  
& Club, or Provident Socy=,  
supported by their own  
contributions, for our  
Trained Nurses. I have  
collected Rules & Tables,  
among others those of Guy's

which you were so good  
as to send me: And  
I have corresponded with  
Secretaries of all kinds  
of Friendly & Provident  
Societies, & have got together  
no end of information  
which I shall hope to  
impart to you when we  
meet - also information  
about what in their turn  
our Trained Nurses desire.

Then, you know, 183 of  
the Trained Matrons &  
Nurses did me the honour  
to ask me to 'sit' for my  
'picture': to which I  
responded that, if they  
would think of 'saving',

I would think of 'sitting'.  
They prepared a delightful  
New Year's Day surprise  
for me, when 57 signatures  
appeared under the

x

following heading:  
see p. 2

x Out of 68 Nurses of St. Thomas' 57  
signed this: (Probationers  
not counted.) Of the 68  
23 had already saved:  
one paid for a life annuity,  
one had invested:  
two insured their lives:  
five supported relatives-  
And now, dear Goddess,  
what will your Nurses  
do?

We the undersigned Sisters & Nurses of  
 St. Thomas Hospital from the  
 Nightingale Training School & others  
 agree to enter into a 'self-benefiting'  
 Provident Society by depositing in the  
*P.O. Savings Bank* or *other safe*  
*investment* a sum quarterly in {vert. in r. marg.:} [2]  
 proportion to our means  
 Sisters not less than £1  
 Nurses " " " 10/  
 and so much more as may be convenient

And how are you going  
 on yourself, my Goddess?  
 And what do you think  
 of 'Little Sister'?  
 And when are you going  
 to have Probationers of ours?  
 And how do your  
 Probationers go on? And  
 especially do you get  
 Probrs= now for the Norfolk  
*District Nurses Socy*?"  
 And have they altered the  
 provisions for the comfort  
 of *District Nurses* for the  
 better?  
 Have you enough Probrs=  
 now?

[1880] Easter Tuesday  
 Dearest: you know how  
 all my best Easter wishes  
 are yours  
 I must tell you a little  
 about myself (it's a  
 poor Easter topic) to  
 account for my not  
 having seen you as I  
 so earnestly wished.  
 A week after my Mother's  
 funeral I was obliged to  
 go away for 3 weeks  
*silence*: the first for  
 23 years. But I came  
 back worse than I went:  
 And I fear I shall have  
 to go away again for a time. I have  
 had 6 years & more, without

[3]

one day's rest of body or mind  
ending with my dear Mother's  
death: & topping up 23  
years of overwork & illness.

The Drs say, if I am to work  
at all, in future, it can only be by  
taking at least a year now  
"free from the responsibilities  
which have been forced upon"  
me & from "letters".

But when is that year to  
come?

I like writing to you about  
every thing but about myself.  
But I want to ask you a  
great favour. While I was  
away, Miss Gregory [I always  
forget her married name]  
wrote to me asking me to  
read an Article of hers (& put  
it in some Magazine) which she

had written at Canon Gregory's  
request & which had been  
refused by Miss Yonge -  
At that time it was impossible  
for me to answer or even to  
read letters, except of the  
most pressing importance.  
[And I did not have one  
day's rest from these. I  
took all my business with me].

This is a sort of cry for mercy.  
I fear that it will be impossible  
for me, for all such future  
as I may have, to answer  
such requests (as Miss Gregory's),  
which come to me even  
from Africa, let alone Europe.

[Surely Canon Gregory is  
the person to do it.]

Would you say all that is  
kind for me to her, & express  
~~this~~ in your own words my poor  
state? My poverty & not my will?

The myriads of letters I have  
 now to leave unanswered  
 - & above all my Indian work  
 weigh heavily on my soul

[As I say it's a sorry Easter topic]

But dear 'Little Sister' writes  
 to me so beautifully - you  
 know how she writes -  
 - 'we "are all to- day rejoicing  
 in the hope of the resurrection  
 and listening for the risen  
 Lord's voice in the garden  
 that we may be able to  
 hear our own trouble & to see  
 the sorrows of those we love"-

Amen: but I feel so little  
 like a risen one- more like  
 an endless ass.

But I must see you, my  
 Goddess, before I go: before  
 long: *if* I do go.

God bless you: God (82)  
 guide us all.

yrs ever

F. Nightingale

My kindest regards to

any Nurses who  
 remember me - or  
 who do not.

All my people are engaged  
 in or for Elections for  
 themselves or others:  
 Sir Harry with Patriotic  
 pluck fights a gallant fight, whether we win  
 or lose, in his 79<sup>th</sup> year at  
 Buckingham: his son at  
 Portsmouth: a cousin at Devonport  
 -beer flowing like water on the *other* side,  
 bribery of all sorts & sizes - *no* beers  
 on *ours*, & all canvassers & Agents  
 doing it for nothing but principle & love & refusing  
 even fees.

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180  
signed letter, 2ff, pen SU180/83

839

10 South St. 24/5/80

My dear Miss Williams

Mr. Bonham Carter & I have both looked  
at your scheme & made some notes in pencil  
which may afford suggestions for emendations  
in some matters of wording & detail.

[13:128]

To the proposed scheme so far as it  
goes there appears to be no objection  
& the plan will no doubt be a  
useful adjunct to the Hospital.

But your difficulties will begin when  
this has been adopted.

God speed your work: & this new branch of it.  
I shall take the first opportunity of a vacant  
day or two to ask you to fix a day  
for the great pleasure of seeing you -

But I am so pulled down:

ever yours

F Nightingale

I had rather hoped your plan would  
show here the accommodation you  
propose to provide &c &c &c -

The Committee will probably ask for some  
estimate showing the probable cost &  
income - and also the expected  
advantages to the Hospital -  
to set against the outlay for accommodation  
& the fixed charges to be incurred -

-----  
The Rules of the Westminster Home, St.

John's House, & the British Nursing Association  
might be obtained & laid before the  
Committee.

-----  
N.B. Stick to 7 (p.2). It is most important  
sometimes to put back these private Nurses  
into Hospital service.

3. (p.3) I presume you would ~~not~~  
~~require~~ understand by "always" *always when*  
*on duty*. You cannot insist on the uniform  
being worn *out of doors*?

[end]

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180

840

initialled letter & envelope, 4ff, pen  
{envelope with numbering at bottom:}  
H1/ST/NC3/SU180/84}

To enquire           with a book -  
                          & some country  
                          Raspberries &c  
                          & eggs

-----  
Miss Williams  
St. Mary's Hospital  
Paddington

22/7/80

10 South St.  
Park Lane W.  
July 22/80

My very dear Miss Williams

[13:128-29]

You are very good &  
forgiving to write to me so  
I must have seemed so  
forgetful & unmotherly.  
But it has been only  
'seemed': I have followed  
your fortunes with the  
intensest interest thro'  
Mr. Bonham Carter &  
others of your old friends.  
And, as for myself I have  
never had a day's rest.  
But we won't talk of that.

As to the "London," I will

not deny that I should  
have been glad *for the*  
*London*, if you had 'stood'  
for it ~~it is~~ such an  
immense field for useful=  
ness. But my whole  
better judgement is *for*  
your remaining at St.  
Mary's, where you  
have done so much,  
where you can build  
on the foundation you  
have already raised  
where every body now recognizes  
what you have done,  
& where now there is  
a splendid field to go  
on & make the place  
perfect thanks to you:

On the contrary, in the  
London, they are so  
self- satisfied, the Secretary  
who has reigned for 35  
years is so much the  
King of the place that  
a Queen must almost  
reign for 35 years  
before she can hope to  
do what is so urgently  
wanted -

This is what makes  
me pause: *no* doubt  
that a Queen is urgently  
wanted.

I earnestly hope that  
Miss Pyne may succeed  
in having the appointment.

There is then the hope  
& fear as to her succeeding  
in what alone makes  
the appointment to be  
wished for.  
You know she is one of  
the "selected candidates":  
& comes up on Monday  
night to appear before  
the House Commee- on  
Tuesday & return on  
Tuesday night to Edinburgh  
I hope they won't  
kill her. (84)

[2]

And now, dearest  
about "Little Sister".  
I hear not from her  
but from Miss Pyne  
that she is not coming  
up as early as she  
expected. I had  
told her that I would  
reserve *Sunday at 5*  
& *Tuesday at 5* for  
her, according as to  
whether she came up  
on Saturday or Monday.  
I am engaged now,  
especially at this  
time of the year, when  
every body is leaving  
London or passing thro'

London, - a fortnight  
beforehand: (It used  
only to be a week  
beforehand) - the second  
half of next week is  
already engaged.  
It is not, as you well  
know, that I would  
not get out of my  
grave to see 'Little  
Sister': but how  
can I put off people  
who are going to  
India or S. Africa  
or Bosnia the next  
day? I would if I could  
Can you tell me *what*

day "Little Sister" is  
coming, & how long  
to stay?

And would you, if  
she does not come on  
Saturday, 'take' Sunday  
or Tuesday with me  
yourself?

God bless you, dear  
friend, & speed you  
well, as He is doing.  
I trust you will give  
"Little Sister" & have  
yourself a most  
refreshing 'outing':  
how do you think she is?  
ever yrs F. Nightingale

signed letter & postmarked envelope, 1f, pen SU180/85

{envelope:}

Miss Williams  
St. Mary's Hospital  
Paddington  
W.

19/1/81

{letter:} 10 South St  
Park Lane W.  
Jan 19/81

My dear Miss Williams

It is an age since I  
have heard from you.

Could you fix some  
afternoon about 5  
when it will be  
convenient for you to  
come & tell me the  
news about your dear  
self & "Little Sister".

yours ever affly

Florence Nightingale

incomplete letter, 1f, pencil

{folios seemingly cut out from a letter}

I shall leave word here that the {illeg Pearl, top of word off page}  
is to be made comfortable if she will  
but come: & come on to Embley or not  
as she likes.

If you have to write to me *pressingly*,

address Embley  
Romsey (Hampshire)-

Otherwise, it is always better to address *here*,  
to be forwarded -

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180  
signed letter, 1f, pen & pencil SU180/86

845

Feb 6/81

10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}  
PARK LANE. W.

My dear Miss Williams

I don't think there are two  
people more anxious than  
you & I are about Little  
Sister- I have written to her  
as you suggested, urging her to  
take rest & change -

I am very sorry you are so  
driven at St. Mary's- But  
all Hospitals are very full  
just now (except Westminster)  
I think - I don't suppose  
this great drive can last  
And I don't suppose Little  
Sister can leave her room  
just now - Would it be  
possible for you to go down

[13:129]

a little later - we know there  
is no one like you for giving  
her real enjoyment- & take  
her somewhere -

I would so gladly help in this (in  
any way I could) that you  
tell me & that she likes-  
I have seen Miss Pyne: & shall  
see Miss Hogg tomorrow - Miss  
Hogg goes back to Edinburgh,  
I believe, on the 17<sup>th</sup>.

I too have been much driven -  
And you, I am afraid, scarcely  
get out now - But as soon as  
something can be settled about  
Miss Pringle, I trust you will  
let me see you: & let me be  
ever yours

F. Nightingale

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180  
signed note, 1f, pen SU180/87

846

Would you dine with my Sister & Sir Harry  
Verney at 7 - at No- 4  
after seeing me, tomorrow (Sunday)?  
dear Miss Williams? they will be quite  
alone I believe  
ever yrs affly  
F. Nightingale

26/2/81

signed letter & postmarked envelope, 2ff, pen & pencil SU180/88  
{envelope:}  
Please forward

Miss Williams  
care of Miss Pringle  
Royal Infirmary  
Edinburgh

7/4/81

10 South St.  
Ap 7/81

My dear Miss Williams

I was so sorry to hear  
which I did not till  
last Saturday, that  
my Goddess was ill -  
but very glad that  
you are gone to "Little  
Sister", & going to take  
her away from the  
Infirmary again for a  
time.

Health rain upon  
you both.

Not to see you before  
you went was a  
grief to me. I was only



LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180

848

April 26/81

10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}  
PARK LANE. W.

My dear Miss Williams

Forgive my delay in answering  
you. I am as anxious to  
see you & to hear about  
"Little Sister"- God bless her! -  
as you are kind in offering  
it.

Forgive a weary old woman  
who has been very busy.

Could you kindly come  
to *morrow* (Wednesday) or  
*Thursday* or *Friday* at 5?  
Please, an early answer.  
Do not do like me.

How grievous the death  
of Miss Hogg's mother, how  
unfortunate for dear Miss Pringle.

God bless you:  
ever my Goddess' devoted

F. Nightingale

signed letter & postmarked envelope, 3ff, pen SU180/90  
{envelope:}

Miss Williams  
St. Mary's Hospital  
Paddington  
W.

1/8/81

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180

849

August 1/81

10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}  
PARK LANE. W.

My very dear Miss Williams

I have not waited for your  
letter to ask Mrs. Wardroper  
(upon a hint from "Little  
Sister") whether she could  
not give up Miss Hogg  
for your post of Night Supt-  
describing to "Matron" what  
it was.

[13:130]

From a series of untoward  
circumstances Matron is in  
such need of Miss Hogg  
for a Sister that I fear  
she cannot give her up.  
You would have been  
touched as I was at Matron's

relief when she heard that  
Miss Hogg who has been  
changing her mind was  
coming to her.

[When I spoke to Miss Hogg,  
about it - I was then  
trying to persuade her that  
her duty lay with Miss Pringle-  
she told me that she wished  
very much for a *Sistership*  
at St. Thomas']

More grievous it is to me  
than I can say that your  
Miss Byam is going to leave  
you. To my poor mind  
it is as unintelligible that

Miss Byam should have a  
"call" to Rome as that Miss  
Machin should have a "call"  
to S. Africa. It seems like  
leaving good solid much wanted work in  
God's cause for an 'adventure'.

Miss Hogg, tho' sadly wanted  
at St. Thomas', cannot come  
there till September.

I feel like a mother, all whose  
children are crying for  
~~milk~~ food, & she is agonized  
at having little or none  
to give them.

[end]

I am terrified at your  
prospect of having "only  
a week's holiday" this autumn.

I was so in hopes that  
you & Miss Pringle were  
going abroad for at least  
a month. How do you  
think she is? And will  
she not take a good long  
holiday? & where?

I cannot help hoping that  
Miss Byam may yet stay  
with you where she is  
happy & useful.

[13:130]

You do not know of a  
lady "Nightingale trained"  
who will ~~do~~ suit for Mr.  
Rathbone's post of  
Lady Supt- to the Liverpool  
Royal Infirmary & Nurses' Training School & Home, with its  
Hospital, Private & District

[2]

Nurses, do you? She  
will have two Assistants.  
We are beset with applications  
& the demand is far  
greater than the supply.

Cannot you send us some good  
Lady Probationers?

May every blessing attend  
your work, my dear friend,  
as you must feel it  
has already. May you  
not be overworked: &  
may your Hospital grow  
big - If I could  
but cut myself up to  
help you, I would do it  
to morrow: ~~but~~ alas.' I am useless  
but ever yours

F. Nightingale [end]

signed letter & postmarked envelope, 2ff, pen & pencil SU180/91  
{envelope:}

Miss Williams  
St. Mary's Hospital  
Paddington

24/8/81

W

10 South St  
Park Lane W.  
Aug 24/81

My dear Miss Williams [13:130-31]

You asked me if I  
knew of any trained Nurse  
who could possibly take  
charge of the new  
(Baptist) Hospital at  
Rome - & save Miss Byam going  
*What is the charge?*  
We have a Nurse, Nurse  
Spreat, not a gentlewoman  
but much better educated  
than the common- place  
class of so-called ladies,  
of whom we have a very

high opinion.

She has been obliged to leave  
her post at York Hospl=  
by a slight tendency to  
chest affection: & she  
ought properly to go to a  
warmer climate.

I thought possibly she  
might take the proposed  
Hospital at Rome  
& save your parting  
with Miss Byam  
But I could not say  
unless I knew *what*  
*sort of a charge it is -*

Also:

Is Italian indispensable?  
She may speak French  
but not Italian.

And where is the Hospital?

Is it in a healthy part  
of Rome?

I should be so glad if  
you could be dispensed  
from losing Miss Byam.  
Failing this, but far less  
important in my eyes,  
Nurse Spreat would do  
for one of those Nurses' posts  
at Cannes or at Nice  
which I *think you* it was  
who mentioned to me -  
God bless you  
in great haste  
ever yrs  
F. Nightingale

signed letter & postmarked envelope, 2ff, pen & pencil  
SU180/92

{envelope:}

Miss Williams

St. Mary's Hospital  
Paddington

27/8/81

W

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180

853

10 South St. W.

Aug 27 1881

Dearest Miss Williams

[13:131]

Thank you for your  
very kind note & information  
about Cannes for Nurse  
Spreat: so full & complete.

How I regret that  
Miss Byam is leaving you.

How I regret that you  
are not going to have a  
holiday.

I should have been so  
very glad to have seen  
Miss Byam, as you  
kindly desired- but that  
I am just starting for a

10 days' total silence:  
being pretty nigh worn out.  
And I have been seeing  
people & doing business  
(alas! unfinished) to this  
very last moment.

After that, I go on as  
soon as I am able, to do  
business at Lea Hurst,  
where I hope perhaps to  
see Miss Pringle- and  
oh may it be possible  
that I may see you, if  
St. Mary's a little abates?

So that I fear I shall  
not be back in time to

see Miss Byam before  
she starts - that wicked,  
wicked journey -  
to whom please give my  
very best of good wishes,  
tho' she is absconding  
from you.

God bless all your ways:

& St. Mary's. And  
still I wish & hope for  
a *little* holiday for you -  
It is grievous that you  
& Miss Pringle cannot go  
together. Thanks for your  
news of her: so welcome.

Excuse the greatest haste

& believe me

ever yours

(in haste or not)

F. Nightingale

initialed letter & envelope, 1f, pencil

{envelope:}

TO ENQUIRE -with every best wish  
for the New Year

Miss Williams

St. Mary's Hospital

F.N.

Dec 30

1881

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180  
SU180/93

855

Dec 30 1881

10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}  
PARK LANE. W.

My dear Miss Williams

I feel very anxious to hear  
about you: how you are, &  
how Mrs. Christy  
is- & what  
you are going to do-

I am so thankful Miss  
Byam is back -

Let me wish you every  
good & perfect gift for the  
New Year, & many, many  
happy ones

God bless you  
ever yrs  
F.N.

I shall hope to see you soon  
might it be the week after next?

note, 1f, pencil {archivist:}

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE

TO

RACHEL WILLIAMS

LETTERS 94-102, 103-~~105~~ 104  
1882 1883

initialed letter & envelope, 1f, pencil SU180/94  
{envelope:}

*with a pheasant*  
Miss Williams  
St. Mary's Hospl=

2/1/82

10 South St  
New Year's Day  
1882

Dearest Miss Williams

I send a pheasant wh I venture to  
hope Mrs. Christy might like -

[13:131]

Would *Tuesday* week Jan 10, at 5 perhaps  
suit you?

How is poor Mr. Wilkinson? If he is  
able, could you give him a kind

message from me?

I asked him once for Statistics -  
& his were the best of all the London  
Hospitals- I feel so sorry for him  
May God be with him

And how are you?

God bless you

ever yours

F.N.

signed letter, 1f, pen & pencil SU180/95

27/2/81

My dear Miss Williams

My Sister & brother in law will be  
delighted to see you at dinner this evening.

The weather looks nasty. Pray bring  
oversHOES & a wrapper: for the  
"North west passage" between No= 10  
& No. 4 (3 doors) A servant shall  
take you, but he cannot carry you,- I  
wish he could: over the sloshy pavement

ever yrs affly

F. Nightingale

signed letter & envelope, 1f, pencil  
{envelope:}

To enquire {up diag}

Please Forward

Miss Williams

St. Mary's Hospital

Paddington

7/3/82

SU180/96

10 South St. March 7/82

Dearest Miss Williams

I have just heard that dear Mrs.  
Christy is gone before -

The shock of such a loss is so very  
great I almost fear to ask after you  
all - But for her

"when faith & love which parted from her never"  
had ripened her, she resigned

"that earthly load

"Of death called life which us from life doth sever"

Did she know that she was going?  
 And how are you- who have so  
 faithfully watched her all those sad  
 months in London?

It is not at the time but afterwards  
 it is a comfort to think that the  
 beloved one has been spared from much  
 suffering

If I dared, I would ask Mr. Christy  
 & the children to accept my deepest  
 sympathy. Her daughter must  
 try to take the mother's place -  
 God bless you all -

ever yours dearest,  
 in weal & in woe

F. Nightingale

signed letter, 2ff, pencil SU180/97

10 South St.

June 7/82

My dear Miss Williams

I cannot tell you now glad I was  
 to hear from you- You have had,  
 I fear, a hard time of it- But  
 hardness is oft times blessing- But  
 perhaps it sounds to you hard to say that.  
 May God bless your every step a  
 thousand times -

I was so glad too about your Hospital  
 & "Little Sister"- She seems cheery  
 now- How I wish that you & she  
 might go abroad this autumn together.  
 That would be the best rest to you  
 both- She has felt your long, long  
 trial. And so have I, my dear one-

I want to see you- & hear more  
 than your kind letter can tell me.  
 I have been so pressed ~~it~~ all this spring

[13:131-32]

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180 858

(you kindly ask) - with my brother in law  
too staying in the house - & enquiries into  
the misconduct & the inefficiency of the Hospital  
Orderlies in the Natal War - as if Nurses  
& India were not enough - that I have  
been a good deal worse than usual- I  
have almost every day filled up now-

But could you fix some afternoon at 5  
next week when you could kindly come  
& see me? And would you dine here? I  
am always afraid that I put off your dinner  
May all blessings be yours, I cannot say enough  
yrs ever affly  
F. Nightingale

signed letter & postmarked envelope, 2ff, pen & pencil SU180/98  
{envelope:}

Miss Williams  
St. Mary's Hospital  
Paddington

1/7/82

W.

10 South St  
July 1 1882

Where you were in the question, my dear friend, I put  
off every other appointment: & saw Sir Henry Parkes  
yesterday afternoon before he sailed -

[13:140-41]

The day before, I asked Mr. Bonham Carter to  
see him & also to see you - But I rather think  
Mr. B.C. did not succeed in seeing him.

Sir H. Parkes told me what he had said to  
you- I asked him sundry questions, based  
upon the corresponde= which has been going on  
between Sydney & us for years about the Prince

Alfred Hospl=: & upon what he himself had told me when I saw him on his arrival in England.

The gist *practically* of what he said to you & to me seems to have been that he would write, to us both as soon as he arrived in Sydney} & could *inform himself*} relatively to the Matronship.

If it were otherwise, I would ask to see you at once, my dear one. But as we cannot hear from him for 4 months, & as I am much pressed & feel as if I must have a little entire rest, you will probably not be sorry to put off seeing me for 2 or 3 weeks.

Your concerns are mine: & your anxiety is mine.

Sir Henry Parkes behaved like a man: which is higher than a gentleman- He neither promoted your going - nor deterred it, but was only anxious to put at our disposal full information. Had he been less of a man, I think he would have snatched at your going.

What information I have as yet about the Prince Alfred is unfavourable-

I have not heard from Miss Pringle which makes me (perhaps unwarrantably) anxious - Do you think She is *not* getting better? She has not answered my letter - [N.B. She has never breathed a word about Sydney to me] I confess I should like to hear from you what impression Sir H Parkes made upon you -

Excuse this scrawl:  
ever yrs

God guide us all - F. Nightingale

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180  
signed letter, 2ff, pen SU180/99

860

July 23 1882

10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}  
PARK LANE. W.

My dear Miss Williams

Your new Secretary  
your ~~future~~ autumn holiday  
dear "Little Sister"  
your health & spirits

all that regards yourself  
all these things are very  
near my heart always - And

I want very much to hear  
about them all

Please tell me

I almost hope to hear that  
you & "Little Sister" may be  
going abroad in about 3  
weeks.

When will it be convenient

to you to come & see me?

Give me the choice of two  
~~days~~ afternoons next week,  
please.

All good attend you-  
But I need not say that  
that is the ever fervent prayer  
of yours ever

F. Nightingale

Mr. Bonham Carter gives  
me a good account of  
you- & of the new  
Secretary which God grant  
to be true permanently

[13:132]

[end 13:132]

I am so very sorry that  
Dr. Bell has not the Chair  
of Surgery: I did my best.  
& more than my best F.N.

[13:365]

[end 13:365]

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180  
signed letter, 2ff, pen SU180/100

861

Aug 6 1882

10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}  
PARK LANE. W.

My dear Miss Williams Your  
great kindness is very  
valuable to us.

If Sir Henry Norman  
does not object, I should  
hope to see Miss Norman  
- would she come to- day  
at 3.30? [I have to  
see Miss Airy later.]  
And would she object to  
go on from me to see Mrs.  
Wardroper, to whom I  
will send a note at once -  
Miss Norman would

[15:921-22]

have to go to St. Thomas'  
at all events to see  
about her outfit  
which we provide - & where  
most of the patterns &  
material are lying -  
ALL the women are to wear  
the same uniform. [Indeed  
I rather promoted this..]  
for protection-

I trust then to make  
Miss Norman's acquaintance  
at 3.30, if Sir Henry  
gives his consent:

You see there is scarcely  
an hour to lose.  
I was so glad to see you,  
my Goddess, last night:  
God bless you  
ever yours  
F. Nightingale

[end 15:922]

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180  
SU180/101 signed letter, 2ff, pen

862

Aug 11 1882

10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}  
PARK LANE. W.

My dear Miss Williams

Yes: certainly: I would  
not let "Little Sister" pass  
thro' London without my  
having the dear delight of  
seeing her.

Would 5 on "Wednesday"  
afternoon suit her?

Tell me if it is too  
late: as you "start early  
"on Thursday morning".  
And I will make it 4,  
& not keep her late.

I am glad you are going  
to Paris- I mean not going

[15:924]

'straight on end' through  
to Geneva.

She or you will tell me  
your plans.

Mrs. Deeble announced on

Tuesday that she was  
not going- herself with the  
War Nurses. I wonder  
whether this was owing to  
"Little Sister's" declining.

No help in the whole  
world that could have  
been given her would have  
been equal to Little Sister's.  
But how could she have

the audacity to ask her?

- was it to go as a "Nursing  
"Sister"?

God bless you both - &  
guide two such precious  
workers of His -

How is "Little Sister"? - and  
what are your ~~plans~~ routes  
for abroad? Give me an  
address.

I fear I shall not have time to  
write to "Little Sister".

Would you kindly tell her?

And oh I do hope she  
will not do too much.

Is she going to that place  
you mentioned as recommended  
by Dr. Balfour?

I shall hope to see her & you at Lea Hurst.

I am grieved beyond measure,  
quite cast down, by this cross  
about Miss Norman when  
she & you had been so kind  
about her going at a day's  
notice. But it is  
true that her place is *not*  
*to be filled up*: as I ascertained  
not till late last night. And if  
any more Nurses are sent  
she will be the first chosen.

I cannot form the least  
guess- I suppose the authorities  
on the spot cannot- as to  
the prospect of this.

[end]

Good speed to your holiday  
& Little Sister's, dear friends,  
& forget us all for the time  
ever yrs F. Nightingale

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180  
SU180/102 incomplete letter, 6ff, pencil

864

10 South St. W.

Nov 28/82

My very dear Miss Williams

I cannot tell you how  
glad I was to hear from  
you these two times,  
tho' you would not think  
so by my silence -

It was very good of  
you to let me have news  
of Miss Norman. She  
has kindly written to  
me several times- And  
I have just heard from

[15:946-47]

her again- Abbasiych  
Hospital, near Cairo -  
Miss Airy & her company  
have also just been  
sent up from Ramleh, Alexandria,  
to ~~their~~ her, Miss Airy's, great joy, to  
the Citadel Hospl=, Cairo,  
where there were no  
Sisters but two useless,  
kindly nuns, & where  
they, Nurses, were very much  
wanted.

I am sorry to say the  
need for the really  
well-trained Nurses  
who are out there still continues  
very great -  
In answer to your question,  
the Director-General  
called upon me a  
short time ago, & after  
saying that till the  
War Office had determined  
the number of troops of  
the Army of Occupation,  
he could not positively

decide about the stay  
of the Nurses in Egypt,  
asked me: what we  
should like our Nurses  
& what *they* would like  
to do: to which I  
replied that I was  
sure they would wish  
to stay as long as their  
services were needed -  
[As you know, there has  
been & is very severe  
Typhoid or rather Enteric

[2]

This morning I have a  
letter from Mrs. Fellowes  
& Miss Solly (who, I  
am happy to say, are  
transferred from the  
"Carthage" where there  
is now little work, to  
the Gabari Hospl=,  
Alexandria, where there  
is very heavy work), -  
asking advice about  
their staying out.

If you will allow me,  
I will write you in a  
few days any more  
positive information  
I can gather- But  
it seems to me that at  
Cairo & Gabari work  
-among sick is not  
slackening at all -

As for the great &  
positive afflictions of  
Military Nursing, the

greater they are, the  
 more must we not  
 rejoice to be there?  
 I warned all our Sisters  
 what they were: & I think  
 I warned Miss Norman -  
 No one but those who  
 have not ~~felt~~ done it can  
 look upon Military Nursing  
 as an enthusiasm of glory,  
 but as a very, very trying strain, &  
 unsatisfactory struggle.

But the really - trained  
 Nurses have saved many,  
 many lives -

[end 15:947]

By the way, I think I  
 gave you, as I did  
 "Little Sister," 3 months  
 and a day as the *outside* of the time  
 Miss Mackenzie would  
 stay out. I was quite  
 wrong. She has not  
 stayed out that time  
 & is now on her way home.

[3]

Miss Norman is longing  
 to be with you again:  
 (as are some of ours)  
 but she is quite brave  
 at her post

I was so very glad to  
 hear of you from {rest of folio cut}

may I not have a  
 good account from  
 you of *my Goddess*?  
 So Guy's Hospl= Matron  
 is going to leave?  
 {rest of page cut out}

Don't you think  
 Miss Pringle must  
 have another holiday?

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180 867  
signed letter & envelope, 2ff, pencil SU180/103

{envelope:}

To enquire

a verbal answer {2 words up diag}

with a pheasant

& a framed t=

Miss Williams

St. Mary's Hospl=

22/1/83

Paddington

10 South St.

Jan 22/83

My very dear Miss Williams

I am so very sorry for  
your illness which I have

only just heard of from

'Little Sister'- I am not

sorry that she & you

are going away - tho'

I know not where to-

somewhere in the S. of

England? - She is not

very well, I am afraid -

She must come & see me

on her way back.

My sister has had the

very worst attack of

Rheumatic Arthritis I

ever saw: & tho' she

has just been moved

to Claydon, she is not

much better -

Now pray God this

may find you better.

I know none of your  
people now, I think -

Else I would send

my New Year's greetings

to all, & especially to you,

my Goddess, which

this text will carry on

its wings -

God bless you

ever yours

F. Nightingale

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180 868  
signed letter & postmarked envelope, 1f, pen SU180/104

{envelope:}

Miss Williams  
St. Mary's Hospital  
Paddington

29/12/83

W.

Dec 29/83

10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}  
PARK LANE. W.

My dear Miss Williams

How fares my Goddess? Not  
despairing nor disconsolate, I trust -  
- full of work I know -

My very best Christmas & New  
Year's wishes to my Goddess.

Success to your Provident Nurses'  
scheme. When it came, I was struggling,  
somewhat in vain, with an accumulated  
load of work, trying to make up lost time  
from my poor sister's terrible illness, &  
my own & from my poor maid Fanny

[2]

having fallen into Consumption - And  
then I wanted to talk ~~at~~ the scheme over with  
Mr. Bonham Carter who is very busy.

Pardon if I have not had time yet.  
And, returning to my Goddess, let me  
know how she is. I shall hope  
soon to see her- But I know that

now she is overdone with Christmas as  
I cannot help giving her joy that she has  
(what I have not) the path of God's work  
so clearly marked out which she can do  
so well- I hope she is well. Now God  
bless her: ever her faithful ~~slave~~ devotee F. Nightingale

printed Xmas card & postmarked envelope, 1f, pencil  
{envelope:}

Miss Williams  
St. Mary's Hospital  
Paddington

W.

29/12/83

{printed card front:} [calligraphy]

The Peace  
of GOD which passeth  
all Understanding  
Phil. 4.  
7.  
his Name  
shall be  
called....  
PRINCE of PEACE  
Is. 9.6  
CHRISTMAS

{card back by F.N.}

For  
our dear Miss Williams  
And may she who shows  
so truly the "good will  
towards men" have the  
promised "peace on earth" -  
And may the highest  
blessings of Christmas & the  
New Year be hers. May  
1884 be happy & prosperous  
in the greatest sense -  
with  
Florence Nightingale's  
love  
Dec 29 1883

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180

870

note, 1f, pencil {archivist:} FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE TO RACHEL WILLIAMS  
LETTERS 105-28 1884

initialed note, 1f, pen

10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}  
PARK LANE. W.

F. Nightingale's love  
& very best wishes & prayers -  
for the highest blessings for the  
New Year upon my love.

I feel uneasy at not having  
heard from my Goddess-

And how is "Little Sister"?

F.N.

4/1/84 SU180/105

initialed letter & postmarked envelope, 1f, pencil SU180/106  
{envelope:}

Miss Williams  
St. Mary's Hospital  
Paddington

5/1/8 W.

Jan 5/84

10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}  
PARK LANE. W.

I am so very sorry for your sore  
Medical woes. But why  
should my Goddess be disturbed  
by them? Goddesses are never  
disturbed by the sorest worries-

Yes: I will put off any thing  
& every thing that can by  
possibility or impossibility be  
put off- to see my Goddess. Let

her fix ~~her own day~~ (now at once,  
please) her own day for any  
afternoon she likes at 5 -

And I am her devoted

F. Nightingale

Could you kindly send me  
Mr. Bonham Carter's note  
to you on your Provident  
Scheme that I may consider  
the two together? F.N.

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180  
signed letter, 1f, pen SU180/107

871

July 19/84

10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}  
Dearest Miss Williams PARK LANE. W.

I feel the greatest anxiety to  
know how yesterday's Board went  
off. [In consultation with Mr.  
Bonham Carter I did write a  
note stating what you mentioned  
of our conversation last year, for  
him to make use of or not, as you he  
judged useful at the time] I don't know  
what he} yours ever, my Goddess  
did } F. Nightingale

2ff, Edward Sieveking to Miss Williams, July 20 1884, 17 Manchester Square, W., re: Miss  
Williams difficulties with the Board and he confirms his continued support SU180/108

SU180/109 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

10 South St.

July 27/84

My dear Goddess

I am longing to hear  
how Friday's Board  
& your matters are going  
on -

God bless you:

ever yours F.N.

I cannot get rid of my

cough (you kindly ask)  
& am still on my back

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180  
signed letter, 1f, pencil SU180/110

872

10 South St.

July 30/84

Dearest Miss Williams

I return your letters  
with many thanks: &  
feel very anxious to know  
how Tuesday's meeting  
went off- but it seems  
to me that you are  
winning, as you ought to do,  
~~on~~ all along the line - & that,  
for one cantankerous  
man, you have a  
multitude which  
sticketh closer than a  
brother of friends

And I am far more  
anxious that my Goddess  
should have her holiday  
now as soon as possible,  
& that "Little Sister"  
should join her & take  
a good holiday somewhere  
It must be as desirable  
for the one as for the  
other. Tell me that  
this may be so:

& believe me  
ever yours  
F. Nightingale

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180  
signed letter, 2ff, pencil SU180/111

873

10 South St.  
August 5/84  
7 a.m.

Dearest Miss Williams

There is a good proverb,  
Let sleeping dogs lie.

[13:132]

As you say: you "did not  
"bargain for an increase:  
"they gave it to" you  
"without" your "asking  
for it"

You are completely  
"exonerated" by the Report.

But as Mr. Lane  
made the application  
& as you appear to be  
anxious to *offer* to give  
up the Matronship, (which

of course they cannot  
accept), do you  
not think that you  
should be guided by  
Mr. Lane's advice  
which doubtless you  
have asked? I hope it  
will be to do *nothing*?

You also said in a previous note that you  
"THOUGHT" Mr. Clay was  
of your opinion, &  
that he would ~~write~~ draft  
a 'more civil' letter  
for you to write. What  
has come of his opinion?  
I think a great deal of  
that. I also hope it  
will be to do *nothing* -

Mr. Bonham Carter is, as  
you doubtless know, at  
Ravensbourne  
Keston

Beckenham: Kent.  
& every day at his Office  
11 Lombard St. W E.C.  
These three men would  
guide you in any  
step that would be best  
to take. *They* KNOW  
the people with whom  
you have to deal.

*Pray* do not give too  
much importance to  
what you call the "tone"  
of the Report.

I cannot but give you (111)  
joy of your triumph -  
And now I pray to hear  
soon that you have  
started on your much  
needed holiday with  
Miss Pringle.

God bless you -  
I was so very sorry not  
to be able to write last  
night. Tomorrow I  
go to my Sister at Claydon  
although very little fit for it -  
- I ought to have gone  
to-day. All letters to me  
here will be forwarded  
Good speed.

ever my Goddess'  
devoted

F. Nightingale

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180  
signed letter, 2ff, pencil

875

Claydon House  
Winslow Bucks  
Aug 13/84

Dearest Miss Williams

It was the greatest relief [13:132-33]  
to hear from you, tho'  
I had previously heard  
from Mr. B.C. of his  
interview with Mr. Clay &  
what they had settled.  
You have done the best.  
The thing is on a good  
footing. Pray try &  
dismiss it from your mind  
- fold it up with God.

Yes, "Little Sister" is a  
person of unparalleled  
obduracy (about holidays)  
But, my dear, you are a  
Goddess - the Sun is at your  
command- don't you know  
how your Sun will melt  
the hardest hearts, when  
Boreas only makes them  
shut up the tighter? I  
promise you she shall go  
a little holiday with you,  
tho' alas! She ought to  
have 2 months.

My dearest love to her -  
& please to Miss Spencer.

I will return the copy of  
your letter to the Board -  
which you have been so  
good as to send me -

Now, good speed to your  
holiday - & forget us all  
for the present -

Tell "little Sister" there  
is no chance for me of  
what she portrays [?] - even  
were I able to go so far -  
My sister is, thank God, no  
worse. I think her better -  
more sleep, less pain, not  
quite so helpless.

I was scarcely able to get (112)  
out of bed ~~when~~ the first  
day -

It is 31 years to- day  
since I retired into  
"public life". Pray for me  
that God may forgive my  
short comings.

ever yours devotedly

F. Nightingale

My kind regards to Miss  
Byam if I may

signed letter & postmarked envelope, 2ff, pencil SU180/113  
{envelope:}

Miss Williams

St. Mary's Hospital

Paddington

10/9/84

London W.

Oct 10/84

Claydon House, {printed address}

Bucks.

My dear Miss Williams

My mind & heart  
has been full of my  
Goddess, as she may  
suppose, these weeks -  
In communication with  
Mr. Bonham Carter, he  
told me that he should  
see you before he left  
home, & "if possible have  
"a meeting with Mr. Clay"-  
- & that he would "return  
to-day

"again" to London "for  
"a day or two before  
"going abroad", (which  
he much needs)-

I long to know the  
present state of  
affairs as to yourself -  
& I pray God that it  
may be what we  
wish & you deserve -

May God bless you with  
His choicest blessings

I am kept here by my  
sister not being so well -  
I have not had a day's  
holiday - But if all  
is well with you &  
"Little Sister", that will  
be my holiday -

I hope to be in  
South St. in a week.

Mr. Clay & Mr -  
Bonham Carter will be  
your best advisers -  
But I yearn to know:  
God grant it may be all right  
ever yours

F. Nightingale

initialialed letter & postmarked envelope, 1f, pen  
{envelope:}

Miss Williams  
St. Mary's Hospital  
Paddington

18/10/84 London W.

Oct. 18/84 SU180/114  
10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}  
PARK LANE. W.

My dear friend

I cruelly grieve with you - [13:133]  
Have you seen Mr. Clay &  
Mr. Lane since the Board  
reported? [I am afraid Mr.  
Bonham Carter? is gone abroad]  
You will tell me what they  
say when I see you on ~~Sunday~~  
~~or~~ Monday. May God bless you  
yours ever F.N. [end 13:133]

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180

878

signed letter & envelope, 3ff, pencil  
{envelope:} SU180/115

Miss Williams

St. Mary's Hospl=

22/10/84

Private {up diag} 10 S. St

Oct 21/84

My dear friend

I wrote to Dr. Sieveking,

[13:133-34]

& his answer was; to come  
& ~~spea~~k here & talk. He is so  
exceedingly 'aggravated'  
(& no wonder) by the  
malice & injustice that  
he will not pledge  
himself to do anything -  
not even to appear at  
Friday's Meeting - tho' he  
does not refuse -

The thing to do is  
obviously this: to get  
10 or 12 Independent  
Governors, ~~to~~ all who will  
interest themselves in  
supporting the truth, to  
attend - but, besides  
this, to find an independent  
Governor, - better *not* a  
Medical Officer, - who  
will speak on Friday,  
put the true view of  
the case, after having

carefully got up the  
details - (urging, ~~for~~  
~~instance~~, besides, the strong point  
of their having raised  
the *Secretary's* salary).

If Mr. Clay, -(tho' he  
is not a Governor, he  
must know Governors,  
good men & true)- if  
Mr. Lane, & Mr. Owen  
would each ~~speak to~~ enlist  
3 or 4 Governors, by  
explaining the case, the  
thing would be done -

And let them find a (115)  
man (an independent  
Governor) who can &  
will speak on Friday. [Dr. S.  
thinks that such a man  
would win over several  
of Dr. B.'s supporters]:

Excuse a short note.  
[A lady came by  
appointment on some  
rather distressing business  
before Dr. Sieveking  
was out of the house

[2]

And she is only just  
gone-]  
But I must send this  
note to you to- night -  
We *must not* let the  
Devil win. To let the  
thing go by default,  
is intolerable -

If your three friends  
each brought ~~one or~~  
two independent Governors  
& these six each brought  
one more, surely that

would not be so  
difficult. But they  
must find a speaker -  
Now God defend the  
right -  
ever yours  
my dear friend  
F. Nightingale  
Miss Williams

initialed letter & envelope, 3ff, pencil SU180/116

{envelope:}

*wait*

Miss Williams  
St. Mary's Hospital  
23/10/84 Paddington  
Oct 23/84

My dear Miss Williams

Lord Carlingford left **[13:134-35]**  
Lord Granville's before Sir  
Harry Verney arrived there  
last night-

If you will kindly send  
me (by messenger) a *short*  
clear statement of what  
your good advisers wish  
laid before Lord C., I will  
write it, in the form of a  
letter to Sir Harry Verney,  
& he will ask ~~him to~~  
Ld C. to

read it & to act on it.

Sir Harry thinks it  
better that it should go  
in my name than in  
his: because, he says,  
he can only speak in  
my name -

Good speed  
ever yours  
F.N.

Probably Lord Carlingford  
hardly knows who Dr.  
Meadows is - certainly  
not his connection with  
this melancholy affair

Must he not be  
told why he is to  
"hint" to DR. MEADOWS  
&c &c ?

The difficulty is, you  
see, how to make the  
statement to Ld Carling-  
ford without revealing

these unhappy  
"squabbles" which revelation you  
say would alienate  
Dr. Meadows -

I felt this in  
explaining the case  
to Sir Harry- I did  
not wish to tell him  
anything that he must  
not tell to Lord Carlingfd

23/10/84

I will immediately begin  
writing my letter - for there  
is not a minute to be  
lost- to day being the  
opening of Parlmt= And  
Sir Harry will ask Lord  
Carlingford to read it &  
to act upon it.

Good speed

Shall I send in to No- 4  
& see whether Sir Harry is  
in & at liberty for you  
to see him?

ever yrs F.N.

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180  
initialed letter, 1f, pen SU180/117

882

10 South St. Oct 25/84  
Dearest Miss Williams

I cannot sufficiently thank [13:135]  
God that such a calamity to  
St. Mary's as well as to you  
has been happily averted -  
And I give St. Mary's joy -  
Good speed to you & your

work - (117)

My dear Goddess has  
preserved a noble front  
thro' it all: ever hers  
F.N.  
How relieved "little Sister"  
will be.

SU180/118 signed letter, 2ff, pencil

10 South St. W. Nov 1/84  
Dearest Miss Williams

[13:135]

This is most disastrous -  
most disgraceful. The more  
reason not to fly before the  
enemy -

It is all-important to  
convince Ld= Carlingford  
that we have been urging  
that which is right- No  
one can do that so properly  
as Dr. Meadows. We hope  
that Dr. Meadows will  
write to Lord C., so that  
Ld= C. may have it all in  
black & white before him:

(he is at Balmoral)

We hope, further, that Dr.

Meadows will have an interview with Lord C. on his return to London, & that he may convince Ld C. that right is on his side.

If he succeeds in doing this, we may expect that Ld- C. will take action, defend the right, & make it gain the day -

All must depend on Dr. Meadows' communications, written & personal, with

Ld C-           No private favour, or consideration for me or any one else, ought to have weight

-----

To give way to evil is to flee before an unworthy adversary -

Gird all thy armour on: God bless you -

ever yours

F. Nightingale

Ld Carlingford attended the Cabinet yesterday & went down to Balmoral

afterwards. He could not have attended the St. Mys Meeting even if otherwise possible -

I am overwhelmed with business - but my thoughts are with you:-

God will uphold the cause if we do not despair -

St. Mary's shall not be ruined- 'Trust in God & keep your powder F.N. {lines on 3 sides of initials} dry-'

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180 884  
SU180/119 signed letter & envelope, 7ff, pencil  
{envelope:}

with a pheasant  
Miss Williams  
St. Mary's Hospital  
6/11/84 Paddington  
(119)

10 South St. Nov 6/84 [13:135-37]  
Dearest Miss Williams

My thoughts are your  
thoughts - they are full of  
your, may I not say *our*? -  
sad affairs at St. Mary's-  
And I was just sending  
you a note to ask what  
was doing - especially about  
writing to Ld Carlingford -  
when your sad little note  
came -

Is not the thing of first  
importance to lay a  
statement of the whole case

before your President?  
Nay, it would be breaking  
faith with him if it  
were not done -

[This is now being done]  
Is not the next thing for  
you to take no step  
till you know the results  
of this letter to him - the  
action he will take?

[You will remember that  
I stated to him,- at Mr  
Clay's suggestion & at  
yours- that you wished  
for, that you invited

a full investigation to be  
 made by him - & that you  
 wished to abide by his  
 decision - I thought  
 this so important, in  
 order that I might not  
 appear to be asking for  
 any personal favour  
 but only for justice -  
 & that he might not think  
 my brief letter all we had  
 to say, that I  
 underlined it.]

Will it not seem as if

my beloved Goddess were (119)  
 afraid to await Lord  
 Carlingford's full understanding  
 of the case [how far  
 from the truth!!], if she  
 precipitately resigned  
 before he had had time  
 even to consider the  
 statement which I am  
 now thankful to hear  
 is being drawn up?

[I appealed from Lord  
 Carlingford to your President  
 - not to any fear or favour -  
 Your President must have

[2]

the case before him -  
 and the Matron must  
 show she has no fear -  
 Else, it would indeed  
 be sacrificing the fruit  
 of 8 years' most  
 excellent work.

Surely she should wait  
 quietly - that is the true  
 dignity - with her friends  
 & devoted worshippers  
 around her - till Ld- C.'s  
 answer as President is  
 given - If she does not

like it or cannot accept it,  
 & we are forced to resign  
 at last - then she  
 could with dignity resign,  
 giving 3 months' notice.  
 And *they* the Hospital could refuse to  
 accept her resignation -  
 But if she resigned now,  
 the malicious would say  
 that my Goddess was  
 'running away with her  
 tail between her legs',  
 would not they? - And I  
 could not bear that -

The 'persecuted for  
 righteousness' sake' never  
 run away

2. *Is Mr. Bonham Carter  
 come back?* I did not  
 know that - I wanted so  
 much to see him about  
 this very affair - because  
 his opinion is so '*considered*'  
 & *without 'considerations'*,  
 i.e. of factitious & secondary  
 things

But even if he *has now*  
 given you that "opinion"- that

(119)

you should "resign", he  
 must have done so  
 without knowing that the  
 whole matter has been  
 distinctly referred to the  
 President of the Hospital,  
 a full statement promised,  
~~with~~ his decision invited  
 And that that full  
 statement has not even  
 been sent in yet - (Nor can  
 "Little Sister" know this)

Please let me see Mr.  
 Bonham Carter, after you  
 have told him all that has  
~~p~~ now passed - & let me  
 take his advice. Where is he?

[3]

3. I understood from you,  
or it may have been from  
some one else, that you  
told the Board you were  
"ready to consider its  
proposals" - I did not  
know of this. If it is the  
case, must you not  
wait till the Board  
transmits them to you?

This is however quite  
independent of the *engagement*  
to wait ~~till~~ for the  
President's decision  
And I would ~~not~~ defer thinking of  
it at present

~~I have scarcely time  
to breathe till the new  
{illeg whole line}  
next week- There are  
papers~~

Now God be with you,  
my dearest friend. And  
He is with you -

Do not throw up the  
"sponge" - And you will  
not- 'Fight the good  
fight of faith'- the faith  
that God is on your side -  
& you must be on *His* side  
ever yours

F. Nightingale

Private {up diag} [4]

Your friends are such  
good men & true- I have  
rarely seen such devotion  
But it seems a pity that  
these good friends at the  
Board should, by telling  
you all about the squabbles  
there, make you a party  
to them -

[If one's dearest friend  
were to tell one all that  
is said in even indifferent  
society about one, it  
would make life impossible  
- certainly the 'blessing' to the

'peace maker' impossible.

Let them fight their best  
for you, but not bother you  
with all the outs & ins -

Also: has not that  
discussing Board matters  
in your room (which  
is 'unparliamentary') been  
taken in bad part by those  
who are not your friends?  
You have been made the  
scape goat for all the  
jealousies of the place -

[It is like Ld Ripon who  
has been made the scape goat  
in India]

The persistent malice  
of the enemy is directed  
not against you but  
against this (fancied) Cabal

It is Cabal versus Cabal.  
Cabal for bad against  
Cabal for good

The enemy are fighting for  
their influence in the Hospital  
& making you the scape goat

I have scarcely time to breathe  
till the new Viceroy starts for India  
next week- There are papers to  
prepare. But I trust to see you,  
dear friend, before Friday week.

signed letter, 1f, pen SU180/120

Nov 12/84

10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}  
PARK LANE. W.

My dearest Miss Williams

Let me hear something from  
you: something of what you are  
proposing & feeling: something  
of what has passed with Lord  
Carlingford & with Mr. Bonham  
Carter. You are ever on my heart  
& mind. God bless you

yours most anxiously

F. Nightingale

signed letter & postmarked envelope, 1f, pen  
{envelope:}

Miss Williams

St. Mary's Hospital  
Paddington

14/11/84

W

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180  
SU180/121

890

Nov 14/84

10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}  
PARK LANE. W.

Dearest Miss Williams

I have not heard from you [13:137]  
but I have ascertained from  
Mr. Bonham Carter that he is  
"waiting to receive" from you  
the "proposed statement being  
"drawn up by Mr. Clay" - & that  
he "concluded from our  
"conversation" (his & yours) "that

"nothing would be done until  
he "& other friends had seen &  
"discussed that"- I hope he  
is right. I looked forward to  
to-day's Meeting with terror,  
lest you should send in your  
resignation in *haste* -

God bless you, dear friend  
yours most anxiously  
(121) F. Nightingale

SU180/123 initialed letter & postmarked envelope, 1f, pencil

{envelope:}

Miss Williams  
St. Mary's Hospital -  
Paddington  
W.

19/11/84

10 South St.

Nov 19/84

Dearest Miss Williams

To-morrow at 5 I will [13:138]  
gladly expect you -

I will look at the  
"Statement" if ~~it~~ that will do  
you the least good - But  
I am afraid it will not -  
You & not "the Statement"  
are the ~~thing~~ Goddess to me -

I never had the least  
idea of your having any  
thing to do with showing the

statement to Lord Carlingfd-  
That is for others to do  
in greatest haste  
God bless you  
ever yours  
F.N.

SU180/124 signed letter & envelope, 4ff, pen

{envelope:}

Miss Williams  
St. Mary's Hospital  
1/12/84  
SU180/124  
10 South St.  
Dec 1/84

Dearest Miss Williams

[13:138]

I heard from Mr.  
Bonham Carter after  
last Tuesday's Meeting.  
It was much to the same  
purpose as Mr. Clay's,  
only put in a different  
manner -

the letter to be sent  
to Lord Carlingford,  
signed by several -  
with the statement -  
the interview to be  
requested

Of course you cannot  
resign while this action  
is being taken.

Both Mr. Clay & Mr.  
Bonham Carter implying  
the intention of bringing  
before the President  
the matter of the present  
*Government* of St. Mary's.

It would be most  
undignified to run  
away now - even were  
you to resign the very day

after it was settled, if it  
 is to be settled, that there  
 can be no change of  
 Government.

I should, I do deeply  
 regret & feel with you  
 the worry & harass of  
 preparing all those  
 Statistics. But the task  
 they have given you will  
 open their eyes to my  
 Goddess' ~~illeg~~ worth -  
 & lead to a trust in her  
 that no enemy, no Doctor  
 or Secretary can shake

And therefore † it is  
 only my weakness that  
 regrets it- But your  
 troubles are my troubles.

[2]

"Little Sister" is very far  
 from well. I do trust  
 she is not thinking of  
 coming up to you now-  
 She is quite unequal  
 to the fatigue -

The sudden death of  
 my cousin, Jack Bonham  
 Carter, his sorrow-stricken  
 family, are a great  
 shock. He was buried  
 on Saturday - the  
 Saturday before, he was

the joy & centre of his  
 family. He was Mr.  
 Hy Bonham Carter's eldest  
 brother. Hy B.C. will  
 I am sure resume his  
 duties as soon as possible

But he is always the one  
 called in to help wherever  
 there is anything to do  
 May God guide us -

ever yours

F. Nightingale

I have been & am  
quite laid up with  
Infammn= of the Eyes &  
all the rest of it ever  
since I saw my Goddess.

I should like to have  
written every day. But  
I have had many cares

Still I am always with  
you in heart tho' not in  
presence. And in  
presence I shall hope for  
some day this week

God bless you - And  
He will bless you -

2ff Mr Clay to Miss William, Tues afternoon, The Temple, re: impression from the meeting, to which he feels Bonham Carter and Nicholson see as well, that it be impossible/undesirable that she remain at St Mary's under the present government, Sir Pycroft and Lane to bring forward a statement re the case, suggests however she withold her resignation at present (124)

SU180/125 signed letter & envelope, 3ff, pen

{envelope:}

a verbal answer please  
Miss Williams  
St. Mary's Hospital

2/12/84

10 South St.  
Dec 2/84

Dearest Miss Williams

[13:139]

I do indeed feel that  
the first thing is that  
you should go away  
& have rest for a  
fortnight or even 10 days  
before Christmas (& more  
afterwards)

Would it be possible  
for you to do this?

Suppose you were to  
get away directly, you  
might be back say  
the 15<sup>th</sup> - would not

that be time enough  
for Xmas?

The difference between your  
advisers seems to be this  
that Mr. Clay & Mr. Bonham  
Carter wish for the  
interview with the President  
at once - & for you  
not to resign till after  
that, if it be necessary  
then - & Sir T. Pycroft  
& Dr. Meadows wish  
matters to quiet down  
first - & for you not to

resign till after *then*, if  
*then*.

I cannot possibly judge  
about the appeal to  
Lord C., (my appeal to  
whom was entirely as  
you know at the suggestion  
of others)

Till I see Mr. Bonham Carter  
again I could have no  
opinion about this.  
About the resignation, I can  
only judge as for myself -  
Everything, I believe I may

say every thing was done  
that could be done either  
on the earth or under the  
earth to make me resign  
during the Crimean War.  
But I never felt a moment's  
doubt on the question:  
I would not resign.  
I might be driven from  
my post

I would not run away-  
Dearest - I do not say this is  
any guide for you -  
And above all I want  
you to get away now for

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180

895

a week or two - (125)

Would it do any good  
if you could come this  
afternoon at 5 or at  
6 & talk things  
over with your  
ever loving old friend  
F. Nightingale

SU180/126 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

Dec 2/84

Dearest Miss Williams

You know you can't do  
without eating. Please  
excuse my taking a liberty  
& eat a bit of what I  
venture to send -

I have written to Mr. Hy  
Bonham Carter. I am sorry  
to say his cold is very heavy.  
And one of the children is ill.

I want much to know  
what you are doing: my Goddess,  
about Friday-  
Good cheer: & go away on Saturday  
ever yrs F.N.  
Did you ever read Jackanapes?

SU180/127 envelope, pencil

*with 4 fresh eggs} wait*  
Miss Williams  
St. Mary's Hospital  
6/12/84 Paddington

signed letter & postmarked envelope, 1f, pen

{envelope:}

Miss Williams  
St. Mary's Hospital  
Paddington  
14/12/84 W.

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180  
SU180/128 letter:

896

Dec 14/84  
10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}  
PARK LANE. W.

Dearest Miss Williams

I am so thankful that you  
are going away for a fortnight  
God speed:

ever yours affte

F. Nightingale

I shall see Mr. Bonham  
Carter to day & hear  
about your affairs

Little Sister as you know goes

to Liverpool on Tuesday -  
sails from thence on Wednesday  
to Bordeaux - good angels guide  
her - then to Pau where she  
has a cousin in charge of a  
Miss Lang

God save you both  
God bless us all

note, 1f, pencil {archivist:} FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE TO RACHEL WILLIAMS LETTERS 129-47  
1885 (Jan + Feb.)

St. MARY'S HOSPITAL ~~EGYPT~~

signed letter & envelope, 2ff, pencil

{envelope:}

ask for an answer

Miss Williams

St. Mary's Hospital

11/1/85

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180  
SU180/129 10 South St. Sunday  
Jan 11/85

897

O dearest Miss Williams,  
this is bitter & grievous  
indeed- I know not  
what to say - so bitter is it  
Would you care to come  
& talk it over with me,  
who know not how to think  
of any thing else, this evening  
~~at~~ (Sunday) at 5 or at 6 -  
- but *not* if you are going  
to any of your better advisers  
I am sorry that I have  
been long engaged on business,

[13:139-40]

for Monday, Tuesday,  
Wednesday & Thursday  
in this week, which is  
the reason I ask you, if  
possible, to come to- day.  
May God be with us  
both.

ever yours  
F. Nightingale

You say you mean to send  
in your resignation *to the*  
*President*. Of course if  
our friends among the Governors  
have not *already* done so,  
they must, without delay,  
send in their own statement  
to Lord Carlingford. It  
ought to have gone in  
before yours. As it is  
impossible that you should  
be left to resign without  
their giving a full statement  
of the real circumstances -  
& of what has led to your  
resignation (to the great

detriment or indeed (129)

ruin of ~~the~~ St. Mary's Hospital)

-i.e. without *their* F.N. {with 3 lines around initials}

*backing your "reasons*

*"for so doing"*-(resigning)

if it must be done,

with their knowledge & view

of things from the beginning -

SU180/130 signed letter, 2ff, pencil

10 South St.

Jan 18/85

Dearest Miss Williams

I cannot tell you how

[13:140]

I feel all this for you &

*with you -*

But it is quite certain

that you were perfectly right

to *fight the right* to the

end - even had it been

possible exactly to foresee

the end

But it is *not* the end.

Right never has an end -

Because Right is God -

& God is Almighty

You have been an

admirable Matron for 8

years- And the fruit

of your work is laid up

for eternity- *No good*

*work ever fails -*

The greatest failure

of all, as it appeared,

gave heaven to the world,

& was the greatest triumph.

If you have time to  
come & see me this  
evening about 5 or 6,  
please do

But I think your  
gallant adherents will  
want to see you to- day,  
& as alas! there is  
nothing imminent now  
but (I can hardly bear  
to write the word) your  
own resignation, I could  
find some evening - this  
week after Thursday,

if you would be so (130)  
good as to come -

Perhaps too you are  
anxious about Miss  
Gardiner: but see how  
well you have pulled  
her through hitherto -

God bless you: God *will*  
bless you - & spare  
Little Sister  
ever yours in deepest  
sympathy  
F. Nightingale

postmarked envelope, pen  
Miss Williams  
St. Mary's Hospital  
23/1/85 Paddington  
W

initialled note, 1f, pencil SU180/132

Is your cough ~~better~~ well?  
If not may I send  
you these Lozenges?  
with love -  
F.N.

5/2/85

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180

900

SU180/133 incomplete letter & postmarked envelope, 2ff, pen & pencil  
{envelope:}

Miss Williams

St. Mary's Hospital  
Paddington

10/2/85

W

Private 10 South St.

Feb 10/85

Dearest Miss Williams

Many, many thanks for  
your most kind note of  
Sunday.

I learn this morning from  
Mr. Bonham Carter that he  
did speak to Mrs. Wardroper  
about your Nurses, or  
rather she mentioned your  
offer- No Sister will be  
required, he ~~she~~ believes,  
till Easter [Mrs. Wardroper  
thought she might require

Nurses - but that is  
nothing to the purpose-]

We think that if you  
could & would be so good  
as to call upon her again,  
(now the "Concert" is over-]  
you would be able to  
obtain some decision.

I feel so much with  
your weary work now -  
God bless you-  
I am so glad Miss Gardiner  
has made such a cure  
under you.

I heard last night from  
 "Little Sister" - She is  
 evidently delighted with  
 your offer to go to  
 Edinburgh. She hopes  
 you will go, whether  
 with or without her, to  
 their help in their "need".

She is under orders to  
 stay at Pau, as you know,  
 till the end of February:  
 but she owns it may  
 be till the end of March.

She says: "My being there  
 (at Edinburgh)

"or not at the beginning (133)

"need make no difference -

"She knows I am always

"there for her"

She will not hear of your

being "Night Supt=".

If she is not there, she says

"it will have to be

"arranged with Miss Spencer".

Miss Spencer, you know, adores you

"Let her come straight

"back to us with all the

"honours of her good fight,

"& let her stay with us as

"long as she will" says Little

Sister -

SU180/134 signed letter, 2ff, pencil

10 South St.

Feb 14/85

Dearest Miss Williams

I am aghast at your

[15:966]

news that you have

volunteered for Egypt -

But I wish you God

speed from the bottom

of my heart. His Will be done

I believe

the Director Genl=

Army Medical Dept-

6 Whitehall Yard

is the Office you should  
 also apply to-  
 I only had your letter  
 this morning -  
 I will write tomorrow by  
 hand -  
 God bless you & your Sisters  
 ever yours  
 F. Nightingale

[15:966]

*Private* {up diag}

I have not heard one  
*good* word of any of the  
 Highgate Matrons- but  
 the lady you mention  
 may be quite a new comer.

[13:140]

Our Miss Styring writes  
 to me that, she wishes to  
 apply for St. Mary's- But I shall  
 represent to her that it  
 is an impossible post.  
 [Miss Styring is now  
 Assistant Matron at  
 St. Marylebone Infirmary]  
 F.N.

SU180/135 initialed letter & envelope, 3ff, pencil

{envelope:}

Miss Williams  
 St. Mary's

18/2/85

10 South St.  
 Feb 18/85

Dearest Miss Williams  
 God guide us-

I scarcely see how you *can*  
 go in the teeth of such  
 a remonstrance from dear  
 "Little Sister"- or, what  
 is much more *in* the  
 bringing her over here, as  
 you see she is determined to  
 do- & perhaps finding you  
 gone. For it is quite  
*possible* that the summons  
 might come this week.

This might kill her -  
I do see great danger in  
your going - the hot  
weather will be on you  
directly - the destination  
probably Souakim- the  
troops themselves you see  
are not to fight between  
say end of March & August  
but to lay up-

[15:966-67]

To my mind, as you  
know, it seemed thus:-  
I was *aghast* at your going-  
- risk to you not worth  
running. Edinburgh & Little

Sister not worth giving up,  
if it was only for a transient  
rush ~~for~~ to nurse the Wounded\_\_  
almost any risk worth running  
if it were to lead to your  
occupying the post of a  
reformer in Military Nursing  
or any Nursing -

Your losing your calling  
& wasting your great  
powers, (which one word  
in your dear note makes  
me fear you contemplate)  
is, *unless* deliberately done  
& with your whole heart,

to me appalling - (135)

Dearest - I seem to  
write coolly- but I feel  
the decision almost more  
weighty & more anxious  
than even you or Little Sister,  
as you see.

If your idea was merely  
to go to nurse a few men,  
I am afraid Little Sister's  
letters must make one feel  
it almost more important  
to nurse *her*. God bless you  
& her a thousand times with  
all his blessings. ever yours

F.N.

[2]

If your going led to the  
reform, nay the creation  
of Military Nursing by your hands, then  
your leaving St. Mary's  
would have been a "reasonable,  
holy & lively sacrifice"  
to God.

But if not then Little  
Sister is probably right -  
May God bless you ever.

SU180/136 signed letter & envelope, 2ff, pencil

{envelope:}

Most Pressing                      *Wait*  
Miss Williams  
St. Mary's Hospital  
Paddington

19/2/85

10 South St.

Feb 19/85 7 a.m.

[15:968]

Dearest Miss Williams

This letter reached me  
at 11 last night.

I think, if it is not too  
late, you cannot hesitate-  
This is not to nurse a few  
wounded soldiers at Souakim  
It is a magnificent  
mission with probably  
no very particular risk  
attending it - They have  
reserved for you one of their

very best & most  
important posts  
as you deserve - (instead  
of giving it to a half-  
trained half 'conducted'  
person).

It is due to your own  
great merits - & to the  
great interest made for  
you

Little Sister herself  
could not wish you to  
refuse.

I am grieved beyond  
measure that you  
should have had such  
ups & downs - You  
may be sure that all  
night I have been  
wrestling.

Pray return me the  
note I enclose - & pray  
tell me it is not too  
late. You probably  
heard from Dr. Crawford  
yesterday.

God have mercy (136)  
upon us & guide us -  
ever yours

F. Nightingale  
Could I have chosen  
for you, I could not,  
I believe, have chosen  
better- a mission more  
fitted for your great  
powers.

[end]

1f, Harry Verney to Miss Williams, 8 am Feb 19 1885, 4 South Street, Park Lane, re:  
encouraging Miss Williams to accept the offer of the Director General, for the sake of their  
Soldiers

1f, T. Crawford to Dear Sir, Answd 19/2, re: the pleasure of offering Miss Williams an  
appointment as Supt=of Nurses in the General Hospital in Suez, and trusts she will accept  
(137)

1f, Carlingford to Dr Meadows, Feb 20 1885, 4 H. Place (Privy Council Office), re: glad to  
hear of Miss Williams acceptance of the Suez appointment

SU180/138 2ff, Sara S. Meadows to Miss Williams, 27 George Street, Hanover Square W., re: a  
pleasant letter of congratulations for her Suez appointment, refers to a note enclosed she  
might want to see from Ld Carlingford, empathizes with the many unpleasant words Miss  
Williams has had to endure, wishes her good wishes and blessings

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180  
SU180/139 signed letter, 2ff, pencil

906

10 South St.

Feb 21/85

[15:968-69]

Dearest Miss Williams

Thanks for your letter -  
Pardon me, most anxious to  
know what your Friday's  
Board has done about you  
- whether you have any  
further communication from  
Dr. Crawford- whether,  
(God grant she may), Miss  
Byam is going with you-  
- & how you are

It is a pity about the  
uniform.

You see that  
Dr. Barnett, one of the very  
best men we have, is  
Surgeon *in Chief* of the whole  
Souakim Expedition

[he was at Cairo]

Dr. Hinde of the base  
at Souakim

Dr. Fawcett of the Base  
Hospital which I  
suppose means yours at Suez

I know nothing of him  
May he prove all he ought  
to be!

Lady Rosebery is forming  
a Committee of ladies for  
the Sick & Wounded -  
to be a sort of branch  
of the National Aid Socy--  
She has here yesterday  
(in a very vague state)

Would you like to have  
a credit of money either  
from her Socy= or the Nat.  
Aid Socy= to expend  
or not, as occasion shows,  
in extras or such things  
for the wounded, at Suez?

Or are there any *things* (139)  
 you hear would be desirable  
 to take out with you?

[The Nat: Aid Socy= gave  
 a credit of money to Mrs.  
 Fellowes to expend  
 in similar circumstances]

God bless you  
 ever yours

[end 15:969]

F. Nightingale

SU180/140 initialed letter & envelope, 2ff, pencil

{envelope}:

*wait*

Miss Williams

St. Mary's Hospital

22/2/85 Paddington

10 South St.

Feb 22/85

Dearest Miss Williams

Have you received

[15:969-70]

marching orders?

Dr. Crawford writes in  
 answer to mine that  
 "only three Nursing Sisters  
 "are going with Miss  
 "Williams, two of whom have  
 "been nominated by her"

I hope therefore that *both*  
 are 'approved': who is  
 the one besides Miss Byam?

It is the greatest possible

relief that you are to have  
 two of your own with  
 you- Dr. Crawford adds:

"The third was promised an  
 appointment before I  
 had an opportunity of  
 consulting Miss Williams,  
 but I believe she is a  
 very competent Nurse.

"There is of course the  
 usual Staff of Ward Masters  
 & Orderlies for duty in  
 this Hospital".

Have you learnt from  
 Mrs. Deeble what is the

luggage allowed? Our  
 Sisters were allowed a  
 bullock trunk- size fixed  
 a Gladstone bag -  
 & a roll of cloaks?  
 Sir R.L. Lindsay, Chairman  
 of the National Aid Socy=,  
 to whom I have mentioned  
 your appointment at Suez,  
 says that he is "truly glad to  
 "learn that the Govt-  
 "are sending out so able  
 "a Supt="

that Commissary "Young" -

- the very best man you (140)  
 could have - "who is  
 "now in Egypt, will undertake  
 "~~their~~ our work at Suez-  
 "Suakim & the Red Sea  
 "district will be under  
 "Mr. Barrington Kennett  
 "who starts almost  
 "immediately with a  
 "staff of Surgeons &c" -

No doubt Mr. Young will  
 be put in communication  
 with you - God bless you  
 always - ever yours

F.N.

Be sure you favour me  
 by getting some cutlery  
 (stamped with your name  
 on a little plate)

I wish I could save you  
 the trouble of getting it.

[end 15:970]

F.N.

SU180/141 1f, Harry Verney to Miss Williams, Feb 23 1885, 4 South St., re: invitation for  
 Miss Williams to be Lady Verney's and Harry Verney's guest upon her leaving the hospital  
 until her departure

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180  
SU180/142 initialed letter, 3ff, pencil

909

Feb 23/85 su180/142

Dearest Miss Williams,

I have just heard that  
the "Ganges" sails on  
Wednesday afternoon or  
Thursday morning from the  
Albert Docks with 30  
Nurses - 2 for Suez - this must  
be a mistake - & the rest  
for Souakim - the "Ganges" is  
a Hospital Ship to be  
anchored off Souakim  
with these Nurses on board as

[15:971]

the Nursing Staff-

Is it possible that you  
& yours have 'marching  
'orders' to go by the Ganges?

Lady Rosebery, the head  
of the new Ladies' Association  
for Sick & Wounded,  
was with me - & I was  
just in time to stop her  
from ~~having~~ asking for one of ours  
to post at Suez to tell  
them "what ~~to~~ was wanted" \_

by telling her that you  
were going out to Suez  
as Supt= of Nurses - &  
would be of all people  
the most fit to answer  
Telegrams to tell them  
what was wanted for the men.

She wanted to know  
whether she could see  
you & explain - 'Could  
you come to her' at

Lansdowne House  
Berkeley Sq-

between 10.30 and  
12.15

tomorrow (Tuesday)?

I said I thought you  
could not possibly spare  
the time -

She said she was  
going on Wednesday  
morning by the 10.30  
Train to go over the  
Ganges as a Hospital  
ship. Would you make  
yourself known to *her*,  
(Lady Rosebery) if there?'

[2]

Dearest - I can hardly  
believe you are going  
on Wednesday.

Please, a verbal answer.  
God bless you again & again  
ever yours

[end]

F.N.

initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

SU180/143

Feb 23/85

Dearest Miss Williams

[15:971-72]

I cannot think that  
you can be going by the  
Ganges, as you have had  
no orders -

I send the List of the Outfit  
& Articles we furnished our  
Sisters with for Egypt.

I also send Miss  
Crossland's Journal; the  
pages ~~between~~ outside the india-

rubber rings are those  
 which concern what  
 you want

I have also written to  
 Mrs. Wardroper to ask  
 her if Sister Arthur (Miss  
 Winterton) could be spared  
 to go to you early  
 to- morrow - to tell you  
 what was necessary  
 & what was unnecessary  
 & cumbersome of these  
 Articles -

[Mrs. Fellowes is at  
 Liverpool]

Do not be perplexed  
 or distressed- They  
 surely would have  
 sent you orders were  
 you going by the Ganges-  
 God bless & give you  
 the peace His love  
 intends for you.  
 ever & ever yours  
 F.N.

initialed letter, 2ff, pen SU180/144

10 South St.  
 Feb 24/85

Dearest Miss Williams

[15:972]

Have you had any  
 'marching orders'? If not,  
 I will ask Sir Harry to go  
 down himself to Dr. Crawford  
 (as soon as Dr. C. may be  
 supposed to come to his Office)  
 & ask him when you are to  
 embark, saying that you  
 had not begun preparations  
 till you had from him  
 definite orders & money -  
 Have your Sisters had  
 a *blue letter* a piece?

[At St. Thomas' we began preparations as soon as the names were approved.

And we were not paid the Outfit money (?£8.5) till afterwards. But then we were asked for Sisters.]

I am as anxious, more anxious than you are. Tell me what you have heard, & I will send Sir Harry to Dr. Crawford

Brave daughter of God do not be perplexed -

[end 15:972]

I enclose Little Sister's letter-

God bless you  
ever yours  
F N

signed letter, 2ff, pencil

SU180/145

10 South St.

Feb 25/85

Dearest Miss Williams

How fares it? how fares it?

If you are so good as to come & give my sister 'a kiss' to-day, as you say- *what time* shall it be? - for *I* will petition to see you too -

[After 4 I am engaged]  
Will you have some food here? But do not

come at all if you are too much 'driven'-  
To spare your strength is my prayer -

God bless you -  
ever & ever yours  
F. Nightingale

Can we do anything for you?

[15:972]

I wrote to Lady Rosebery  
saying that you would  
call upon her, if possible,  
to morrow (Thursday)  
at 11 -

[end]

incomplete letter, 2ff, pencil su180/146

10 South St.

Feb 26/85

Dearest Miss Williams

[15:972-73]

Lady Rosebery has come  
with a most sensible  
proposal - viz. to send out  
4 Nurses - *educated women*  
- under the present heads -  
viz. yourself at Suez- as  
one - & others- to go  
where they are wanted, in short  
\_\_to be paid & out fitted  
at the expence of the  
Association- to supplement  
the Nursing Staff sent out

by the War office -  
This proposal I jumped at  
\_because it is absolutely  
necessary to have one  
Night Sister, at least;  
& the Staffs are generally  
under handed- And *you*  
must *not* do the Night  
work - And yet the Night  
work is almost more  
important than the day.

Please tell me that  
you can furnish two, or

three - ~~or even four~~  
 not ~~under~~ subordinate Nurses -  
 lady Nurses -

They are to go out on  
 Friday (tomorrow) week.

I hope that you will  
 be able to supply three  
 at least-

Otherwise Lady Rosebery  
 will ask Dr. Matthews  
 Duncan of Bartholomew's.  
 And that will not be  
 homogeneous.

~~Our~~ Our Miss Hicks is very (146)  
 anxious to go out- She  
 has done exceedingly well  
 wherever she has been  
 posted- And as {overtop 'if'} you  
 cannot furnish all four,  
 they would have her as one?  
 [The four are to go wherever  
 they are wanted, you see- ]  
 not all to ~~your~~ Suez, I am afraid-]  
~~But~~ I should like to send  
 to Miss Hicks tonight,  
 the moment I have heard  
 from you - [end 15:973]

signed letter, 2ff, pencil

Feb 28/85

Dearest Miss Williams

We are so thankful to  
 think of a little rest for  
 you at Claydon with  
 Miss Gardiner -

I have telegraphed  
 this morning for a fly  
 to meet you at Claydon  
 Station by the 3.0 train  
 from London, & to take  
 you back to the Station  
 on Tuesday morning.

Oh how I trust that  
it will be a complete  
rest

My kindest regards to  
Miss Gardiner -

Will you not sleep at  
No- 4 on Tuesday night  
if more convenient?

do you embark at  
Tilbury for the ~~P. and O.~~ P. & O. ?

Do not trouble to  
answer now -

God speed'. God speed'.  
ever & ever yours  
F. Nightingale

note, 1f, pencil {archivist:} FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE TO RACHEL WILLIAMS (AFTER WARDS MRS.  
NORRIS) LETTERS 148-71 1885 MAR-OCT (EGYPT)

initialed letter, 2ff, pen

March 13/85

[15:975-76]

Dearest Miss Williams 10, SOUTH STREET,

You are continually in our PARK LANE. W. {printed address}  
thoughts. How speeds it?

I saw a long letter from Miss Gardner  
to Little Sister about your parting  
triumph at St. Mary's, so well deserved,  
which makes me so happy. You know  
there is a little Testimonial, the  
proposal for which was signed by  
every name worth having, on foot .

I wrote on Wednesday to you the little  
very little I knew.

To day there is a Memorial  
Service for Gordon in every Cathedral  
in the Kingdom How sterile unless  
we every one & every soldier of them  
all, really begins to lead the life  
of this brother of Christ. His spirit,  
his words are for little people as  
well as for a great man like him

"Who follows in his train?" God  
asks each of us this day.

"Ask every man you meet," said a dying man.

*Most Private*

I wish I could tell you what is going to be ordered about Lady Rosebery's party of Nurses. But minds change so often - & some of the arrangements were much to be deprecated. The last that I heard was this: and you must *not* depend upon it, nor inform your Nurses till you have it from the authorities

that Major Young had arranged with Mr. Kennett Barrington that Miss Hicks & Miss Dowse will remain at Suez- & Miss Machen & Miss Wrigley probably go on to Suakim, if wanted there But Head Quarters added this

that the two last on the "Ganges"  
 would be there till Sir Allan  
 Young's yacht, which is to  
 ply between Suakim & Suez  
 with Patients, arrives - &  
 then they will go on board to  
 look after the Patients -  
 & the other two on one  
 Dahabeah (under the  
 instructions of Major Young)  
 to bring Patients down *the Nile*.

I am quite as anxious to  
 know what *your* Staff is -  
 & what you think of the  
 arrangements at Suez -

It seems expected here that  
 there will be a battle between  
 Genl= Graham & Osman Digma  
 this next week.

I have had another delightful  
 letter from dear Little Sister  
 whose mind seems more  
 at rest.

SU180/148

I feel more anxious about your  
 Night Nursing than anything.

Miss Airy writes from Cairo:  
 like her wont: but rather  
 wishing for the front.

[end 15:976]

I will not write to Miss Hicks,  
 this mail, as I know nothing  
 definite, but only send her my  
 best love, as indeed to all yours.

I trust she has her outfit.

God bless you, my dearest.

yours anxiously & full of love

F.N.

signed letter, 4ff, pen H1/ST/NC3/SU180/149

*Private* {:up diag} *Destroy*

March 20/85

10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}  
PARK LANE. W.

Dearest Miss Williams

By to day you will have  
arrived at your destination -  
and oh how we pray that all  
may go well with you &  
yours & your work. Perhaps  
we are more anxious about  
you than you are about  
yourselves - & I have to say  
to myself many times that  
whatever happens, you will  
hear His voice: Lo, it is I:  
be not afraid.

[15:978-80]

Within a week, they say,  
& before you receive this  
the battle with Osman Digna  
will have been fought.

And the hands of all Hospital  
workers will soon be full.  
We envy you, working there so  
well. Or rather would  
I could be with you!

Major Young, the Commissioner  
of the Nat. Aid Socy-, had a  
long talk with me. He says  
that the daughter, (he is not  
sure whether there is a wife),  
of Capt Roberts, P. & O., Suez -  
& of Mr. Bates, *Junr*: Brit. India,"  
the wife, Mrs. Bates *Junr*-,  
will be useful to you.

I hope this will be so -

During the absence of Major  
Young from Suez, he may, if  
needed, give you a small

grant of money for pressing wants,  
among the men - I am not  
afraid but that you will quite  
succeed in NOT pitting the Nat.  
Aid Socy= against the Army Med:  
Dept= The Army Med: Dept=  
are our masters: & we will  
be loyal to them, & motherly  
towards the Orderlies, conceited  
or the reverse. But it does  
our masters good that the  
Nat: Aid Commr= should walk  
round the Hospl=, even if he  
says or gives absolutely nothing.  
Then things *supposed* to be  
provided by the A.M.D.  
*become* provided.

Pray say particularly how  
you are, whenever you are  
kind enough to write.

If you should have occasion

to telegraph, I will gladly repay (149)  
you for the Telegram.

I am afraid that you found  
orders awaiting ~~for~~ you from  
Mr. Kennett Barrington that  
two of Lady Rosebery's party  
should go up the Nile on board  
a Dahabieh chartered by the  
Ladies' Branch with a Doctor,  
Mr. White, a St. Thomas' Doctor,  
to fetch down Patients (*men*,  
not Officers) from Korti  
& that the other two should  
go on board the "Ganges," &  
then be the Nurses on the  
"Stella" yacht, Sir Allan Young's  
which sailed from Portsmouth  
yesterday with a cargo of  
books & games for the troops,

[2]

& is to ply between Souakim & Suez. You will know all this before me. It might have been worse. [They had a mad project which they have relinquished] But I had so much rather that these four should have stayed, (as indeed I was promised, before I would write to you for Nurses,) at Suez & Souakim, where the masses of Sick & Wounded will be. But things right themselves- It is God who leads - thank God that it is so - & not we - See how He has led you in the most wonderful manner of His love. And so He will continue. And who am I not to trust Him with the charge of you? & of all?

[I impressed upon Major Young that you were to decide which Nurse was to go *where*.]

"Little Sister" has written me a lovely letter: but I am afraid she is not well.

The object of the Nat. Aid Socy= -and it is a legitimate object, tho' it is not mine- is to set up a standard of comfort,-- to have nothing wanting on board their boats, every thing complete: no short-comings -that the Army Med. Dept= may imitate them. And this is why they want your Nurses & Miss Hicks on board their ships.

The sick, as I hear from those on the spot, needed more comforts & less hard food (even if ~~some~~ a few had arrow-root, it was "not "nice" & "without sugar.") on board the A.M.D.

boats coming down the Nile -  
 up to the day of going on board,  
 they had been on milk & slops -  
 then only hard food- for those  
 convalescing from Enteric &  
 Dysentery - who became "dreadfully  
 "thin & run down" - whereas those  
 who came down on the Nat.  
 Aid's small steamer were  
 "comfortable & well looked after" -  
 "treated just like Officers"!!

Please destroy this. I feel  
 as if I had to apologize to you  
 for having failed in keeping  
 all your Sisters & Miss Hicks  
 with you or at Souakim -  
 But I have a promise that  
 they may return to you.

They the War Office, have sent a splendid  
 Chaplain to Souakim, the Revd=  
 W.H. Bullock - I wish I could  
 make out who is gone to Suez

I have asked Major Young to supply as the Cairo Sisters (149)  
 you with delightful little *cooking stoves*  
 for the Sisters to use (with a supply  
 of oil for them) so that you can  
 always have Boiling Water & do  
 all sorts of cooking if needed.  
 But perhaps you have stoves -

Also he has supplied ? Bradford's  
 Washing Machine with Hudson's  
 Extract of Soap to Wadi Halfa,  
 Asouan, and 20 to Souakim.  
 And without these I don't know  
 what washing would have been done

Do not betray me.

[end 15:980]

God bless you all again & again -

I yearn to hear of you. Forgive  
 this tiresome letter from your  
 anxious old mother

F. Nightingale

My kindest regards}

to all yours}

10, SOUTH STREET,

PARK LANE. W. {printed address up-side down}

Is there anything I could send out  
 to you? or would you tell me  
 what things are wanted? A Dieu, A Dieu.

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180  
signed letter, 4ff, pencil SU180/150

922

[15:981-82]

Private {up diag} March 27/85  
10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}  
PARK LANE. W.

Dearest Miss Williams

We are still, of course,  
without direct tidings of you  
which we yearn for.

The terrible hand to hand  
fighting which is now going  
on every day at Souakim  
but which, one trusts, will  
be over before this reaches  
you, makes us suppose  
that there will soon be  
wounded under your careful  
& devoted hands -

What an Easter you will  
have - what an Easter we  
shall all have. But these great

straits, this crucifixion of our  
wishes & hopes, & plans,  
this valley of darkness & of shadow  
which it must be to some,  
especially to the sick, may  
well be needed to raise England  
from the death of self- seeking  
& sentimental dawdling & money- making  
& mean routine to ~~the~~ life -  
the life of magnanimous self-  
denial & heroic striving for  
others. So help us God- with  
humble & brave hearts. For  
every true hero is humble -

We would we could bear the  
burden & heat of the day with

you. All England would  
volunteer if it could. The  
hearts of all England are with  
you. May health & strength be yours.

The "Ganges" is filling up with  
wounded.

Major Young, the Commissioner  
of the Nat. Aid Socy=, has started  
from England for Cairo: &  
as his first visit will be to  
Suez, he will be there almost  
as soon as this letter.

The standard of comfort is  
said to be very high -  
in the Military Hospitals,  
Suez, Ganges, Souakim [tho'  
a Base, a Stationary and a  
Field Hospital have been  
landed at Souakim, there is  
no permanent Hospital  
with Sisters at Souakim at  
present - nor can be]

God grant it the comfort may be as is said.

The Princess of Wales is working  
hard at the head of her 'Ladies'  
Branch' of the Nat. Aid Socy=  
But all this is only to  
supplement & join hands  
between Army Med: Dept- &  
the public spirit of our  
country - to join nation &  
Army - a national sympathy  
(from Sovereign to Scullery maid)  
with our men & those who  
serve them - *not* to  
pit public opinion against  
Medl- Dept-, but to help  
the Dept= by public opinion.

I have Great hopes now  
that after all the 4 Nurses  
who went out with you will

[2]

NOT be employed, two on  
Dahabeah up the Nile,  
or if so only for one trip -  
nor two on the Stella -  
but will be employed in their  
right places in fixed  
Hosppls- under trained Supts-  
But you will know before  
I do. It is a terrible anxiety -  
~~to me~~ And I have bothered you with  
uncertainties.

"Little Sister" will be here  
on Monday - to stay, I hope  
She has been at Biarritz- I  
will report about her to you.

The Stella has sailed (Sir  
Allan Young's yacht) with  
numberless packages on board,  
including books & games,  
which I hope will be useful,

from the ~~Nat~~ Princess of Wales'  
branch. But the Stella  
will not reach Suez till about  
April 11, nor Souakim till about  
April 18, we fear. She is a  
slow vessel.

Now, dearest, the joys of  
Easter be yours, notwithstanding  
all things- nay, rather the  
more yours, because of all  
things. Who should have  
them, if not you? you who  
are more & more united by  
your work with Him- I pray  
your prayer -

[end 15:982]

Therefore, my dear soul, to you  
& all yours I wish a blessed  
Easter thrice blessed.

Kindest regards to all yours-  
Say how you are when you write  
ever & ever yours

F. Nightingale

Any hint that you can give me  
I need not say shall be sacred.

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180

925

signed letter & envelope, 2ff, pen

{envelope:}

*Private* {up diag} *via Brindisi*  
Miss (Sister) Williams  
Acting Supt- of Nurses  
(H.M.'s Nursing Service)  
Souakim  
F.N. Soudan  
3/4/85 Egypt

SU180/151

April 3/85

Good Friday

10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}

PARK LANE. W.

[15:982-82]

Dearest Miss Williams

You are always in our thoughts.

We were so glad when you were  
all summoned to Souakim, the  
post of honour - And we knew  
how glad you would be, to go  
where you were most wanted.  
But we rejoice with trembling &  
longing to know how you are  
faring. I heard with  
grief from Miss Gardner of  
your fall on board ship - may  
that have passed away!

News is so contradictory - we  
hear that you are on board  
the Ganges - that would comfort  
us much. We hear that you  
are coming home in charge of

sick & wounded by the Iberia

So my letter will be short -  
only wishing you every blessing  
of this day of days - but that  
I do every day.

What we would give to know  
exactly how you are, & what  
you are doing!! But *that*, wherever  
you are, will be a blessing to many.  
God takes care of His nurses.

I say that to myself almost every  
hour in the 24 & of His patients

"Little Sister" stayed here 2 days  
on her way to Edinburgh. She said  
she felt better than she had done  
for years, but that she had been  
well frightened, & would take  
great care of herself, & meant

to be "quite well." But I gathered  
that she had been sleepless &  
suffering till the very day she left  
Pau. Then she rallied.

She is living as usual on  
thoughts of you.

I had a note from Miss Spencer  
this morning saying that she had  
arrived at Edinburgh "looking so  
"well"- & the Nurses, after making  
her room "a garden", had insisted  
on being received by her the same  
evening.

I thought her just as calm &  
gentle & firm as a rock in  
the Everlasting Strength as ever.

How we long to know from  
you about how things are at  
Souakim- We do not yet  
know whether Sisters Hicks &  
Dowse are with you or not -

God bless you - God bless you  
is ever in my heart -  
ever yours

F. Nightingale

(151)

[end 15:982]

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180  
signed letter, 1f, pen SU180/152

927

April 9/85

10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}  
PARK LANE. W.

[15:982-83]

A little post-card, even if it

be a very little one, would be,  
dearest Miss Williams, more welcome  
than spring from you. The news I  
extract from the Director Genl= about  
you is so meagre: only that you &  
your 3 are at Souakim - & I believe  
your other two. I have heard from  
Miss Hicks at Cairo- just starting with  
Miss Dowse for up the Nile. I wish Miss  
Hicks were with you. What is Miss Parsons like?

I trust you have been able to forget

your fall on board ship sooner than  
we have done.

A long & delightful letter from "Little  
Sister." We know nothing about  
your whereabouts at Souakim. Director  
Genl= says he should have heard, had you  
not been well. God bless you & your work  
& all yours.

Herman Bonham Carter  
reached Souakim with his Royal  
Engineers in ship Kinsembo on Tuesday  
- He will find you out. His mother is  
writing to him that you are there -  
ever yours F Nightingale  
waiting in hope

(152)

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180 928  
initialed letter, 2ff, pencil SU180/153)

April 22

Dearest Miss Williams [15:984]

I received this Telegram  
from Lady Rosebery last night.

Do you choose me to send  
this reply? If you had  
time, I should say 'Go' -  
But *no nothing* never came  
from *no* going to Lady Rosebery.

Yesterday when I kept you  
so unwarrantably - I was so  
sorry - while I was writing  
Telegrams, they were mostly  
rendered necessary by  
hopeless confusion - e.g. a ton

of Coccoatina to be had ready  
by order received only *last night* for shipment  
"before" *to-day* - !!! And I  
could not telegraph before hearing  
your plans.

I am afraid you were much  
hurried all day - as you  
had another visitor -  
And I ought to have said,  
Go & write letters or Go  
& rest - & not kept you -  
Forgive me

What time will you lunch?  
What time will you dine?  
Can we help you to do  
anything?

I have sent to Mrs.  
Wilton Phipps to ask her  
to fix a time & a place  
if she wishes to see you,  
that your time may not  
be wasted -

[end 15:984]

God bless you  
ever yours  
F.N.

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180 929  
initialed letter, 1f, pencil [seems to start with the PS]

Ap 23 SU180/154  
Dearest Miss Williams

If Lady Rosebery asks you,  
will you tell her about the  
need of *milk*? *Cocoatina and milk*

Also: about the *Table* needs  
of Base & Auxiliary Hospls= -  
but to *send out crockery*  
would be superfluous, I suppose

God speed -  
Shall I see you about one or  
half past? & again at five?  
what are your plans?

F.N.

initialed letter & envelope, 1f, pencil  
{envelope:}

what time lunch?  
" " dinner?

Miss Williams  
23/4/85

10 S. St.  
April 23/85 SU180/155

Dearest Miss Williams

How are you? Pray do  
not over do it to- day.  
You looked far more tired  
than when you came -  
2. *Mr Verney's note*

[15:984]

Could you put down  
quite roughly, a "*List*"  
of these "*small things*" - &  
let me see it now-

if Lady Rosebery asks you,  
you will then have it at  
hand to tell her - if not,

you & I will look it over  
together this afternoon -

The getting the things shall  
be accomplished - but  
you cannot "take them out",  
because you are going overland

[end]

God bless you  
ever yours  
F.N.

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180  
signed letter & envelope, 3ff, pencil

930

{envelope:}

Miss Williams

10 South St SU180/156

April 24/85

Dearest Miss Williams

[15:984-85]

How are you?

Mr. H. Bonham Carter will be

here at *1/4 before 10* to  
see you, tho' he hopes you  
will not give up any  
engagement for him -

It would be so well if  
the letter for the "Times" could  
be shown him *now* for his  
criticism - If not, ask him  
*where* I could send it to  
him for him to see. The more  
I think of it, the more I fear

it ~~is~~ may be putting you in a false  
position - Please let me  
know, before he goes, what  
you have settled about it

~~A~~

Also: please tell me, did

Lady Rosebery *ask* you  
to ascertain what the D.G.  
thought about sending things  
out? how am I to  
~~preface~~ explain my letter to her  
which you wish me to  
write about stores?

May I see you to day

before you go?

ever yours

with God bless you

I have prayed the prayer

you asked- I do still

& so do others

[3]

to get ~~in~~ your important  
 letter in to the "Times" -  
 I will wait to hear whether  
 you determine to send  
 your letter to Sir Harry  
 He is at Claydon - Then  
 I will write to him too  
 (to meet your letter *there*)  
 if you like it -  
 Trains=full of love  
 to dearest "Little Sister"  
 How I hope Moffat is

[end 15:985]

answering to you both.  
 And how I envy you there  
 & the autumn tints -  
 No, not that - how I  
 wish I could be there  
 with you two -  
 Stay as long as you  
 can - Good speed  
 God bless you both  
 ever yours affly  
 F. Nightingale

2ff, Hannah Rosebery to Miss Williams, April 25 1885, {address illeg}, re: waiting for a  
 letter from Miss Williams for publication, the telegraphed Standard from Souakim this day, is  
 distressful to her re 'the National Aid Societies' comforts are not distributed to or at the  
 front' su180/157

initialed letter & envelope, 1f, pencil

{envelope:}

Can you come back here SU180/158  
 as soon as you have seen  
 the D.G- to tell me?  
 a verbal answer  
 Miss Williams

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180  
letter, SU180/159

932

Ap 29

Dearest

I will certainly wait till  
you have seen the D.G-  
before telegraphing -

It may be, after all,  
that you will have time  
to go down to Edinburgh -

But, if there is not,  
Little Sister must not kill  
herself because you are to  
be away for a few weeks.

I feel her disappointment  
as much as she does -

F.N.

signed letter, 2ff, pen & pencil SU180/160

May 15/85

Dearest Miss Williams

One word only to say how  
thankful I was to receive  
your dear post card  
& how anxious I shall be  
to know that you were not  
over tired with your rush  
from Europe to Africa -  
& that you have a *good*  
destination.

[15:989-90]

I have little to say now -  
2 cases, 4 doz. each, of

the unsweetened milk

(one to you) went out by  
the Kaiser. i. Hind on Wednesday  
13<sup>th</sup>-

Two boxes of games like  
yours went out by the  
same vessel for the 19<sup>th</sup>  
Hussars at Dongola &  
neighbouring posts. Poor  
fellows - they have recreation  
huts & nothing to put in  
them. Such is the want  
of transport- But those

boxes of games don't require  
a special camel!

I wonder whether Major Young's  
plan of a garden at Cairo  
to supply you weekly with  
vegetables has been carried  
out.

But now, my dearest, God  
speed you, says all the  
heart of your ever loving  
F. Nightingale

My kind regards to all  
your companions.

[end 15:990]

initialed letter, 1f, pencil SU180/161

25/5

10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}  
PARK LANE. W.

My dear friend

You are very good- I  
shall hope to see you  
another day.

Could you kindly ask  
Miss Crossland (Mrs. Wardr=  
is quite sure to talk to her)  
what Mrs. W. *really feels*,  
*after* her talk with me -  
She was very tearful -

Mrs. W. & Miss C- will,  
I think, each write to me -  
But I think Miss C. would,  
as she has been so much

engaged with you about  
it all, tell you more  
than she will me, -  
what Mrs. W. *really wishes*.

So sorry not to be able  
to see you - so good of  
you to come

ever yours  
F.N.

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180 934  
signed letter & postmarked envelope, 2ff, pen SU180/162

{envelope:} {illeg envelope torn *Via Brindisi?*}

Sister Williams  
H.M.'s Nursing Service  
Suez  
Egypt

29/5/85

Private {up diag} May 29/85  
10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}  
PARK LANE. W.

[15:992]

Dearest Miss Williams

One word to thank you for  
your two letters, which were  
most thankfully received; i.e. two  
in one cover. Your adventure  
in the dark & the desert will  
be remembered by us all all  
our lives. I hope to hear  
by next mail that you are  
established at Suez Hospital.  
Alas! that there should have  
been a tussle- I was rather  
sorry to have to call the  
D.G.'s attention to you: but  
I thought by your Telegram  
matters worse than they were  
- that you were totally adrift.  
In his first answer to me, he

said that you "must know that  
you were under the local  
authorities- & that they would  
provide "& arrange". It is  
always better to be as quiet  
as possible & 'appeal' as little to Head  
Quarters. And it seems,  
thank God ~~that~~ as if the "local"  
Dr. was "providing" & "arranging".

It would be the greatest  
blessing to know that you  
were busily employed doing  
good.

You so kindly ask - it seems  
ungrateful not to answer-  
after me. I have been quite  
laid up-

Perhaps this will not find  
you at Suez- so I will only  
add what I can never say  
how deeply, fervently, I pray  
{large part of middle of page cut away}  
Kind regards

to your companions.  
All the Sisters, I suppose, have  
left Souakim? Miss Machen  
is at Cairo?

[end 15:992]

{top of folio covered with paper} (162)  
as {illeg covered with paper}  
little as possible to Head  
Quarters. And it seems,  
thank God ~~that~~ as if the "local"  
Dr. was "providing" & "arranging".

It would be the greatest  
blessing, to know that you  
{not in F.N. hand:} copy. autograph given away  
"God bless you - Pray  
the prayer you desire  
Ever God bless you, dearest  
Ever let me be yours  
F. Nightingale"

signed letter, 1f, pen SU 180/163

June 12/85

[15:992-93]

10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}  
PARK LANE. W.

Dearest Miss Williams

Only one line in order not to  
let a mail pass without our  
love. I want sadly to know how  
you are going on - full of work,  
I am sure.

Ministers, you will see, have  
resigned. It is to be hoped that they  
will not allow themselves to be forced  
into coming in again. It was a dirty  
Conservative trick to curry favour with  
the great Brewer, Licensed Victualler &

public house interest by throwing out  
 on the Budget Mr. Gladstone's increased  
 tax on beer & spirits & proposing a  
 tax on tea. Lord Salisbury had  
 much better come in & try his hand  
 in the interval between this & the  
 General Election. He can't hurry a  
 war on with Russia - which God  
 forbid! - in that time.

[end 15:993]

My dutiful homage to my Goddess.  
 ever yours

F. Nightingale

(163)

signed letter, 3ff, pen SU180/164

June 26/85

10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}  
 PARK LANE. W.

Dearest Miss Williams

How are you? have you now  
 Nurses enough? can we send  
 you any? we are enquiring  
 everywhere for Miss Byam  
 for you. you cannot get on  
 with only two able- bodied  
 Nurses besides, yourself -

[15:997-98]

this has been the substance  
 of my anxious thoughts, my  
 telegrams, my letters of all  
 kinds ever since I had yours  
 now nearly a fortnight ago.  
 Last mail, tho' I had a  
 letter from Miss Airy at Cairo,  
 I had none from you which  
 doubled anxiety & made me

fear you were ill from over-work. As you wished for Miss Byam, we spared no pains to find her out & send her out. Only the day before yesterday did we find Miss Byam's address at St. Albans, & telegraphed to her at once. No reply: & meanwhile Dr. Crawford who had been asked whether we might send out more Nurses to Suez &c answered that she Miss Byam had resigned, & that no more Nurses were wanted at Suez, or Ramleh, where is a great deal of sickness, or Cairo. They have 500 sick at the Citadel Hospital, but I fancy nothing like such acute cases as yours- And there are 7 Sisters there. Alas! my

dearest friend, what would I give to know that you are well, that you have a sufficiency of Sisters to do the work, & that the Patients are doing well, & pressure is less- We have telegraphed to you twice. Sisters Hicks & Dowse are working at the Hospital at Assouan: & Sister Machen at Wady Halfa. Sister Byam has, as you see, resigned.

I wrote to Major Young about your wants. It was your own Sisters I wanted you to have But God directs.

You speak of having Patients in from camp. Does that mean Souakim, or a camp near Suez?

We sent out 11 cases of Unsweetened Milk last week-

-tell us if you want more -

If you cannot telegraph "free",  
I will pay for telegrams.

I have been divided between the  
fear of bringing trouble on you  
by making it appear as if you  
were asking for Sisters from the  
Prss= of Wales' branch direct -  
& the fear of not doing every  
thing you wished to help you  
in such a press of work.

I hope Miss Wrigley's knee is well  
again.

News, I can hardly tell you  
while so uncertain about how you are  
Ministers are out, but will  
probably be brought in again by  
an overwhelming majority at  
the General Election in November.  
Lord Salisbury undertakes the Govt- as  
Prime Minister & Foreign Secretary  
notwithstanding the present majority  
against him in the Ho. of Commons.  
Mr Gladstone refuses an earldom  
-quite right.

Dearest - I have been thinking of  
you & nothing else except  
when under great pressure of  
business myself all this  
fortnight. And now I have not  
time to finish this letter.

My kind regards to yours -  
God bless & direct  
ever yours most anxiously  
F. Nightingale

[2]

About your want of soap, it really is too bad. The best soap in my day was the Egyptian soap. And the Soap I have bought myself at Alexandria {Egyptian made} was the best in the world. If you were so good as to send for any quantity you like, if it could be done without embroiling you with the authorities, I would ensure the payment; or if you could inform Major Young, that Soap is wanted without making bad blood, surely he would provide it. Shall I send you some good tea? or, good tea is to be had at Cairo- let me pay for it -

My whole heart is with you

F N

[end 15:998]

signed letter, 4ff, pen SU180/166

July 3/85

10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}  
PARK LANE. W.

Dearest Miss Williams

How are you? How is the work? I need not tell you that I have been torn with anxiety, having heard nothing from you since June 12 which arrived on June 29!! & within a few hours of it a letter from Miss Airy dated June 22 & this odd circumstance rather increased anxiety. Dearest I will not write about myself but about you. If you *could* be so very good as to write just four words on a post card, -not to take up your time,

your over-pressed time - &

enclose it without beginning or ending in an envelope, by  
each mail, we *could*, please God,

help you from this end- We have  
been- at least I have been like  
a shuttlecock between 2 battledores  
this weary month as to  
sending you Nurses or not.

[15:999-1000]

I have only your two Telegrams  
to go by - "sufficient- will write" -  
but no letter has come - and  
"all right- one Nursing Sister  
has arrived". Indeed I have  
pressed that point over & over  
again, which I feel so very  
much, that Sisters should be  
"idling" up the Nile, while  
you are so overworked. But  
you do not help me - I had  
a letter from "dear Little Sister"

yesterday - giving your messages-

but *not* their date!! & no time  
for me to get it before to- day.

And as they were almost  
exactly the same as what  
you kindly wrote on June 12,  
with the very uncomfortable  
addition that they had taken  
away your Cooking Sister,  
I could not derive much comfort,  
except from the cheery tone.

Brave woman- brave friend

praise be to God - ~~but~~ our  
kind, kind Master & Father.

But do let me have just a

rude little line, without end  
or beginning, a card in an Envelope,  
by every mail.

The Orderlies are not hopeless  
but untrained - Government are

now doing all they can- in (166)  
my day they were hopeless -  
They place them now under the Sisters.  
The great business of the Sisters  
is to train them - It is the more  
aggravating when there are so few  
Sisters that they *can't* give  
time to train these men who  
are essential in the Field This is what  
distresses me so much in the  
Nile Sisters who are used  
*instead* of Orderlies & not to  
train Orderlies at all: which is  
their very 'raison d'être'.

O how I wish we could send  
you several Sisters at once.  
But I am altogether puzzled.  
Your Telegrams which I suspect  
were not dictated by you  
say "sufficient" and your

[2]

letter to Little Sister, of which  
she does not give me the date,  
says as yours of June 12 to me 2 or 3 more Sisters  
wanted". The Prss of Wales'  
Branch were eager at last  
to send you all you wanted.  
But then came the telegram declining.

You said in the letter before  
that of June 12: 'Dr. Davidge  
has telegraphed for more  
Sisters', & not till that of June 12,  
that ~~the~~ his Telegram was to  
*Major Young!* & that the  
Sister Majr. Y. telegraphed to us  
for was probably for you.  
But she was not! And Majr- Y.  
afterwards telegraphed "she was  
"not wanted"!! I wrote to  
him more than once to help you.

I am afraid all this now does  
not help you but rather fatigues  
you.

Would that we could help  
 you to nurse the Typhoids -  
 I do not understand where  
 they come from You say there  
 was "detention by the Canal" -  
 Then they can't come from Souakim

About letters, I am told the  
 mail always goes from Suez by  
 Cairo to Alexandria- so that  
 delay can't be accounted for  
 by "detention" on Canal.

I am sure you are doing  
 great good among the Orderlies,  
 even tho' you do not know it. The  
 very circumstance that they  
 see you think neglect a  
 crime does good. How well  
 I know their fatal neglects  
 with Typhoid Cases- But  
 30 years ago women Nurses

were just as bad. See the  
 difference now. There is a  
 Miss Williams now. There is a  
 a Little Sister. Cheer up:  
 fight the good fight of faith.  
 I need not say to my dear -  
 for she is fighting it. God  
 bless her- When I am gone,  
 she will see the fruit of her  
 labours. Three cheers for her  
 & three times three.

To all my kindest regards  
 A Dieu: A Dieu: To God: To God I  
 commend you

Would I were His servant as you  
 are I wonder whether you have had my  
 letters. I have written by every mail  
 ever yours in good hope  
 but full of care

F. Nightingale

[end 15:1000]

Miss Vincent, Matron of St. Marylebone  
 Infirmary, 750 beds, is losing her  
 excellent Assistant, Miss Styring,  
 who is, please God, to be Matron of the

[13:680]

new Paddington Infirmary: (166)  
 I told Miss Vincent that Sisters  
 might be leaving St. Mary's,  
 because you left, whom you  
 might judge fit for the post of  
 her Assistant in such a big  
 place, with Training School, &  
 that I would write to you. I will  
 write all particulars by next  
 mail. Now you are too pressed  
 God bless you again & again -  
 "Hail thou that are highly favoured" F.N. [end 13:680]  
 {printed address upside down:} 10, SOUTH STREET,  
 PARK LANE. W.

signed letter, 2ff, pencil SU180/167

July 10/85 [date was /80]  
 10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}  
 PARK LANE. W.

Dearest Miss Williams

I was so thankful for your [15:1000-01]  
 Telegram, received on the evening  
 of the 3<sup>rd</sup> "written every mail -  
 "all well: work much less"  
 & for your letter, received Monday  
 5<sup>th</sup>, dated June 27, the first I have  
 had since that dated June 12. You are 'all  
 well' indeed in the highest sense;  
 but oh I am sorry that you have  
 no better help than what you  
 describe that "little Coates" to be.  
 Indeed we left no stone unturned  
 to rake up Miss Byam for her {'her' overtop of 'you'}  
 we telegraphed, we turned Dr.  
 Crawford & the Nat. Aid Socy= Branch  
 upside down for her: we have had  
 no answer but that she had "resigned".  
 We got her address & telegraphed to her.

Your account of Herman Bonham  
Carter doing so well by his men  
was the greatest possible comfort  
to his parents. I send it to  
them at once, for they had just  
had a Telegram from Souakim that he had  
"Fever". The second Telegram was  
however better; he was in a  
"stone building" on Quarantine Island  
"well attended to" & coming home  
in the Bulimba. They have every  
*moral* reason to be satisfied with  
having put him into the Army.  
Are there any Sisters at Souakim? [in pencil]

You ask after my Sister & Sir Harry.  
Sir Harry is wonderfully active  
in all works of kindness: but he is  
aged. He was of course very low  
at the Liberal Govt= going out. He  
has been made a Privy Councillor,  
& went down to Windsor yesterday  
to be sworn in & kiss hands. He  
thought the Queen looked aged too.  
The D. of Connaught stood at her left hand  
& did what he had to do nicely.

My sister is much better in herself. And it is wonderful what she contrives to do & even to enjoy a field day of all our Probationers at Claydon capmakers' teas, & the like - she has also brought out her Essays in two Vols: which I think I shall send you if you stay out there, (it is cooling). But the poor joints get worse & worse - & I am afraid she still suffers a good deal of pain. I have been seeing Nurses for her.

It is grievous that you have no Chaplain. That is a thing I cannot understand. Has this lack to do with the power being put into the hands of the Doctors? In the Crimean War we had no lack. And a large Staff of Civil Chaplains, paid by the Govt=, supplemented the Military. It was the only thing *not* wanting. I am to know the Chaplain Genl=, & will try to make out, but I fear it is not possible to send you one at once. I should have thought your Camp & Hospital was sure to be provided. *Where*  
is your Camp? [end 15:1001]

Miss Styring, ~~the~~ Assistant Matron (167)  
at St Marylebone Infirmary (Miss  
Vincent's) is elected to the new Paddington  
Workhouse Infy Matronship & goes there  
in October. Miss Vincent is at this moment  
abroad for her health's holiday. There  
is no immediate hurry. But if you  
have one of your own Sisters to recommend,  
I would send you all the particulars.

I am glad that you have a  
Cooking Sister again. And it is a mercy  
I cannot be too thankful for that  
under your good Nursing the poor  
fellows are recovering, & the  
severity of the cases declining.

There was *no* enclosure for Mr.  
Lamb in the letter (the last) which  
told me to "post" it.

My kindest regards to the  
Sisters. God bless you & the work.  
ever yours F. Nightingale

Sir Harry who is now in London  
sends his kindest remembrances.  
And so would my sister who is  
at Claydon.

signed letter, 4ff, pen SU180/168

Private {up diag}

July 17/85

10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}  
PARK LANE. W.

Dearest Miss Williams

I trust that your news is  
good news on the whole. But  
it is disastrous that they should  
have sent you a Cooking Sister  
who can't cook & a Nurse  
who can't nurse. I have no  
idea who this Coates is; & tho'  
I have written to enquire have  
received no answer. The Prss of  
Wales' Branch had concluded  
in consequence of the last  
Telegram *not* to send you out  
a Nursing Sister- And I can  
hardly suppose that she comes  
from them. But that is no

[15:1001-03]

comfort either to you or me.

You have worked grandly -  
& the thanks of God's people  
& of God - may we not reverently  
use that word - will be yours -

Sir Harry Verney went straight to  
Mr. W.H. Smith - the present  
Secretary of State for War - about  
the Chaplains, that is the no-  
Chaplains, & the making no  
difference between Sunday &  
any other day. And Mr. Smith  
who is a good man was  
shocked & very much obliged  
to Sir Harry for drawing his

attention to it - & was quite

glad that Sir Harry should ask  
him a "Question" in the House of  
Commons about the Hospitals,  
& the Ships bringing home Sick &  
Wounded having no services & no  
Chaplains, which he did accordingly.

And it was reported in Wednesday's  
"Times". The ~~Rule~~ Regulation of the ~~Service~~ Army & Navy  
is that the Commanding Officer  
should provide for at least  
one religious service on the  
Sunday- & if there is no Chaplain  
he generally reads it himself -  
or if there is only a company,  
the Company Officer reads it.  
The Doctor, the Medical Officer,  
is now the Commandg= Officer  
in the Hospitals - And it is  
certainly *his* duty to arrange  
for the religious service.

Mr. W.H. Smith will take it up (168)

warmly. And Miss Gardiner tells me that Major Malet will do something at once. Many thanks for the photographs of Suez Hospital with your notes on the back which you were so good as to ~~bring~~ send me - & she to bring me.

Herman Bonham Carter is better & was to start for home on the 10<sup>th</sup> in the Bulimba. He is "awfully sorry" that just as he was getting his men into nice order, he should "go sick," & just as he had "learnt to know "them all", & they are "a lot of "such nice fellows," he should have to go home, he "did so wish "to have staid to bring them all "back to Chatham". His mother says that, whether he lived or died,

[2]

she would have been glad that they put him in the Army - he has made such a good career of it. But the anxiety has aged her very much - Yesterday the Guards Camel Corps & the Heavies marched into London, after having been reviewed by the Queen at Osborne. Sir Harry went to see them inspected by the Commander in Chief at Wellington Barracks [I would have given anything to have seen the Meeting with their comrades, if I had been well enough to go] & he said it was the most affecting thing he ever saw. There were the men who marched across the Bayuda Desert, a handful of men taking tender care of their handful

of wounded, attacked by  
twelve times their number,  
& reached the Nile below Khartoum

But when the steamer reached  
Khartoum, Khartoum had fallen  
& Gordon was dead.

There is a picture of Gordon,  
called The Last Watch, where  
he is watching on the ramparts  
the last night. It is very fine -  
he is unseen & alone- there is  
the far off look in his eyes  
of solemn happiness at his  
re union with God, so near,  
of deep grief for the poor black  
populations whom he has to  
leave to their misery, & whom  
he has failed to extricate -  
& yet of abiding, faithful trust  
in God that He will do all things  
for the best. It was his constant

prayer- first for God's glory then for these  
people's welfare & His own  
humiliation, that is that he  
should feel the more, ~~for~~ himself  
being humbled, the indwelling  
God in himself.

Have the little "Lives of Gordon"  
reached your men yet?

Please to remember if you have  
any Sister here who will do  
as Assistant Matron to Miss  
Vincent at St Marylebone Infirmary  
Miss Styring, her excellent Assistant,  
is appointed to the new Paddington  
Workhouse Infirmary. Salary  
£50 rising to £70 - rooms of  
her own. Miss Byam, "Little  
Sister" thinks, would do. But  
would she take it? Miss Styring  
enters on her new Matronship  
in October. Do not trouble to  
answer this if you have no one  
~~for~~ whom you wish to have it.

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180

950

Please tell me in your next (168)  
where Nurse Coates comes from -

My kind regards to your Sisters

God bless you: ever yours

[end 15:1003]

F. Nightingale

{printed address upside down:} 10, SOUTH STREET,  
PARK LANE. W.

signed letter & postmarked envelope, 2ff, pen & pencil

{envelope:} Miss Williams

R. Christy's [?]

Chignal St. James

6/9/85

Near Chelmsford

letter, SU180/169

Sept 6/85

Claydon House, {printed address:}

Winslow Bucks.

Dearest Miss Williams

Thanks for your letters.

[15:1010-11]

I do feel so very anxious  
to know how you are &  
what are your plans -

I shall be back in  
London next week, please  
God, & shall hope that  
you will give me two or  
three days - but not quite on  
my first returning, for I  
am in such a state of  
exhaustion that I could

not talk over all our  
common interests - now  
doubly interesting -  
You will want to see the  
Director-General -  
They are very desirous to see  
you here, some time after  
this week -  
Pray forgive this shabby note  
Forgive my anxiety  
& tell me your plans -

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180

951

God bless you & guide  
us all -

ever yours

F. Nightingale

I trust you are keeping  
yourself on the road to  
restoration.

[end 15:1011]

signed letter & envelope, 1f, pencil

{envelope:}

*A verbal answer please*

Miss Williams

22 Guildford St.

23/9/85

letter, SU180/170

10 South St

Sept 23/85

Dearest Miss Williams

[15:1011]

I crave to see you once  
more - (will Thursday at 5,  
be {overtop 'if'} not too inconvenient for  
you?)- My plea that

he will see you all his life

- I shall only see your

dear face henceforth at few

intervals during *my* life

which will not be long -

Say but the word & I

will put off the other lady

on Thursday, who *can*

come another day -

Dearest, may God bless

you with that Love which

is infinite & surpasses

all ours as the Sun a

farthing candle -

[end]

ever your

F. Nightingale

signed letter & postmarked envelope, 2ff, pencil

{envelope:} Miss Williams

c/o Miss Pringle

Royal Infirmary

31/10/85

Edinburgh

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180  
letter, SU180/171

952

10 South St Oct 31/85

Dearest Miss Williams

First of all, as ever, best &  
kindest love to "Little Sister" -  
I hope she is strong & well  
at the beginning of winter -  
but I fear not very strong -  
2 About "the letter": Mr. B.C.  
and I duly revised it,  
without finding in it anything  
to revise- And I duly  
forwarded it to Sir Harry,  
with a letter asking him  
to 'father' it to the 'Times',  
which he says he will do,

[15:1016]

but not quite directly. He  
was to have come here  
last Wednesday for the  
Ld Shaftesbury Meeting,  
(but was not able to  
come on account of  
his accident) when I  
should have reminded  
him that for the next  
month people will be  
able to think of nothing  
except as it tells on party.  
- I will write & do so, &  
urge him to let the letter  
appear at once.

[end]

3. Whiteley's sent a man  
here this day week to  
ask to see me about  
you - I was in bed, but  
I gave them your address  
at Moffat till "early,"  
as you said, this week -  
then to "Little Sister's"  
'care' - But I fear as  
you left Moffat on  
Monday, their letter  
may not have reached  
you.

Lastly, I fear I shall (171)  
 not have a moment  
 this next week as I have had none lately - Still  
 I hope that you will  
 give me a chance before  
 you leave London the  
 week after- If not, I  
 shall see you again when  
 - - - at when?

My best blessings on you  
 & better than the best  
 [I know you will not be  
 jealous] on "Little Sister".  
 ever yours

F. Nightingale

note, 1f, pencil {archivist:} FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE TO RACHEL NORRIS (NEE WILLIAMS) 1887-1897}  
 UNDATED} LETTERS 172-183} LETTERS 184-86}

signed letter, 1f, pen SU180/172

10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}  
 PARK LANE. W.

My dear friend

It must have seemed to you very  
 remiss & unfriendly of me never to  
 write, not even at the New Year-  
 But I have been so overworked & ill  
 all this winter that, however  
 unwillingly, I have been obliged to give  
 up all but the most pressing  
 business, of which I have had a  
 plenty. So I appeal to your

kindness for my pardon -

And "Little Sister" tells me that  
 you have not been well.

Is she coming up soon to you?  
 And how do you think she is?

I trust now that you are well,  
 & happy.

God bless you:

with love, I am always

your affecte F. Nightingale  
 March 9/87

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180  
signed letter, 1f, pencil SU180/173

954

April 1/87  
10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:} [12:384]  
PARK LANE. W.

My dear friend

How delighted I was  
with your dear charming letter,  
proposing "to raise a  
"testimonial for" Mrs. Wardroper  
as a "tribute of love & respect"  
"& gratitude for her valuable  
"work" from her "old pupils"-  
Thank you again & again, for  
the most kind & graceful  
thought. I shall always  
think of it with gratitude -  
And I am sure it will make  
her very happy.

[end 12:384]

Let me have a day or two -  
& then I will write again  
& try & fix a day when I may  
have the pleasure of seeing  
you - Excuse haste.

I trust you are well.  
God bless you  
& believe me  
ever your affte  
Florence Nightingale  
Mrs. Norris

signed letter, 2ff, pen

April 22/87

10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}  
PARK LANE. W.

My dear friend

Thank you very much for  
sending me the "Proof".  
I have only one little criticism  
to make: would it not be  
better to expunge all the  
*Miss s & Mrs. s* in the  
"Committee" & put only the  
Xtian names -

& certainly in the case  
of the "President's" name?  
retaining the *Miss* & the  
*Mrs.* in the "Executive" Commee=  
because *that* is an address-

especially now that you  
have *Sisters & Nurses* on  
the Commee= the *Miss*  
comes in awkwardly.

With regard to the £1.1 as  
a limit, *Miss Crossland*  
suggested, & I concur  
that there are a number  
of us who, if you find  
yourselves in straits or  
not getting enough money  
- would gladly contribute  
£5 or more to make

the money bigger - which  
need not be mentioned  
in the circular -

I must add my admiration  
of the way you are working,  
beg you to excuse haste,  
& to believe me

ever yours affly

F. Nightingale

Mrs. Norris

signed letter, 1f, pencil

May 21/87

10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}  
PARK LANE. W.

My dear friend

Thanks for your most  
kind note

I am afraid I have no  
time (or strength which is  
the same thing)

before *Wednesday* afternoon.

But if you will be so very

kind as to put down the  
"one or two matters about  
"the Testimonial," I am so  
slow & stupid that I shall  
then be able to consider them,  
& perhaps write about them

& then we can consult  
together about it on  
*Wednesday*

A thousand thanks for  
all your kind labours -  
ever yours affly

F. Nightingale

Mrs. Norris

initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

May 23/87

10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}  
PARK LANE. W.

My dear friend

Thank you very much for  
your letter - *I* am truly  
sorry that I cannot see you  
before to- morrow (*Tuesday*)  
when Mrs. Wardroper is  
coming to see me- And it  
would seem rude to put  
her off - And of course I  
hardly like, without further  
instructions from you who  
have done it all, to speak  
to her as you desire in order

to ascertain from her whether  
 "she would appreciate the  
 "proposal" (of the portrait)  
 "and be willing to sit to  
 "an Artist" -

How would you like it if  
 I were just to sound her,  
 just to consult her "as to the  
 "form the Testimonial is to  
 "take" without of course  
 entering into any details -  
 [as to Artist, cost &c &c  
 we will consult, you & I about  
 that]

~~If~~ I will also send to Mr.  
 Bonham Carter to- day, & ask  
 him about my sounding her -  
 But Miss Crossland - I entirely  
 agree with your estimate of her-  
 is the person who would really  
 know whether Mrs. Wardroper  
 would like to be consulted  
 by me,- cursorily as it were,  
 at this stage of the business,-  
 without receiving first my  
 full commission from you -  
 {rest of folio cut out}

If either you or Mr. Bonham (176)  
 Carter say "No, "wait", I shall be  
 glad to say nothing to morrow.

If on the contrary you wish  
 it, please give me some  
 further hints- Of course  
 I should only do it "privately",  
 "non-officially", as the oldest  
 friend merely she has in  
 the "business"- to find out  
 her own wishes- & not as  
 leading you- but only as the person  
 to whom she can talk most easily

Thank you again & again  
 for your great kindness  
 [as to Artist, cost &c &c  
 we will consult, you & I, about  
 that]

{at beg. & top of letter vert.:} Let me have your  
answer  
please  
as soon as  
possible  
F.N.

incomplete letter, 2ff, pencil

10 South St.                      May 25/87

My dear friend

I saw Mrs. Wardroper yesterday  
& we had much talk-

2. Then At first she seemed quite {lines surrounding text here  
disinclined to the portrait- & said down to "£100 or little more"}

she never could make up her  
mind to sit- or to have so

"much money spent" on her -

But afterwards ~~she~~ it appeared

she thought it would be

£300 or £400" - And then

I murmured something about

"£100 or little more"-

1. ~~Then~~ She said when I first

~~questioned~~ sounded her, but

feebly: "A tea-service or

something ~~no~~ I could leave to

"my boy or the Probationers"-

3. She always fell back upon

"You would settle best

-what was nicest -

I had much rather you

settled"-

Then I persuaded her to

'think it over at home'

& let me know -

And this she said she

would do. And so we

parted.

She was very sweet & nice

- not in spirits.

4 Did anything pass between  
you & Miss Crossland yesterday  
which could guide us?

She Mrs. Wardr- is sure to talk it over  
with some one- Miss Baylis  
or Miss Crossland- I wish  
it may be Miss Crossland.  
And we might thus find  
out what she really wishes-

I assured her I was not  
talking as "President"!  
but merely as one of her oldest  
friends-

She is very grateful to  
& much touched by you all  
& all your kindness

initialed letter, 2ff, pencil SU180/178

10 South St June 8/87

*Private* {up diag}

My dear Mrs. Norris

I thought the Tea Service  
which you were so good as to  
send me to look at  
most beautiful & admirable  
- especially the Salver & Sugar -  
basin

Do you think the ?ebony  
interruptions in the handles of the  
tea & coffee-pot should be  
ivory rings? [I remember we  
had such in my father's  
tea-service] The ?ebony  
in the Salver handles has a  
very good effect but I think  
it is *polished*. I am not

quite so sure about the other.  
Do you think well to let Mrs.

Wardroper see ~~it~~ the Service before you  
finally decide? She  
might possibly like something  
a little rounder.

But there are only hyper-  
criticisms -

I think the whole effect as  
before said most beautiful  
& delightful -

Will you excuse my not  
having written to or seen you?  
It is my loss -

I have been so driven by  
business & so much worse  
than usual - I have not  
been able

*Inscriptions* [2]

Our united efforts, according  
to your requests, have only  
produced these 3 attempts.  
You will, I hope, criticize  
& tear them to pieces

Ever believe me  
with many & heartfelt  
thanks for your labours-  
& your letters  
your affte  
F.N.

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180  
initialed letter, 1f, pen SU180/179

961

10, South Street, April 7/90

Grosvenor Square. W. {printed address:}

Dearest Mrs. Norris

A thousand thanks.

I think if she has made up  
her mind to receive "no  
"presents on leaving St. Thomas",  
I had better let it alone.

She will be in London  
again for 3 months this  
year. And I suppose there  
will be no prohibitions then.

I was not thinking of any  
furniture but of a tiny  
gold crucifix for the bosom  
given to her *NOT* as a R.C.  
It is difficult.

But the whole thing is, if you  
will believe me, the greatest  
difficulty in my difficult life.  
Poor St. Thomas'- ever yours

F.N.

signed letter & envelope, 2ff, pencil  
{envelope:}

Mrs. Norris

San Remo

Finchley Road

7/4/91

W. Hampstead

N.W.

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180  
letter, SU180/180

962

April 8/91

[13:55]

10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}  
PARK LANE. W.

Dearest friend

I grieve & yet rejoice  
that you have to take  
up work again; especially  
if it be in your old  
profession which God  
has so abundantly  
blessed; I rejoice -

A great London Hospital  
would be the best sphere  
for you: but I know of  
none at present likely  
to fall in. How I should  
like to see you in a large  
Workhouse Infirmary: it

has such immense

opportunities for good.

One of ours, (not fit to tie  
your shoe strings, I regret  
to say) has just been  
elected to the Upper  
Holloway Infirmary,  
650 beds.

You would probably not  
like to take a Hospital  
far from London. Else  
these are always falling  
in. Miss Lennox has  
just resigned the Children's  
Hospital at Belfast  
from ill health.

The Queen is to lay the  
first stone of a new Derby  
Infirmary next month -  
& I conclude it will want  
a new Matron when  
finished -

But you do not want to  
begin again work directly-

And God will point out  
a way - Only I wish  
to keep Hospital work  
in your remembrance -

While first-class Hospital  
Matrons abscond, I do  
not think first class women  
take their places-

May God bless you!

Excuse failing eyes & (180)  
arthritic hands & much  
work.

Give my love to dear  
Miss Pringle- What  
does she hear of Miss  
Spencer?

I have told Mr. Bonham  
Carter of your wish. He  
has been ill for many  
months, but is thank God  
recovering. They are  
mourning the loss of a  
dear, bright, pure boy at  
Winchester Coll:

ever yours overflowingly  
F. Nightingale

Mrs. Norris

[end]

signed letter & postmarked envelope, 2ff, pencil  
{envelope:}

Mrs. Norris  
c/o Colonel Smythe  
Theescombe House  
W. Stroud

6/7/91                      Glostershire

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180  
letter, SU180/181

964

July 6/91

10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}  
PARK LANE. W.

Dearest Mrs. Norris

I was so glad to see your  
handwriting & address. I have  
been thinking & feeling, feeling &  
thinking with you - & longing  
to see you again & hearing  
more from you.

I saw an old pupil of  
yours, "Baroness von ?Rosen",  
but she did not know  
where you had moved to.

I was longing to know what  
your plans were - whether  
the Riviera or Edinburgh -  
& how you were -

Besides this, I have a  
question to ask your kindness-  
Genl- Symonds, brother of the

[15:1019]

Capt. Symonds (who is dead) who  
gave me all that Cooatina  
in 1885 for the Egyptian  
Military Hospls= want me  
to give him a Certificate  
as to the usefulness & goodness  
of this Cooatina (the  
manufacture of which-pure-  
is their family's subsistence)

I refer back to a letter of  
mine, dated April 23/85,  
telling Capt. Symonds, without  
of course giving your name,  
when you arrived from  
Souakim what you told me,  
viz. that to make the  
Cooatina acceptable, it  
should be combined with MILK -  
- & that the only Cocoa they  
(the men)

liked was the cocoa & milk  
supplied in small quantities  
by the N.A. Socy-

They the 'Symonds' send me however  
copy of a Telegram (without  
date) which I sent to Capt.  
Symonds: "Just heard from  
"Egypt. Cocoatina highly  
"appreciated- more greatly  
"desired if sent at once"

I am greatly puzzled  
what to do- I do not like  
to refuse these poor ~~people~~ Symonds.  
Yet, if I give them a  
"Testimonial", I shall be  
delayed with similar  
requests.

They want me to date my  
Testimonial from the date  
of the War - 1885.

Might I ask *what your* (181)  
*impression is now* of your  
kindness of the *good*  
or *no- good* his (Capt. Symonds)  
Cocoatina did in that War?

[I have given away in  
the last few years large  
quantities of Cocoatina to  
poor people in England.  
And it was uniformly  
liked

They Savory & Moore make now at Verney  
Junction!! *peptonized* Cocoa  
*and Milk* which is  
excellent but expensive]

[end]

I am interrupted, & I seem to  
have told you nothing, dear friend,  
of what I feel with you: nor thanked  
you for your excellent book. But  
let me say God bless you & believe  
me ever yours faithfully & sorrowfully  
F. Nightingale

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180  
signed letter, 2ff, pencil & pen SU180/182

966

Oct 31/91

Claydon House {printed address:}  
Winslow,  
Bucks.

Dearest Mrs. Norris

I am glad that you have  
settled to go to the Riviera  
rather than farther off-  
but you do not tell me  
where - nor what Patients  
you have - not who is going  
with you - I do long  
to see you again & hope  
to be back in South St  
before "Nov 16"- But nothing  
can be more uncertain  
from the constant press of  
business here- Today we had  
14 Chairman & Secretaries of  
County Council - & I had a  
Medl= Officer of (rural) Health

[13:880]

all to myself, who is to  
teach educated women  
to teach the rural poor  
mothers Health at Home.

It is the first *real*  
*practical* experiment of the  
kind - And it is strange  
that what I have been  
thinking of half my life  
I should have to begin in  
what is to me a foreign  
land, & not in the homes of  
my youth.

I was in hopes of sending  
you Ellin Verney, age 18- but  
we have just shipped her  
off, as her only chance of  
health, by a large Cape Steamer

to the Canary Islands -

I am so sorry "Little Sister"  
is so poorly- I was going  
to write to her- as soon as  
I could - I trust Miss Spencer  
with her immense charge is  
pretty well - Please give  
my love to both -

Excuse such a scrawl-  
I write to you in my heart.

God bless you

ever yours hopefully

but anxiously

F. Nightingale

note, 1f, pencil

For

our dear Mrs. Norris

(Miss Williams)

with F.N.'s love

Oct 18/97

9ff, printed letter from FN to Nurses and Probationers trained under the "Nightingale Fund",  
June 1897, London, re: God's calling and what it means in practice for Nurses and  
Probationers, extension of District Nursing, Hospital Nursing, Workhouse (Union) Infirmaryes,  
Private Nursing & Maternity Nursing

incomplete letter, 1f, pen & pencil

[3]

I do so earnestly wish to  
know how you are  
you are almost always in  
my thoughts.

I have heard from 'Little Sister'

God prosper you in all things.

Remember me to those who

kindly remember me -

How would it be possible

for you & 'Little Sister'

to take a fortnight's

holiday & come & spend

it here in total rest?

God speed; God speed

again & again

ever yrs penitently

& affly very,

F. Nightingale

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180  
incomplete letter, 1f, pencil

968

I said, of course, "Miss Hinde" *in 6 months' time*"  
My dear child {archivist: 75 or 76}

I do not think Miss Hill will "grow to the  
idea": nor do I think you the person to make  
her 'grow': nor does she offer you 'tomorrow'.

I suppose I must send the wretched  
Messenger back, after he has had his  
dinner, to tell her you are not coming to-day

Shall I ask her whether she will see you  
tomorrow?

initialed letter, 1f, pencil

Sunday 3.30 p.m

My dear Miss Williams

I have sent up twice to Mr. H.B. Carter's to  
know his views as the result of the interview between him & Mr.

Lane : In vain -

No use discussing anything till we know what the  
magnates say -

I suppose I shall know by 5- I have put off  
everything to see you at 5, *unless* you are going to  
see any of the magnates at that time- In that  
case, I will write to you & send it by Cab to- night  
as soon as I hear from Mr. B.C. yours in great anxiety  
F.N.

2ff, Miss Edith S. Williams to Matron St. Thomas' Hospital, March 17 1963, The Homestead,  
Mill Bridge Road, Minehead Som, re: is in possession with her siblings of letters by FN to  
her aunt Rachel Williams (R.W. mentioned in Cecil Woodham Smith's Life of F.N.) with  
intention to go to St. Thomas' Hospital, is doubtful however as they are of a personal nature  
and should maybe be destroyed and is asking the Matron's opinion on the matter, also in  
possession of her aunt's R.R.C. & army medals awarded after the Sudan War & asks if of  
interest to the hospital

H1/ST/NC3/SU180 3ff, Miss Edith S. Williams to Miss Turner, April 17 1963, The Homestead,  
Mill Bridge Road, Minehead Som: thanks for her offer to look through the letters by FN to her  
aunt Rachel Williams, has decided to offer all the letters to St. Thomas Hospital for a  
possible place in the Nightingale Museum, Miss E.S. Williams gives reason for FN  
discontinuing the letters soon after the Sudan War as Rachel Williams getting married and FN  
not forgiving her for it as she had a large Workhouse Infirmary for her to take over but  
thinks that they did meet later, refers to "The Pearl" in earlier letters as being Miss  
Pringle, apologizes for her poor sight being the reason for letters not being classified  
properly

note, 1f, pencil {archivist:} H1/ST/NC3/SU181-97

SU181 signed prescription & typewritten envelope, 1f, pen

{envelope:}

The Matron,

St. Thomas' Hospital, {archivist notes not transcribed}

Albert Embankment,

Westminster Bridge,

LONDON S.E.1.

{archivist:} This is on of Miss Nightingales  
Requisitions in her own  
hand writing -

C.R ---

Required

Pulv. Jacob. [?]

F. Nightingale

Pulv. Rhei [?]

April 18/55 F.N.

note, 1f, pen not F.N. hand Mrs Lawfield

LMA H1/ST/NC/SU182 receipt, 1f, pen

Received from Mrs. Lawfield  
the Sum of Twenty Pounds 0/0  
to be paid into the

Atherstone Savings Bank

to her account - also the Sum F.N.  
of Ten Pounds 0/0 to be paid to the same Acct-, Jan 1/56.  
£30.0.0 Florence Nightingale Scutari March 19  
1856

{not FN hand:}

Mrs Lawfield

No 21 Nutford Place

Edgewall Road.

Scutari November 29/55

also the Sum of Ten Pounds % to be  
paid to the same Acct.

£40.0.0. Florence Nightingale Scutari March 19 1856

SU183, receipt from Rebecca Lawfield to Mr Saml Smith, July 25 1856, London, re: sum of £8

SU184 1f letter not by FN to Dear Ripon re: Lawfield anxious to have 'this' paid immediately, asks if he has any objection, has advanced £2 for her daughter to be sent to school, she will stop by for money (her direction is 21 Nutford Place Edgewall Road)

SU185 1f, Rebecca Lawfield to Sir, July 27 1856, London, re: application in his absence to Mr L for £40 at the Atherstone bank, has received £10, £30 to still be sent or made payable to her {in London}

SU186 1f, Rebecca Lawfield to Sir, Sept 8 1866, Somerset St., re: acknowledges receipt of the check for £30, thanks him for his trouble and for his good wishes, is happy to hear of FN's return and hopes for her health to be restored soon

SU187 2ff, Rebecca Lawfield to Madam, Sept 9 1866, Somerset St., re: being unemployed since returning home, many public situations offered but being Catholic a barrier against all but private nursing, is attempting to begin as a Ladies Nurse, interested in midwifery but needs a friend to help for a time and is asking for her assistance, available for training in Oct, details money and expenses from money received from Mr Bracebridge, hopes she will feel kindly towards her

SU188 1f, Mr Godley to Madam, Feb 14 1857, War Department, re: application having being made on behalf of Mrs Lawfield, payment of about £7 for 2 months wages {file no. 153656/7G4}

SU189 1f, B. Hawes to Madam, March 7 1857, War Department, re: refers to letter from the War Department of the 14<sup>th</sup>, re a claim made by Mrs. Lawfield for a Gratuity of 2 months pay on being sent home on account of ill health, request to state if she considers Mrs. Lawfield entitled to this {file no. 155656/772}

SU190 2ff, Mrs Lawfield, [March 19 1857], Manner House, 8 Cheyne Walk [??] Chelsea, re: kindly requests a Testimonial to be forwarded by FN, difficulty for a Catholic to be employed, sum of £7 and 4 shillings mentioned

SU191 2ff MER Lawfield to FN, Manner House, 8 Cheyne Walk Chelsea, re: receipt of letter from FN, her hopes of getting into Guy's Hospital but Catholic Sisters not wanted, nothing to do but go to {illeg Cairo?}, mentions Mr Mellar [Millan?] kindly to help

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180  
H1/ST/NC3/SU192 signed letter, 1f, pen

971

General Hospital  
Balaclava  
June 30/56

My dear Sir

In leaving the Crimea with Mrs. Shaw Stewart & the rest of H.M.y's Nurses, I am anxious to introduce to you the above = mentioned lady, who has been now employed for 17 months in three different Hospitals of the Crimea Successively, and during 16 months of these as Superintendent of the Nurses.

She desires, in your important Hospital, to become thoroughly trained as a Nurse in the Surgical Wards - She would wish, if possible, to remain in the Hospital during the time necessary for this- She will give any remuneration which may be agreed upon -

In making this request of you, I feel sure that your experience will soon perceive that, in this lady, there is no idle passing whim, but that

she only requires, in order to become accomplished as a good surgical Nurse your training & her own perseverance.

Will you allow me to take this opportunity of thanking you for your invaluable Mrs. Roberts, who has been the main = stay of the Female Nursing Establishment in the Barrack Hospital of Scutari ever since I came out 21 months ago & whom you were kind enough to recommend to me?

I hope soon to bring her back in good health & spirits -

Believe me to be  
dear Sir

yours faithfully & obliged  
Florence Nightingale

J. Whitfield Esq

{not FN hand:}  
Florence Nightingale  
General Hospital  
Balaclava  
June 20th/56

SU193 signed letter & envelope, 2ff, pen

{envelope:}  
Jerry Barrett Esq  
Corridor J  
Ward 2  
Scutari  
Barrack Hospital  
18/7/56

Sir

Your statement of my  
having caused you serious  
inconvenience by declining  
to sit for your picture  
cannot but cause me  
distress -

As, however, I declined  
from no want of  
willingness, to forward  
your wishes, but from  
a principle which I  
had very fully  
considered & which  
indeed had been forced

upon me by the  
experience of the whole  
time during which  
I have been engaged  
on this work, I think  
you will see that to  
give a different answer  
to your request than  
the one I have already  
given is impossible  
to me -

I repeat that to hear  
that this answer causes  
inconvenience is painful  
to me - although I have  
had no share in causing

any such disappointment,  
for my answer would  
have been the same  
before your coming out  
as now, had the  
request then been made.

I must also repeat  
that publicity has been  
the cause of the greatest  
draw= backs I have  
experienced in the  
prosecution of the  
work committed to my  
charge - & that it is  
in consequence of this  
conviction that I have  
determined in no way

to *forward* the making  
a show of myself or of  
any person, or thing  
connected with that  
work, though I cannot  
always *prevent* them  
or me being made  
a show of -

I have the honour to be

Sir

Your obedt servt  
Florence Nightingale

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180  
signed letter, 2ff, pencil H1/ST/NC3/SU194

974

Lea Hurst  
Matlock  
August 27/56

Sir

In returning the enclosed Form with Pr Robert Robinson's signature, I think it my duty to inform you that the lad has a pass till the 31<sup>st</sup> of this month only.

Major General Windham, whom I requested to be kind enough to apply to you for the boy's discharge, in order

that he might justify me from the charge of disregarding any regulation of the Service, by informing you that the lad had Sir W. Codrington's permission to join me, was not certain that you would not make him join his Depot.

In case I do not hear from you, I shall of course send the boy to his Depot, when his pass expires.

But I would request  
that, if it be possible  
to dispense with his  
doing so, you will  
kindly permit him  
to remain where he is,  
as he is already at  
school, till his  
Discharge documents  
are made out -

If, on the contrary,  
it be necessary that  
the boy rejoin his  
Depot, I trust that  
you will excuse his  
not being there BY

the 31<sup>st</sup> of this month, as  
it was not clearly  
understood by any of  
us whether you would  
require the boy to  
re-join or not, previous  
to his discharge -

I beg to apologize for  
this rather long-winded  
explanation & to remain

Sir

your obedt servt

Florence Nightingale

Major Lewis

Commr

Depot 68<sup>th</sup> St Infy

SU195, 2ff, Major Gen Windham to FN re Robert Robinson's discharge (acc to LMA cat), Aug 16  
1856, Warwick, re:

SU196 1f, Fanny Wildgoose, re: F.N.'s visit in Punch

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180 976  
H1/ST/NC3/SU197 incomplete signed letter, 2ff, pencil

30 Old Burlington St.

W.

To Dr. Parkes Aug 9/60  
(as per last page)

My dear Sir

I have not  
answered your kind  
letter of the 4<sup>th</sup> with  
its welcome enclosure,  
because Dr. Sutherland  
shewed me his  
answer to you, and  
I had really nothing  
to add to it -

Besides this, at  
the scientific arrangement

of the subject, I  
am worth nothing,  
& could, I am  
quite sure, suggest  
nothing to you -

If, when you  
come to some of  
your *practical*  
Lectures, & to any  
of my own peculiar  
subjects, such as  
Ward Construction  
& Nursing Hygiene,  
(those things which

an old Nurse like  
me has had  
most experience  
in,) I could give  
you any, the least,  
practical assistance,  
I should be happy  
& grateful to have  
the opportunity -

In the meanwhile,  
I am quite overjoyed  
at the prospect of  
the good you are

going to do

The thing once  
begun is quite sure  
to extend itself &  
prosper, so that  
there will not be  
a higher Service  
than ours in any  
country.

ever yours sincerely

F. Nightingale

Of course I agree  
with you that "the

{folio text by archivist:} SU 214 to 226

SU 214-214A

SU 214 incomplete signed letter, 3ff, pen  
[2]

He did not wish to live:  
he had not the spirit of life"  
and one who saw him just  
after death told me that  
he looked as if the Burden  
had been ~~suddenly~~ lifted off:  
& the Rest had suddenly  
come.

I have seen that look on  
him in life: a sort of  
innocent, half incredulous,  
half curious, all modest,  
glad surprise

[He never laughed, as perhaps  
you know.]

For *him*: 'tis Death is dead,  
not he'.

He has passed  
From Death called Life which us from  
Life doth saves - [sever]

And when one's mind  
strains forward to ask: oh  
where *is* he? Where *is* he  
in this his New Year?  
What is he feeling now?  
he might better ask:  
    where are *we*?  
My sister & a family party  
    were in the house: but  
    when they ran to him, there  
    was no breath, nothing.  
My mother, - except when she  
    sees people she is not used  
    to, when she has moments  
    of passionate grief which  
    exhaust her, - is gentle &

mourns naturally: only saying  
'-when shall I go after him?-  
    shall I go to- night?'  
She begged so to go in & "kiss  
him": but yielded on being  
told that *he* was not there:  
it was only his old garment.  
[By the time they had been  
able to tell her, the grand  
old head was much altered:  
    & they did not wish her  
    to see it.]  
My mother does not read or  
    write letters now.  
I am glad to know that my  
    Father cared for my work.  
    I had ~~not~~ but one pleasure  
    in being a 'public man':

SU 214a

00453

apart from getting the  
work done: because I  
thought that it would please  
my Father that I should be  
one, as he could not be one  
himself, which he lamented  
to the very last year of his  
life,- not on account of any  
personal ambition of his own,  
but because he had wished  
"to help" my Uncle Bonham  
Carter,- for whom he had a  
friendship, "passing the love  
of women," singularly  
touching in a character so  
reserved as my Father's  
But I never noticed that my  
Father cared much for my  
work. He may have done  
so however, without speaking  
of it.

[3]

I think I feel his being out  
of my world, now that  
I realize how intensely alone  
he has left me, in it, more than  
during the first shock.  
I shall take up my work again  
as much as possible as usual,  
& as soon as possible as usual  
- for he would not have liked  
his death to disarrange any  
one's single day: Such was the  
unique modesty of his  
character in every thing -  
And then we will all lie down  
& be at rest: when we  
can say we have finished  
the work that God has given  
us to do.

It has soothed me writing  
to you who cared for him.  
And I thank you for it  
& am ever yours sincerely  
Florence Nightingale

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180  
SU 215 {archivist:}

980

June 1875  
Miss Nightingale

incomplete letter, 1f, pencil  
small way of [2]

Council & Commee= (on the N. Fund)  
is 1. the want of any Committee man who  
would really master the subject  
& have time to work it:  
& 2 the want of a Secretary  
who *having mastered* the  
subject had time to  
extend & push it.

If your Secy- could give  
his whole time, that *would*  
be a man -

God speed the work:

I think you have launched it:

yrs ever sincerely & gratefully

Florence Nightingale

Please, if you are so good as  
to write, write to old address:  
35 South St.

H1/ST/NC3/SU216b SU 216 signed letter, 2ff, pencil

*Malta Sewerage & Drainage:*} 35 South St  
Park Lane W.  
May 18/76

Dear Mr. Rawlinson

Few things give me more pleasure than to hear  
from you: & I was very glad to read  
anything about Malta. [I return the paper:]

I remember *Mr. Unsworth* perfectly:

But I am afraid this result must be  
disappointing to all of you.

You send out a most competent man as an  
Inspector *to cleanse Malta*. And as soon as

they have him, ~~out~~, they appear to ~~have~~ set him  
to work upon small Engineering details:

& so far as we know, *Malta seems to be as dirty as ever:*

And the *plague* is at Muscat:

If it comes west, *is it not certain to pounce  
on Malta?*

-----  
I saw Miss Carpenter after her return from *India*.  
She gave me a most o  
outrageous account of the  
*indoor cess-pits* & foul smells which seem to do duty  
as House Conveniences' in the ~~women's~~ Native Ladies' Quarters  
at Dacca, Benares, Baroda, &c &c &c= & even

[2]

at *Calcutta* where we had hoped  
the proper connection of houses with main sewerage  
was going on. {Instead of that, excrete go into an *indoor cesspit*  
{& soak into the soil *under*, the *dwelling rooms*:

In some cases, where Residents wives (English  
ladies) had begun to visit the Native Ladies,  
& become ill from the foulness, their husbands,  
(English gentlemen) had forbidden their visiting.

*To go to gaol* seems, in *India*, the most  
efficient & immediate thing to do *for health*.

Pray believe me ever your old friend  
& comrade

Florence Nightingale

H1/ST/NC3/SU217-217a

Nightingale (Florence) Two sheet letter to The Rev. Henry Hawkins, chaplain to Colney Hatch  
Asylum "After Care of the insane."

June 2<sup>nd</sup> 1879 Bought from Miss H. Hawkins

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180  
H1/ST/NC3/SU217a signed letter, 3ff, pen

982

London June 2/79

Miss Nightingale {in large letters not FN hand} also in 9088/22  
My dear Sir

I wish I could help you,  
with regard to what you  
wrote to me about on May  
10, viz. finding a lady "to organize  
a plan for the after care  
of poor & friendless female  
Convalescents"

But alas! overwhelmed  
with business & illness, I  
am almost the last person,  
to help you, as I would.

God speed your Meeting  
on June 5.

I am on the other hand  
going to ask you for help.  
I am frequently written to  
to know if there are TRAINED

Lady Matrons & Lady Nurses  
to be had to attend on  
& superintend the nursing of Female  
*Lunatics*. Latterly

I have had two letters from  
the Chaplain of Robben  
Island, S. Africa, asking  
for such.

Have you *trained Ladies &  
trained Nurses* for your  
Asylum Work at Colney  
Hatch?

Could you recommend such?  
And above all have you  
a TRAINING School for  
Nurses for Lunatics?

Or do you know of one?

When I speak of a Training  
School, I mean a Training

School, such as we have  
for Hospital Nurses &  
Matrons now at St. Thomas'  
Hospital, & at several  
other large Hospitals,  
where the Probationers go  
thro' at least a year of  
*systematic training IN*  
the Hospital Wards, with  
an organized system of  
superintendence, where  
their work is tested, &  
where they live under  
discipline in a Home adjoining.

All this, I should fancy,  
[but I ask one of the greatest  
experience & devotion in  
yourself] was yet more  
necessary for Lunatic than  
for Hospital Patients.

How I wish I had  
time & strength as I have

inclination to carry  
out such a work.

But I have far too large  
a circle of duties already  
And I am ~~entirely~~ a prisoner  
from illness to my room.

I leave out entirely the  
question of Asylum Nurses  
being trained ~~OUT OF~~ not in  
the Asylum nor about the Patients for  
their duties: which  
seems yet more utterly  
impossible than for Hospitals  
& Hospital Patients.

In Germany there are  
Training Schools for Asylum Nurses,  
& Lady Attendants in  
*Lunatic Asylums.*

A lady, half German & half  
English, whose Sister died  
as Lady Assistant in such an

[2]

Asylum, is likely to  
come to live in England  
& might be interested  
in the work.  
Now that *Hospital Nursing*  
is so largely carried on  
by ladies, I hope that  
you will be able to  
tell me that you  
have found many *ladies*  
for your Asylum attendance  
& have trained them in your Wards.

You have, I assure you,  
my best wishes that you  
should succeed in all your works.

Would I could give you  
more than good wishes!

God bless your work  
If the Chaplain of Robben  
Island should come to  
England, might I place

him in communication  
with you?  
under severe stress of overwork & illness  
but Pray believe me  
my dear Sir

ever your faithful servt-  
Florence Nightingale

The Revd=  
Henry Hawkins  
&c &c

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180  
H1/ST/NC3/SU218 list, 1f, pen

985

The Nightingale Home  
St: Thomas' Hospital  
June 16<sup>th</sup> 1880

We, the Home Sister, and Nightingale  
Probationers of 1880 beg to thank

Sir Harry and Lady Verney  
for the very happy day we spent  
on Wednesday June 15<sup>th</sup>, and to  
express

our sense of their kindness  
in entertaining us at Claydon -  
{actual signatures:}

MS Crossland	"Home Sister"
L. Parsons	S. Rees
M.A. Weston	J.B. Western
A F Hughes	G. Parsons
A.M. Barson	E.H. Pringle
M.M. Oliver	J.C. Bird
Isla Stewart	E Beatty
	H L Tratt
L. Hogg	M Huxley
A O'Neil	R.P. Ashber
E.M. Manning	M. Brinstan
M Dobbs	J.M. Little
M {illeg}	

SU219 signed letter, 2ff, pencil

Nov 24/86  
10, SOUTH STREET, [12:380]  
PARK LANE. W. {printed address:}

Dearest Mrs. Wardroper

I pray that, notwithstanding  
this most ungenial weather,  
you keep better -

God bless you -

I write now, not to bother  
you, but only to ask what  
you thought of that Miss  
Maxwell, who called upon  
you, wishing to become your  
Special Probationer -

I have no personal  
acquaintance with her

whatever: but I have  
heard so much of her  
from mutual friends -  
one, Lady Caird, who is  
one of her references,- that  
I cannot but think  
she would prove a  
most valuable Ward  
Sister to you - far above  
any "Sisters" we have  
- now - so much so  
that I think you might  
even wish to waive  
your & Mr. Bonham Carter's

rule, (not to decide till  
just before Quarter Day,  
in case better applicants  
should offer), & perhaps  
promise her a vacancy  
which I understood you  
that you would have in  
March- for, if you  
liked her, perhaps a  
better applicant hardly  
could offer -

She, I understand, is  
quite willing to wait till  
March, but could not longer.

But I am not of course  
asking you to tell me  
this: but only how you  
liked her.

[end 12:380]

God bless you  
ever yours  
F. Nightingale

SU 220 signed letter, 2ff, pencil

July 15/87

10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}  
PARK LANE. W.

My dear Miss Maxwell

Do not think I am  
neglecting your request -I am  
enquiring.

Sister Arthur did not  
leave any written 'Record' of  
you. She was taken ill before  
she had written any.

They would be so sorry  
to lose you - your great qualities  
-out of the Home - your good  
influence there -

They feel you have not  
sufficiently proved yourself -

They cannot tell you whether  
you are fit to be a Ward  
Sister - You would not like  
not to be a first-rate Sister  
[You are quite right not to  
choose to be on the Extra Staff]  
But St. Thomas' is a fearful demand  
upon a gentlewoman's strength,  
in every position - & not likely to get lighter.

Would you like to come  
back for another 6 months  
& prove yourself- & then  
see what at the year's end  
can be done?

If not, it would seem best  
to go to Mildmay-  
where may all blessings  
follow you -  
You will say: if I come to St.  
Thomas' for 6 months, then  
I just lose my sister at  
Mildmay.

I write this down as it were  
promiscuously.

They cannot promise anything,  
they say, to you more than to  
others.

I may have something else to

write to night.

Take this as undecided.

God bless you - God guide us all

I will write again

in haste

yours overflowinglly

F. Nightingale

SU 221 signed letter, 2ff, pen

Nov 27/86

10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}

PARK LANE. W.

My dear Sir James Caird

I received last night from  
St. Thomas' the answer to my enquiries  
about Miss Maxwell who  
wishes to become a "Special  
Probationer" at our Training  
School for Nurses at St.  
Thomas' Hospital.

She has made a strong  
impression as to her  
being 'able' in body & mind  
& purpose- like; as to  
her wish to make Nursing

a calling, & as to her special  
fitness for it: her great  
qualities which you &  
Lady Caird know so well.  
The vacancy in March  
will surely be hers, as  
far as anything can be sure.

The answers to her references  
are not quite complete. When  
they are, they will be sent  
to me. But Lady Caird's  
makes us certain that  
we are safe there.

We are fortunate that the  
 work has attracted so  
 good a worker -  
 And she has my best  
 wishes for her success  
 in the highest sense in  
 all her career-  
 I am delighted to have  
 to tell you this:  
 & with kindest regards  
 to Lady Caird  
 & good speed to your  
 most difficult & noble  
 work in Ireland

- you have promised me  
 a visit when you return  
 pray believe me  
 ever sincerely yours:  
 Florence Nightingale

H1/ST/NC3/SU222-22/1a incomplete signed letter & postmarked envelope, 3ff, pen

[8:942]

{envelope:} Miss Ruth Verney  
 Claydon Ho:  
 Winslow  
 3/5/91 Bucks

May 3/91  
 10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}  
 PARK LANE. W.  
 You sent Aunt Florence,  
 my dearest little Ruth,  
 such beautiful primroses  
 & dear little primson buds  
 the other day - & a sweet  
 little violet with a  
 root- And Aunt Florence  
 planted it in a little  
 pot - & watered it - &  
 immediately there came  
 up another violet - did  
 Grandpapa tell you?  
 behind a green leaf  
 as alive as possible.

There is nothing like a  
little garden grown by  
one self in London to  
give pleasure.

And I wonder whether  
now the spring is come  
you watch the bees &  
insects coming out of  
the flowers, where they  
have been occupied in  
taking a little honey, &  
bring out a little pollen  
on their backs- Or is  
it too early for that?  
Aristotle, an old, old  
Greek, who has taught

us a great deal about  
Morals, tho' he lived  
some hundreds of years  
before Christ, used to  
watch the bees, and he  
says that a bee on the  
same journey only visits  
the same kind of flowers.  
It is satisfied, unlike  
us, with the same kind  
of dish at one time.

Now, you see, Aristotle  
& little Harry both  
watched the bees -

I have counted the  
times (with a second hand

SU 222/1a

00478

watch) that a moth  
put its proboscis in  
sucking the honey out  
of a common wild  
Scabious. And it was  
150 times in a minute-

Do you know the  
names of the birds  
yet? And are there  
still a good many  
singing birds after the  
very severe winter? A  
blackbird comes here every  
morning at 5 o'clock  
(the first time this has  
happened since I lived

[2]

here (some 26 years), & sings -

Perhaps it is one of the  
Claydon blackbirds which died

Now give Aunt Florence's  
very dear love to dearest  
Ellin & Lettice - & help in  
pleasing Grandpapa as I know you do - And  
give my love to Miss  
Spring Rice s, & tell Miss  
Frederica that I can't  
thank her enough for her  
letter & for what they are doing.

How is Nip? - & how is  
the bird canary that says pf?

God bless you all  
ever your loving

Aunt Florence

If you see anything of Mrs.

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180

992

H1/ST/NC3/SU223 signed letter, 1f, pencil {notes at top of letter not FN, not transcribed}

Sept 23/95

10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}  
PARK LANE. W.

Messrs. Eyre & Spottiswoode  
32 Abingdon Street. West:er  
Gentlemen

Would you be so very good  
as to send Blue Book  
"Report on Sanitary Measures"  
"in India in 1893-94"

"Vol XXVII"

"1895" (just out)

to Sir W. Wedderburn Bt M.P.

Post Office: Buckie  
Banffshire

(to await arrival)

Messenger will pay for expences

It saves me all trouble - if  
you are so good as to do this

Yours faithfully

Florence Nightingale

SU 224 signed letter & envelope, 2ff, pencil  
{envelope:}

To the Matron

or Home Sister

St Thomas' Hospital

F. Nightingale

18/6/1901

June 18/1901

[6:670]

10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}

PARK LANE. W.

Dear Matron

Dr. Lachlan† of

41 Clapham Road

is sending to you, please,

a young girl age 21

Nelly Johnson, who has

had Pleurisy- and now

the Doctor thinks an

Operation needful.

And as I know her to

be a very nervous Patient,

& rather alarmed at

Hospitals [you & I know  
that Patients are only  
sorry to leave *your*  
Hospital] I thought if  
I wrote to you, it would  
give her some encouragement  
to know that I knew you  
& that she would be  
under your care  
I need hardly ask: will  
you kindly look after her,  
as from every one I have  
known who has been at

the Hospital, I have  
always heard of your  
great kindness.

After she is admitted, I  
should be pleased indeed  
to hear how she is going on,  
if not too much trouble to  
you

With love

yours sincerely

Florence Nightingale

H1/ST/NC3/SU225/2

SU 225-225/1

SU 225

signed letter & envelope, 1f, pencil  
{envelope:}

*with flowers*

From Florence Nightingale

Miss Grace Hamilton

52 Chester Square

26/6/1900

letter, SU225/1

June 25/1900

10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}  
PARK LANE. W.

Dearest Bertha

Would you please tell  
us *what time* the  
wedding - God bless it -  
is to- morrow?

[We don't want to bother  
you with any request.]  
Please put down here

*Time ==*

2. I thought of sending  
a nose gay to the bride.  
Should it be sent to her  
at *13 Queen's Gate* or where?  
Please put here  
ever yours

F. Nightingale

signed note, 1f, pencil

June 26/1900

10, SOUTH STREET, {printed address:}  
PARK LANE. W.

these poor flowers bring  
every best of wishes to  
our dear

Grace

on her wedding day  
from us all

Florence Nightingale

H1/ST/NC/SU226a-b 3ff, {illeg E Gertrude?}, re: incomplete letter, M. Mohl mentioned  
throughout, in part seemingly about cats, humourous stories

1f, {archivist:} {vert.:} Return to Mrs. Wardroper

SU198 1f, Francis Hicks to FN, Jan 9 1866, 13 St Thomas's SE, re: Committee has authorized  
him to enter into an agreement with FN's council re approval of alterations suggested in  
original plan, FN to correspond if she has improvements in arrangements for the Probationer's  
building

SU199 1f, Henry Currey to FN, Jan 20 1866, 4 Lancaster Place, Strand, W.C., re: the Nightingale Probationers Quarters, would be glad to receive suggestions

SU200 1f, Henry Currey to FN, May 4 1866, 4 Lancaster Place, Strand, W.C., re: promising the Plans of the Probationers' House in a few days for her inspection

SU201 2ff, Henry Currey to FN, May 8 1866, 4 Lancaster Place, Strand, W.C., re: sending herewith the Plans of the Nightingale Probationers Quarters with Matron's House &c, requests return of drawings with observations from her, comments on the position of the road at/near Hospital

SU202 1f, Henry Currey to FN, May 24 1866, 4 Lancaster Place, Strand, W.C., re: is looking to have the drawings returned as soon as it is convenient

SU203 2ff, Henry Currey {in another hand} to FN, May 29 1866, 4 Lancaster Place, Strand, W.C., re: he is much obliged for her suggestions on the ground floor which will improve both the Small Ward and the Sisters room, consultation rooms suggested by Medical men for private place to converse with pupils than in the Ward, altering upper floor plans more difficult but will consider it

SU204 2ff, Henry Currey {in another hand} to FN, May 29 1886, 4 Lancaster Place, Strand, W.C., re: obliged for the plans being returned promptly, will show the Committee the plans and will provide any information needed, responds to her questions re location of warming surfaces in building, is in agreement of having a small sink with a supply of cold and hot water in Bath rooms and will be done, clarifies her questions re the lighting for the ground floor Probationers rooms

SU205 4ff, S.E. Wardroper to Madam, Feb 28 1866, St Thomas', re: wishes to write her own epistle despite Mr Whitfield's letter, rejoices with FN for her accomplishment re the probationers in the new St Thomas', yet at the same time grieved it has cost her so much suffering and trouble she ought to have been spared, sees nothing to quarrel about in the proposed Matron's residence, Miss Jones' serious difficulties to contend with, drunkenness a part of the source of problems, several dismissals in 7 months, delighted to see Mrs Fowler and able to give her a favourable report of Probationers, applications for Nurses overwhelming and a better class presenting themselves for training

SU206b 4ff, S.E. Wardroper to Madam, May 18 1866, St Thomas' Hospital, Newington Surrey, S., re: thanks for kind and explicit letter re a Swedish lady & {illeg Miss Messe?}, she was glad to be prepared for the surprise, will do her utmost to help the lady, appointment for meeting her to be on Monday at 11 o'clock, wishes to adopt {FN's} mode of 'talking' i.e. slowly, the pleasure of seeing {FN} the previous Saturday, Mr. Currey to shew and explain the working plans of the New St Thomas' to her, Wardroper's dislike of the arrangement of the Small Ward and Scullery, consulting room space might be better appropriated

SU207a-c 6ff, S.E. Wardroper to Madam, May 23 1866, St Thomas', re: Mr Currey's promise to look over the plans this week, comments that he is a little forgetful and may need to give a reminder, delighted with the Herbert Hospl- Site and construction, lovely view from the wards, recommends their new Hospl to have larger lavatories and W.C's, more in depth details on her opinion on the function of the rooms and how it can effect efficiency, the meeting with the Swedish lady with [Miss Meppe Messer? Beppe?] as interpreter, recommend her to spend as much time as possible for English with promise to assist her, unable to help {illeg Mrs. Vieniyon?}, agrees with opinion re the District providing their own Supt=, as the only way to ensure success [hard to read names]

SU208a-b 5ff, S.E. Wardroper to Madam, Oct 24 1866, St Thomas' Hospital, Newington, Surrey, S., re: encloses a note from Miss Osburn & returns Mr Winter's and Miss Boucherett's [packet], hopes they will not appt {illeg Miss Genna?} Supt= and if they do will regret the decision as 'untruthfulness in a Superior never can succeed', does not believe she will be more faithful to Mrs Bromhead than to them, Mrs Wardroper forgave her more often than she should have, writes that Mrs Ayden likely to become Midwife to the female Hospital at Aldershot

SU209 1f, Henry Bonham Carter, [May 1866], re: was glad to see the Plans, requesting to have a copy of memorandum for Sir J. Lawrence, recalls the draft he had seen from some months previous

SU210 1f, Henry Bonham Carter, May 12 1866, re: asking if objection to keeping the Plans a little longer and for John Clark & Mr Bowman to see them

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180 997  
SU211 signed letter & postmarked envelope, 3ff, pencil

{envelope:}

Miss C. Manning  
Miss Haddon  
2/5/73 Dover

London May 2/73  
Dear Miss Manning

Only the constant pressure of  
business & illness, together with  
the difficulty of any reply to  
your question, would have  
prevented my answering your  
note before -

[12:56-57]

Tho' advertising more than once  
to your age, you do not say  
what it is - I guess it to  
be about 16.

I know no Institution which  
would take in a young lady  
of that age-  
Miss Clara Manning

I could not recommend Kais  
erswerth, even if they would receive  
you - The spirit of  
the place is beautiful- But  
as a Hospital it is so inferior  
to any London Hospital, where  
you see more real work in  
a week than you do at Kaisers-  
werth in a year - as a place  
for learning to take *Sanitary*  
care of School-children, it  
is absolutely nothing - the  
Germans have not the most  
elementary notion of what  
we English call cleanliness,  
good air, & children's care -  
Besides, - & in this they are quite  
right,- they told me that they

consider every year taken out of  
 a woman under 24- as so  
 much taken out of her life  
 at the other end -

Also: do you speak German perfectly?

I sympathize so very *much*  
 with your object- especially with  
 that of knowing how to "take  
 care" of a large class of children  
 - that I would I could help  
 you more -

At St. Thomas' Training School  
 we prefer not to take in before  
 the age of 23- It is true that  
 some of our very best Sisters  
 (Head Nurses) were young ladies  
 of 21 when they entered- But

we have not hitherto trained  
 except for Hospital or Workhouse  
 life.

[end 12:57]

Take courage, my dear soul. Be  
 sure that to do well the  
 work that is immediately  
 before one is the best training  
 while awaiting the age  
 when God may open the way  
 for more work the best  
 preparation

You do not wish for any thing  
 to be decided "till August" -  
 & before that time we may

strike out something for you.  
 District "Nursing" among "the  
 poor of London" *at home* is  
 I think, the noblest, because  
 (for a person above 25)

[2]

the most useful kind of  
work - more so even than  
Hospital work -

But between an "August" &  
an "April following", what  
could any one learn, except  
those who have had much  
*previous* experience?

But do not suppose I am  
discouraging you - If you  
persevere, be quite sure  
that God will not let His  
call to you, if it is a call,  
be wasted -

[end]

A letter addressed to me,

care of Hy Bonham Carter Esq  
91 Gloucester Terrace  
Hyde Park  
London W.

will always find me.

God bless & speed you-  
ever yours faithfully  
Florence Nightingale

SU212 signed letter, 1f, pencil

17/6/73

Dear Miss Clara Manning

I have corresponded with  
several friendly Institutions in  
the hopes of finding some one  
that would do for you -

Did you know the Revd-  
Mr. & Mrs. Pennefather - he,  
alas! is dead-?- I did not  
know them: but they were great  
friends of my dearest friend  
& pupil, Agnes Jones-

Mrs. Pennefather still  
keeps up his Training Institutions  
They "think" that you "might

"be received into their  
Probationers' Home - & have  
some little training to help"  
you "to Nurse the sick poor" -  
Will you put yourself into  
communication with their Supt-  
Miss Bell  
Supt-  
131 Mildmay Road  
London N.

I wish you God speed with  
all my heart & soul  
& am  
ever yours sincerely  
Florence Nightingale

SU213 incomplete letter & postmarked envelope, 2ff, pen & pencil

{envelope:}

Miss Clara Manning  
at Miss Haddon's  
Effingham Crescent

8/7/73           Dover  
London July 8/73

Dear Miss Manning

I am sure that you are  
quite right in not even  
making enquiries until  
you have your father's  
consent. No Institution  
would, or ought to take  
so young a lady without  
her parents' entire sanction.

[13:96]

— In case Mrs. Pennefather  
should not take you, I  
have another string to your  
bow - (i.e. in the event of your  
father's approbation) -

If you would call on or  
write to  
Miss E. Merryweather  
Westminster Hospital  
London S.W.  
you would hear any particulars  
about a Nurses' Home  
which is to be begun in  
about a fortnight  
near the Westminster Hospital,  
-It *may* be that it will be  
such as you might avail  
yourself of for a time.  
[The Miss Merryweathers are  
the Supts= of the Nurses'

Home & District Nursing  
at Liverpool, concerning  
which I send you a  
pamphlet.]

Miss E. Merryweather is  
only come to help for a  
time Westminster Hospital  
in London to get its  
Nursing into order -  
God speed you -

[end]

SU228/1 1f, Henry Bonham Carter to Nurse Elizabeth Hancock, March 28 1876, 91 Gloucester Terrace, Hyde Park, London, W., re: from the Committee of the Nightingale Fund Nurse Hancock receives a satisfactory report of the manner in which duties were performed & accordance with Regulations, is informed of a 1<sup>st</sup> gratuity of £2

SU228/2 4ff, printed Address from FN to the Probationer Nurses in the "Nightingale Fund" School at St Thomas', May 1872, London, re: unless a Nurses makes progress, they are going 'back', progress needs to be made even after training &c (read to Probationer Nurses May 8 1872) {FN hand top left:} Elizabeth Hancock

LMA (FNM) H1/ST/NC3/SU180 1002

SU228/3 6ff, printed Address from FN to the Probationer Nurses in the "Nightingale Fund" School at St Thomas', May 23 1873, re: one year further to becoming 'perfect as our Father in Heaven is perfect', focuses on improvements {FN hand top left:} Hancock

SU228/4 7ff, printed Address from FN to the Probationer Nurses in the "Nightingale Fund" School at St Thomas', July 23 1874, re: themes being heroic, trustworthy, obedient, orderly

H1/ST/NC3/SU227/1

SU227/1-2 signed letter & postmarked envelope, 2ff, pen & pencil  
{envelope:}

Miss L.J. Phillips  
C. Phillips Esq  
Atherstone

7/2/74 Warwickshire  
London Feb 7/74 [12:290-91]

Madam

In answer to your note of  
Feb 2 which has been  
to different places after me,  
I hasten to say:

that gentlewomen are admitted  
at our St. Thomas' Training=  
School for Nurses

[Some for payment: & some who  
have not means or free  
Admissions]

who will fulfil the enclosed  
conditions (see printed paper

)  
subject to the selection of Mrs.  
Miss Phillips

Wardroper, our Training Matron,  
who decides upon the  
Candidates after a  
personal interview  
that these vacancies for  
gentlewomen are always  
filled up long before  
they fall due  
quite as much for those who pay  
as those who do not  
And there are always a  
number waiting for admission  
At this time the vacancies  
have all been filled up:  
But if you desire to answer  
the questions on the printed

Form I enclose: & to forward  
them to Mrs. Wardroper  
St. Thomas' Hospital  
Westminster Bridge  
London S.E.,

I will inform her of your  
application to me, & she  
will inform you whether  
she thinks it desirable  
for you to pursue the  
application.

You may perhaps be coming  
to London: when a personal  
interview will be equally  
desirable for you & for her.  
The opportunities we have  
for recommending gentlewomen

who will really & vigorously  
undertake the career of  
Nursing

for employment are still [in pencil]

far more numerous  
than the ladies who are fitted  
to, & will, undertake it.

Let me wish you 'God speed'  
in this noble & useful course  
I am unable to write more,  
being overwhelmed with sorrow  
& illness & pressing business,  
besides my usual work.

---  
You probably know that Mrs.  
Bracebridge is dead.

---  
With every good wish for  
your best success,  
pray believe me ever your  
faithful servt=

Florence Nightingale

[end 12:291]

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

lf, re: {archivist:} Specimens of  
 Miss Florence Nightingale's  
 Writing  
 given to me L. Dunn, by  
 Miss Nash x (niece) of Fording bridge  
 a direct descendent

{3 lines by arch: not transcribed}

draft, lf, pen  
 A happy New Year  
 Think truly & thy thoughts  
 Shall the world's famine feed  
 Speak truly & each word of thine  
 Shall be a fruitful seed  
 Live truly & the life shall be  
 A great & noble creed

---

From glory unto glory. 2 Cor 3 18  
 To glory's full fruition  
 From glory's foretaste here  
 Until His very Presence crown  
 Our happiest New Year.

Never failing, never frowning  
 He is with thee! Thine own Master,  
 Leading, loving to the end!  
 C        x x x  
 All to- day yet more to- morrow  
 Yes with Him for ever dwelling  
 Thou shalt share His joy excelling  
 Thou with Christ & Christ with thee

---

O Xmas, merry Xmas  
 This never more can be  
 We cannot bring again the days  
 Of our unshadowed glee  
 But Xmas, happy Xmas,  
 Sweet herald of good will  
 With holy songs of glory  
 Brings holy gladness still

SU235/2 1f, Rosalind Nash to dear Sister, July 7 1938, Woodgreen, Fording bridge, re: has not forgotten her promise, has had difficulty in finding FN's writing that isn't sad, wants to focus on her courage and brightness, refers to hymns FN had been reading on New Year's Day

SU230/a-b 3ff, Rose Adams to FN, Nov 4 1889, Ladies' Sanitary Association, 22 Berners Street, Oxford Street. W., London, re: hesitant to bring enclosed complaint to the Medical Officers of Health for White Chapel, apparently not the first complaint to be sent to them, the Col. out-patient dept- 'leaves much to be desired', the need to be prudent with funds for the Hospitals, mentions Miss Lückes, outside pressure works best, finds the Medical Officer of Health for the District the best Sanitary authority to apply to, the credibility of the Yatmans, awaiting FN's response

SU231 {the last folio of this letter is seen in SU230b}  
3ff, Rose Adams to Madam, Nov 7 1889, Ladies' Sanitary Association, 22 Berners Street Oxford Street, W., London, re: feels compelled to obey her, is fearful of further scandal arising to cause financial loss to the Hospital, refers to Mrs. Yatman and a letter and asks how to respond, food a problem according to a quote "go into training at the London--no--there it's a feature that Nurses should suffer thro' insanitary conditions"

SU232/1 2ff, Rose Adams to FN, Nov 11 1889, 22 Berners St. W., re: having written to Mrs Yatman concerning her letter being passed on to be read, sanitary improvements at the Hospital being implemented, namely the W.C. of the out-patient dept.

SU232/2A-E 8ff, M.L. Yatman to Miss Adams, Nov 9, Fernden, Haslemere, Surrey, re: stating she was at liberty to give information, the men's out-patient WC was vile, clarifying complaint issues, W.C. on the Night Nurses Quarters 'in a bad state', offers one of her/his daughters to keep a list for a week of strict particulars for a day nurse diet, sends this and a list of Nurses who were ill with details of their conditions as well

SU232/33 1f, re: Nurses food and how ill-prepared it is, the hope for wise supervision & protection of Nurses almost dispelled

SU233 1f, Rose Adams to Madam, Dec 31 1889, Ladies' Sanitary Association, 22 Berners Street Oxford Street. W., re: giving information re a notice of a proposed nursing effort for Lepers that Dr. Mackenzie told Rose Adams she wanted to hear about, printed article also enclosed titled, 'The Lepers at Molokai' by Hugh B. Chapman Vicar of St Luke's Camberwell, Dec. 30.