

Wellcome (Claydon copy) Ms 9012-14, microfilm, 1888-94, 802 pages

9012/1 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil [3:207]

Pine acre: Sunningdale: Berks

Jan 5/88

My dear Sir Harry & Parthe

To-day my father died
or rather passed from
death into life 14 years
ago at this very hour.

[end 3:207]

I wrote on Tuesday by
your (Sir Harry's) kind
desire to the "Secretary"
of the South Western Rail
to "know if I could have
"a *through* Invalid Carriage"
from Sunningdale by Oxford

to Claydon Station -

He passed it on to the
Traffic Supt.

To-day (Thursday) I
have a letter saying
that they are negotiating
& will let me know -

It appears that there
are 3 Railways concerned
South Western
Great "
North "

I write this to show you
that I have not neglected
your kind wishes
& send it by the early
post here -

I am so glad that you
have Maudie & the
children with you -

God bless you all, my dear
Sister & you, is the earnest prayer,
especially on this solemn day
of yours & hers ever

F.N.

9012/2 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

Pine acre Jan 7/88

My dearest Pop Thanks for
your (Sir Harry's & yours) most
kind welcome received this
morning Are you sure it is
not inconvenient that I should
come on Monday?
telegraphed back to Sir Harry
at once the hour of my
coming on Monday 3.9. -
in case it were inconvenient
that he might stop me by
Telegram if it were -

There is still time to stop
me. I could go back to

London - if inconvenient to have
me on Monday

If not, I shall see you soon,

my dearest Pop
God bless you

ever thy F.

Pray put me in any rooms
you think best

Lizzie & I & little cat
will be the party

9012/3 FN pencil note on Aunt Mai

Jan 13/88

How impressive to me is the belief that every one of us, since our Father constitutes us as the actors in His vast organization, including all that lives & feels, are to be helped not only to be the actors, but to desire with all our hearts to serve God's ends in that organization. Of all the best, most humane people how few, it seems to me, feel continuously this connection with the Father - more perhaps in past times - Yet God will lead us to its being so for us all -

Farewell, dear friend

for to-day - A change may go on as it has done so gradually & lengthen my 90 years, or quickly bring the last change in this world. "Is there any final farewell?" asks Walt Whitman. None, we will answer with grateful hearts.

M.S.

9012/4 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

Jan 14/88

I am so sorry, my dear Sir Harry, it is quite impossible for me to see Admiral Grey, much as I should like it, there is no possibility of it for me - Alas!

If Mr. Calvert is going to-day, would you kindly say how very sorry I am not to have been able to see *him*.

F.N.

9012/5 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

Jan 16/88

How is your cold, my dear Sir

Harry?

Would you kindly say to Mr.

Calvert how sorry I am not to have seen him, except just for a moment on Saturday evening in the Cedar room? He must have thought me so rude not to offer him my place or even to get up - But Parthe did not speak - She was half asleep - And I thought her so poorly, I was afraid of disturbing her

F.N.

9012/6 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

[3:414]

29/1/88

Mr. Jowett offered himself for Wednesday & I wrote yesterday, by your desire, asking him to sleep. I also said that you wished for the Sacrament - but *not* if it entailed trouble to him in writing to the Bishop. [end 3:414]

Miss Lock, the lady who is appointed Supt. in India, who wished to see me & whom you kindly asked, most unhappily chooses Wednesday too & *to sleep* or if not Wednesday, then not till next week. I cannot see her & Mr. Jowett too - And we know not where we may be "next week". She asks me to answer to-day what will be "convenient" to "Lady Verney". *What?*

9012/7 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

10 South St.

Feb 10/88

Dearest Pop I trust that you
are not materially worse
for your journey - You have
not seen Sir J. Paget yet, I
believe?

I am so grieved about Sir
Harry - yet hope the finger
is going on well - It is happy
that Mr. Savory is so near -

At past 3 o'clock on
Wednesday he was walking
up & down this street without
luncheon - I captured him
& was so glad we had a
lunch he liked. & could put
his arm in a sling.

About the poisoning of the
finger: he told me he
was about on Monday with
the Plumber examining W.C.s.

The worst poisoned finger
I ever knew was occasioned
by a peccant W.C. (without a scratch)

Also: I saw him rubbing
the Iodine with his right
hand - where were plenty of
fissures - this may have made
it sore -

Thank God he is better to-day -
We shall hear what Mr. Savory
says at 5

ever our loving

F

9012/8 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

Feb 12/88

Thank God, my dear Sir Harry,
that you are so much
better - But prudence!
If you will kindly come
here for a little reading
say at 12, if that suits
you, *instead of* going to
church, Amen - how glad
I shall be to see you -

Of course you keep the
poultices on -
ever yours F.N.

9012/9 signed letter, 1f, pencil

Feb 16 {arch: '88}

My dearest Pop I hope that you
have had a little bit better
night & are a little bit better
to-day: tho' the weather is not -
In fact, it is taking a diabolical
revenge.

I believe you want the Edinburgh
back which you were kind
enough to lend me - So I
return it herewith - Alas! my
eyes have not beheld the stars,
I mean the Sidereal Photography -
- nor I am afraid will be able
so to do -

Aunt Mai writes reminding
me that yesterday was my
Father's birth-day ever thy old Flo
{written vertically in the top margin:}
My kind
regards
to Mrs.
Davidson
& Miss
Beart

9012/10 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

Feb 18/88

Dearest Pop

Do you want your pheasant
to-day?

We had ordered my dinner I forget what
but you will like the pheasant

to-day, will you not?

Fred wanted the Sidereal
Photography - as expressed
In a letter to you or Sir Harry
Shall I not send it you
back for him?

your F.

9012/11 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil {arch: ?'88}

Sunday Feb 26

My dearest Pop I don't know
when I shall see you; I did
not answer your kind offer to
come *last* Sunday - because
the weather made it so
manifestly impossible -

I had a painfully
instructive visit from the
Long General - He has found
out the evils at Aldershot -

Ellen Tollet has written
me a dear letter which I
enclose - *Please return it
to me* -

The account of Aunt Mai

this morning is not good.

In her last letter to me
she says: "Parthe's work

"without giving way from

"pain is wonderful -

"I remember it was so

"in some degree when

(the last words are illegible
can it be)

"when a child"

Otherwise her handwriting

& her thoughts are as

clear as ever -

I am sorely afraid you
have had & have a bad
time of it - bad nights &
yesterday not able for a levee as
usual -

Mrs. Hawthorn has written
to me - She leaves England
on the 6th or 7th March
ever dearest Pop
your loving
F

9012/12 incomplete letter, 3ff, pencil [a page at least missing]

10 South St. March 16/88

My dearest Pop: Thanks for letter -

I am glad you saw Dr. Theodore Acland, but
would ~~much~~ rather have known what he said -
You knew of course at Claydon when Sir Harry was there
that the sight of one eye was entirely gone - Is it
THAT eye that has had to be taken out? surely, I
trust, nothing has happened to the other?
Was it Mr. Power who performed the operation?
And how is he going on? He is at Oxford, I
suppose - R.S.V.P.

2. About the new German Emperor, surely the [5:544-45]
Pr. of Wales had better things to tell the Queen of him
than what 66 millions of people are saying,
viz. that '7 Doctors looking daily down one's throat
&c &c'

A better thing has been told us of him within the
last few days: that he has so conquered all
impatience in himself that nothing troubles him
or makes him lose patience - When a man has
done this - (how did he do it?) - When one
considers what his life is now - What a fiery
trial, endured, as if it were a calm sunset -
when even '7 doctors looking down his throat'
cannot make him impatient, ~~that~~ he is a
hero- saint indeed -

It is supposed the Emperor's life *may*
perhaps be counted by days - May God
grant to him & Europe, to which every hour
of his life is without price, that he may
be able to work & to rule every hour of that
life, without being regent=ed by his son -

And may God grant *us* the strength

which has been so transcendently given
to him to conquer & overcome in himself -

It is said that he has made this last
year of suffering a "crowning education" to
himself - And so it has - one could pray
that it might be for yet a few years of *this* life
that this man of 57 has educated himself -

How has he won this calmness & serenity?
- not, I fancy, because he puts himself above
but as it were below troubles - He does not like [end 5:545]

Württemberg paper which *I* have to return,
when Sir Harry has read it, if he likes
to do so -

He is the last of
that great noble family
& tradition.

9012/13 initialed letter, 1f, pencil {a page seems to be missing}

29/3/88

I pray that a good matron
may be found for the
G.B.H

Of these two sets of Testimonials,
the one, a lady, Mrs. Spiller,
is recommended for "any
"position of responsibility",
apparently merely because she
wants one -

The other, Mrs. Deacon, a
"Conductor's" widow, appears to
be recommended merely because
her husband is dead.

We should think no farther
of either.

observations he would make
on foreign policy, & the
anxiety we are all under
in Europe would please
Prince Narès, & he would
like to get it -

Mail goes from London
on Friday - 5 pence for each
½ oz.

9012/14 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

April 4/88

My dearest Pop I do not like
to alarm you, but I think
you would think me very
unworthy of your trust
if I did not tell you that
Sir Harry was very poorly
indeed here this morning -
& fainted on the floor -

I was just in time to
catch him & let him down
quite easily - & he was
not in the least hurt -

Under any other circumstances
he might have had a very
serious ~~or even fatal~~ fall -

I cannot be thankful enough

that it happened under
the circumstances I have
faithfully told you -

One shudders to think
what might have been -

I am sure you will think,
when you know this that
it is quite out of the question
for him to go to Aylesbury.

If he lies down & keeps
perfectly quiet this afternoon
& night, no bad results
may follow -

But otherwise I am sure
he ought to be seen by a
Doctor - for otherwise this

might be the beginning of
~~the end~~ an illness -

He had spoken to me
seriously about himself -

No one but you can
persuade him *not* to go;
or I should not have
told you of this at all

[I think his going to
Aylesbury yesterday was
partly the cause of it]

I cannot say how I grieve
for your continued cough -
But I earnestly hope you
will give Sir A. Clark a
fair trial - & not mix
Nos. 6 & 3 to make 9 -

I have not left my bed
or even had my room done
for nearly 5 weeks - Or I
should have come to see
you, my dear Pop

Your old F.

9012/15 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

April 5/88

My dearest Pop

One can't be thankful
enough that Sir Harry has
come back safe -

But he may do this once
too often -

I want to tell you that
he himself expressed a strong
wish to see Sir A. Clark -
But you only can keep him
to his good resolution

How I wish there were a
better report of you, my Pop -
God bless you both

F.N.

9012/16 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

Ap 6/88

My dear Sir Harry

I was grateful indeed
for your Telegram -

But I want to hear that
Sir A. Clark has been sent
for. Any Physician who had
seen you *as I did* would
tell you that it was necessary
- And - you said so yourself.

I could see you for a
few minutes at 12, not to
hinder your ride -

My Doctor comes in the
afternoon - And I am quite
unable to see two people -
God bless you

F.N.

9012/17 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

Ap 7/88

My dearest Pop

1. I send you a book so
delightful, wholesome & cheerful,
Mr. Rogers, which Fred lent
me - with strict orders to
send it on to you - I have
not been able to read it
all, you will see.

How wise he is about
Education, - about Church
Disestablishment - about
Sunday opening, how wise -

2. I also send a story which
Mr. Jowett lent me, which
will suit you better than me.
"A Village Tragedy" tragic indeed

I miss the heroism which everywhere
~~so~~ ennobles Hesba Stretton's
& Mrs. Walton's stories
& Miss Marsh's true
narratives

This story of Mrs. Woods
merely lands the poor
week-old baby in the
Work'us - the one object
of the dead parents to
prevent -

But it is extraordinarily
true to nature - I don't
want such stories, because
I can match them -

the man swearing because
he can't bear to tell the
poor widow the news -

And: "I hope t'ain't
true as God sticks at
forgiving us as we forgive
them as trespass against
us"

I wish, dearest Pop,
oh how I hope that
the cough will be
amenable
ever thy F.

9012/18 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

April 18/88
{printed address:} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

My dearest Pop

Would that there were a better
account of you!

Thanks for sending me the
noble prints to look at, which
I have with great pleasure,
& return with gratitude -

The Heliodorus, or rather the
wingless angels, & the Incendio
del Borgo are no doubt
exceedingly fine - But I never
stopped to look at them, even
in their places in the glorious
Stanze. They are too violent
& the stories they tell are not
interesting, to my thinking.

[7:344-45]

while I could remain hours
before the Perugino - & days
& weeks (& did) under 's
guidance in the Sistine
Chapel - That is a fine
print of the Jeremiah,
(all "doubled up", as Mme
Mohl said, with grief) -
But I think my (framed)
photograph in the Dr.g room
here is finer of this never to be
forgotten Michael Angelo -

The ? Peter & Paul I never
could abide - (in the Stanze)

The Claude is charming -
but not interesting -

You know I have no real

taste for Art

"Tis sentiment kills me, says I" -

I feel quite degraded
in your eyes -

But really to adorn my
"staircases" which I see not

or, hardly see is a waste, ~~of your things~~ And as for the public,
what

has the public done for me
that I should do anything
for the pub.? keep my
staircase walls clean;
that is all -

How I wish I could come
up your stair! my dearest
Pop - ever your loving F.

9012/19 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

April 18/88

My dear Sir Harry

I send you what you wished
to see: the photograph Mr.
Bingham ~~sent~~ gave me of
himself & his cat. I wonder
what becomes of that cat?

Could you find out whether
it is a real *Tom*?

Please return me this
Photo.

F.N.

How is Parthe?

9012/20 initialed letter, 1f, pencil [1:386]

April 19/88

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

My dearest Pop

This is the day that gave
you to this world -

I have not lilacs & laburnums
to lay upon your altar, as
we always had at Embley -
Excuse a prosaic £25 -

I pray God that, in the
midst of an intense trial of
pain & suffering, heroically
borne, you have still, dearest
Pop, much happiness -

How hard it must be to
the German Emperor to feel:
"Thy will be done, for it is: righteous" love Yet I believe
he does - ever thy loving F.

9012/21 signed letter, 6ff, pencil [5:245-47]

Matron April 21/88
"Gordon Boys' Home"
{printed address:} 10, South Street,
 Park Lane. W.

Dear Sir Harry Verney

I have looked by your desire
at the two 9012/ of
Emily Hamblin, applying
for the Matronship of the
Gordon Boys' Home, which
you have sent me asking
for my opinion on them & her,
as far as I could judge from these.

This opinion must of course
depend on what you require
in your Matron.

From yourself & from
others of your colleagues
I gathered that you wanted

a Matron for the health
& not for the sickness of
the boys - that her duties
were to be so arranged
that she should see each
of the boys - especially
the younger boys - every
day - Merely for illustration
that e.g. she might
have charge of the under-
clothing - & teach the boys
to mend their own. This
brings her into contact with
them - their little difficulties
& naughtinesses - their
cut fingers & their stomach

aches - & prevent illness -
‡ You could mention other
duties -

The influence of a good
woman is so great
over boys. And the
nearer she is to a
gentlewoman, the greater
her influence. But of
course all depends on
the *woman*: a good *MOTHERLY*
woman of any class.

Now what is
Mrs. Emily Hamblin?

She has been a "Private
"Nurse" -

Nursing in private

families is probably
the most eminently
unfitting of any service (for the boys in
Gordon Home) that can be
~~of any service~~

She refers to Prescott
Hewett - an eminent Surgeon
retired from practice.
What can he tell about
her but that she nursed
his "special" surgical cases? (not
to mention that in his
day ~~people~~ surgeons were satisfied
with a different sort of
woman from what they are now)
She also mentions Middlesex Hospital service.

She will probably never

[2]

see - she *ought certainly*
never to see in the
Gordon Boys' Home a
single case like those in
"Middlesex Hospital" (which
she mentions) - or like
Prescott Hewett's Surgical
cases.

I was not at all aware
that you wanted a
Surgical & Medical Nurse -

I understood that you
wanted a Matron to
keep the boys well -

Can

•
"Lady Darnley" or
"Lady Ellesmere" or
"Mrs. Stratford Dugdale"
(to whom she refers)
speak from personal
knowledge of what
Emily Hamblin is or
would be as a "Matron"
to healthy boys of the
ages & habits of life of the
Gordon Home? to "mother"
them, & do what a man cannot do.
I gathered from you
that personally you
did not consider her

at all a "likely person"
"to influence these boys"
[e.g. Is she a widow?
& if so, has she children?]
I gather from her letters
that she has only seen
yourself
& Genl Higginson
& ? Col. Hamilton -
Have the duties of this
post been placed before
her?

You would not think

from her letters that she
had even the degree of
education which is
required now of a
"Private Nurse" - much less
what would be required
for the Matron of a large
& increasing Institution
like the Gordon Boys' Home.
How will she be able to
hold her own in a civilized
manner?

ever, dear Sir Harry,
yours most truly
{printed address, upside down:}
10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.
Florence Nightingale

MATRON: *Gordon Boys' Home*:
that, with a view to the
health & welfare of the boys,
it is desirable that there
should be a Matron of the
Home.

? omit "under clothing"
& "house keeping"

The foundation of the Home is,
unhappily to be Military &
Barrack-room-y Are the boys
to be rationed? Then, they will
say, there is no more need of
"housekeeping" than there is
in a Barrack?

As to "*underclothing*",
is there to be a Laundry?
who mends the "underclothing"?
In a Barrack, it is the washer-
women who wash it that mend it.

I should hope that the
boys will be taught, as
sailor-boys are, to mend
their own clothes. And then
they will be brought naturally
to the Matron for supervision.
So she would see them all
& know of their sore fingers &
their stomach-aches -

But I would not put
forward the "underclothing"

I say "*unhappily*", the place is to be 'exclusively military' - because, ask any old soldier, who has been, boy & man, in Barracks: boy & man perhaps for 40 years - he will tell you that, whatever are the objections to putting boys into men's barrack-rooms, boys always get most into mischief when together, when in Barrack-rooms to themselves.

In Barracks, we always want to get the boys *out of Barracks*, & to get them under the influence of a good woman particularly,

[4]

at least for some part of a day. And here we want to put them IN -

Is there to be a Hospital?
Above all, don't have a "serjeant & his wife" for your Hospital.

["You may know Soldiers' wives for 40 years & never know one fit for this service" this is the verdict]

What is the size of the Hospital?

Presumably it is to be the headquarters of the Matron.

9012/22 signed letter, 3ff, pen

April 24/88

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

My dear Capt. Verney - God speed - [5:227-28]

Many, many thanks for
sending me the programmes
of your Conference during this
week of the Nat. Assocn. on
"Certified Reformatory &
Industrial Schools" - a subject
so deeply interesting to me -
I wish I could hear all the
papers - or at least read
them all when published.

But, as you know, I am
entirely now a prisoner from
illness - And I have no eyes -

The Red Hill *Farm School*
(qy. "Penal") is, I see, a prominent

subject - Is there any system
of *emigrating agriculturally* =
trained/ =instructed boys to our
Colonies?

or of training waifs & strays
(not "penal" boys) in agriculture
& then emigrating them to the
Colonies?

- The Qu'Apelle "Church Farm",
Bishop Anson, in Assiniboine,
Canada, cannot pay its own way.
But the climate is so bad -

South Africa has an admirable
climate - But the colonizing
attempts have been small -
[N.B. We have consented to send
one of our Lady Nurses, trained

at St. Thomas', out with one
of them† 25 agricultural families
from Hampshire]

I was an interested spectator, (from
my window, & from feeding the
Police), ~~to~~ of the painfully absurd
riots for 3 weeks in October -November
in Hyde Park - the rioters
being principally boys of 18 or so,
who worked in the markets
from 2 - 6 a.m., & rioted the
rest of the day. We did nothing
but drive them about from
street to street by Mounted
Police - Could they not
have been trained agriculturally
& emigrated? or some of them?

I am merely a distressed
Amateur - having a great deal
more to do in other ways
than I can do - So I

merely ask you who have
fathomed the subject -
so important - whether
this part of it has been
mooted -

Have France, Germany, Holland
any system of '*settling*' the
boys, so admirably trained in
some of their agricultural
Institutions?

What is the highest age in
Reformatory & Industrial Schools
- what the proportion of
agricultural Schools?
- what becomes of the boys
afterwards?

God speed again to your
great work!

ever your affectionate
Florence Nightingale

[2]

24/4/88

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

I have read Margaret's voyage
with such interest. How
grievous that they have had
such bad weather - Are they
coming home?

F.N.

9012/23 initialed note, 1f, pencil

28/4/88

Let me send in your 12 o'clock
luncheon, unless you have
time to come here -
God bless you both -

F.N.

9012/24 initialed letter & cover, 3ff, pencil **[1:387]**

10 South St April 28/88

My dearest Pop I do hope you
will give Sir Andrew Clark
a trial -

I rejoice to see the West
wind - I am afraid
you were very tired yesterday
with people -

All dressed was I, all but
my gown, to gallop down if
you had come - But I was
glad you did not - It was
not fit for you -

I meet you in the arms
of the Eternal Father - "A child
"must have but a poor
"opinion of a Father's love

"who never comes to
him (or uses his privilege
of conversing with him at
all hours) except he
wants to get something
out of him"

I don't know whether you read
my poor remarks on Bismark -
Those curious cynical confessions,
but very interesting -
Your books all very acceptable -
(all returned) I like the
Life of Emerson better than I
liked his Essays -
Droz is very pretty.

'Chez Paddy' very good.
You have kindly sent in Mme Mohl
~~which~~ I don't think I can read it
Do you mean me to return it
to *Beatrice* ?

I have only been out of
bed once these two months
long enough to have my room
"done". And I have never
repeated the experiment - Or
I should have come to see you,
my dearest Pop -

Good speed to Claydon -
I am very sorry that you
have been able to take that
excellent remedy for a cough

(Unionist dinners) so seldom -
ever my dear Pop
your loving F.

The account of Aunt Mai is:
failing. Shore is there -

Not Immediate

To enquire

Lady Verney
28/4/88

9012/25 unsigned notes, 4ff, pencil

These notes of Bismarck's conversation of Nov 29/87 most
[10:838]

interesting - perhaps not the less so because much is said in order to be repeated, knowing as he does that "Herr" Richmond sees statesmen in England in intimacy

Many thanks for letting me see them.

[end

10:838]

p. 1 The *Commander-in-Chief* is supposed to be
28]

[15:827-

the "Minister of War who does not change with "the Government". But Bismarck is ~~quite~~ right. It has been destruction to us our Minister of War "changing" - sometimes every 3 or 4 months - But we would not have a non-Parliamentary man there

p.2

p.3 *India* - Bismarck is much too clever a man not to know that we cannot give eg. to the 'Baboos' an excellent English education (34 years since Sir C. Wood's Education Despatch) -that we cannot e.g. cover India with rail-roads, facilitate all means of Communication - &c &c & then say we will take up such & such measures or not as we please - & when we please we might just as well say: we will turn back the rising tide in the Atlantic - every one of the measures that has caused such out-cries has come to the Govt. of India in the *course of business* & could not be turned back -

[10:838]

Besides, India is no longer a "geographical "expression" - She is becoming a nationality (see eg. the 3 ~~last~~ National Congresses) We have done this - unwittingly -

He will be the wise Viceroy who will give to the reasonable aspirations of the educated Hindoos a wise satisfaction - in reasonable time - before it is too late -

p.3 N.B.

There is a little slip of the tongue about "Mahometans & *Buddhists*" - He must have meant Hindoos - There are 188 millions Hindoos to 30 millions Mahometans & 7 millions only of *Buddhists*, Sikhs, Parsees all together, ~~Also~~ p.3 - is too literary, too civilized (with its own civilization)

~~Besides~~ India in one sense. The reading public of India is not "uneducated or unformed

The Brahmin is too literary

[end 10:838]

p. 2 That is curious but cynical where he talks of his drinking -

[2]

These are most interesting remarks of Bismarck's [15:827-28] on "prayer" & a "future state" - p -

'But is this all? Can Bismarck/Reason do no more? &c Is "prayer" only asking for what certainly God knows ~~about~~ much "better than I" - whether to give or not? Even the R. Catholic mystics knew more than this 300 years ago - They say prayer is not to ask of God what we want but to ask of Him what He wants of us -

And much more recently a Protestant says:
The child must have a poor opinion of a Father's love who only communicates with his Father when he wants to get something out of ~~it~~ him -

The "usefulness of prayer" is not because it "implies submission" to Power, even un"arb="trary" power, surely - but because it brings us in union with the interests, the life, the love of Almighty Goodness & Wisdom & Love -

His remarks on a "future life" are, I think, perfect - ~~But I should have thought Bismarck a cleverer man to see no more than to say what he does of "prayer" -~~

We have criticized very much Christ saying

'If ye shall ask the Father anything in my name, He will do it.'

But what is "in my name"?

Is it not in union with 'my' interests, 'my' 'love', 'my' life?

And these, He tells us Himself, were always in union with, the same as the Father's, dependent on His. Is it not therefore certain & inevitable that the Father will do as Christ says?

[end 15:828]

9012/26 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

10 South St

May 17/88

My dear Sir Harry

I return you dear Margaret's delightful ~~letter~~ Journal -

Miss Pringle thought you would like to see the enclosed note from your Godson's wife, Mrs. Pelham - You know St. Thomas' is in Lambeth parish - & your Godson, Mr. Pelham, is its & our Rector - They were of course asked to yesterday's function -

Rosalind left me on Monday; but I still have

her eldest brother, Sam,
to dinner as often as he
can come - He is a social,
tho' very silent being -
working too hard for his
strength at Bartholomew's.

Louis, I am sorry to say,
has lost the Ho. of Commons
Clerkship. But there
were two competitors,
Buchanan & Holland, against
whom the rest had no
chance - Louis is
very glad of another year
at Oxford -

Please return me my
slips on the "Gordon Boys'
"Home" Matronship *to-day*,
that I may pursue my
enquiries.

I wish you & I could
have had more talk
about it
God bless you

ever, dear Sir Harry
yours & hers, my dear Parthe's
F.N.

9012/27 unsigned letter, 2ff, pencil

10 South St.

May 23/88

My dear Sir Harry

Many thanks for your letter - also, for
your mention of Miss Shalders whom I
rejoice in - but - for the Gordon Boys' Home -?

You kindly read the "requisites" which
I had written down from Genl. Higginson. Does she fulfil them?

Please *not* "to write to Genl. Higginson" by
any means till we can write a joint letter,
you & I, combining our information about
her & others whom I now have to mention?

Had ~~you~~ we not better adhere to what you kindly settled yourself - viz - that I should pursue my researches which I have undertaken for you - that I should then write to Genl. Higginson, taking of course his "requisites", but taking for granted that he is on our side, = & send my letter thro' you?

I have found a person who is & has been in our work for years, (after much enquiry as you desired), - In Infirmary & in Hospital, & in an independent post. She combines most of the requisites. She is a most admirable worker over men & boys of the lowest class - I am now enquiring of all those under whom she has worked - our own Matrons & people - [We never recommend without all this enquiry - it takes a deal of correspondence] She would take it, if certain conditions were granted - These I must ask, when *our* part of the enquiry is concluded, from *Genl. Higginson*.

I have also other enquiries on foot, as you wished - I do not expect much from these.

Assuredly we have much enquiry to make about dear Miss Shalders, before we come to that, "if she will accept the post" - You will see that I am not at all keen about *recommending the post* to any one - I think it will be one of such tremendous difficulty under Genl. H., & Genl. T., & Genls A, B, & C - all of them knowing as much about Matrons & their possibilities as about the Grand Llama - perhaps rather less - Genl. T. *has been in India* -

I have written to Mr. Fred, (in answer), to accept his visit for to-morrow afternoon.

9012/28 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

May 26/88
{printed address:} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir Harry

I had a very long confab with
Mr. Fred on Thursday. And he
decidedly thinks that Miss
Shalders will not do for the
Gordon Boys - I am very sorry.
I was particularly fond of her.

I am to see the Rival
Claimant to-day.

-We shall expect you on Monday

Kindest love to all the
dear ones
ever yours & hers
F.N.

9012/29 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

Gordon Boys May 29/88
My dear Sir Harry

Finding that Genl.
Higginson was not at home
- & yet more because I
am promised a sketch-plan
of the Hospital immediately,
& I thought it a pity to
trouble him with *two* letters;
I did not send the long one
you kindly saw - or any -
Don't you think it is better
to wait?

I *hope* to see you after
the Mansion House Meeting

We have much to talk
over -
How are you?
Don't over-tire yourself
ever yours
F.N.

9012/30 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

10 South St.

May 29/88

My dear Sir Harry

In reference to what we were talking of this morning, if you were to ask General Philip Smith whether at (1) Aldershot the personnel & matériel, all complete, of a Camp or War Hospital is ~~were~~ exercised, not pitch-forked together, as ~~if~~ it would act if it had to act in a real campaign, with its complete Staff of Medical Officers, Hospital N.C. Officers & Hospital Orderlies, & Equipment

&c &c complete, so that the Officers know all their men & the men each other & their Officers

so that the men could not only unpack their Equipment but pack it up again (which has not always been the case) &c &c &c

it would be a great thing -

(2)
then whether every District in England has now such a War Hospital with Staff, matériel & personnel complete which would be ready to embark in War

time - having been regularly exercised - at a few days' or even a few hours' notice?

(3)

or whether, as hitherto, when they had to embark in war time, no one Officer knew any of his men, and no one man the others - & no man was familiar with his matériel?

(4)

Are the campaigning Hospitals ready to be mobilized at a few days' notice? Or have they then, when on the point of embarkation, to be

organized? & brought together?

in haste

ever yours affly

F.N.

9012/31 incomplete, initialed letter, 1f, pencil

[2]

I wish I could hear a better report about my dear Pop -

Are you discreetly obeying rules about food?

2. Do you remember the woman, wife of a **[1:818]** soldier in the reserve & in the fish business, Florence Nightingale _____?, born in my Lying-in Ward, whom you kindly brought from Buckingham to see me? Her husband having failed, she has removed from Buckingham with her mother,

to Kentish or Camden Town (she sends me her address) & writes to me for work for herself & for knitting for her mother -

What can I do?

My best love to dear Margaret - my kindest regards to Capt. Verney, please - my love to the children -

I wish dear Pop were making better progress -

ever yours & hers

F.N.

The number of persons who "express a "great desire to see" me is rather flabbergasting to my weak old mind. "Come up: bring all your brothers"

[end 1:818]

9012/32 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

10 South St

June 2/88

Unpreparedness of Army

My dear Sir Harry

I write such a letter as you asked me for anent your conversation with the Pr. of Wales

I have not however received anything whatever from Aldershot from or by Genl. Philip S. in answer to either of the two notes ~~papers~~ you kindly took - one, asking what had been done at Aldershot on the subject of the enclosed letter.

the other, asking for the promised List of Physical Exercises which Genl. P. Smith so wisely puts his men thro' - & also upon another subject

The enclosed letter I have had to write out of my "innermost 'I'", because I could not get up to look for my notes. [I have such acres of notes].

-I do not know whether you meant to send the enclosed in your own letter that you told me you meant to write to the Pr: of Wales - But whatever happens, he *must not*, (as I say in the enclosed) put forward my private letter as the reason for an enquiry, but make any enquiry he chooses to make *as from himself*.

[20 or 30 years ago this caution would have been quite unnecessary - Now, everybody neglects it. It seems as if no one would take the trouble to master a subject or take a responsibility himself: but *must quote*.]

Gordon Boys' Home

Mr. Fred has sent me a rough **[5:248]** plan of the Hospital. And I have, after conferring with D. Galton on its great defects, sent a *second* long letter to Genl. Higginson (*not* on the defects but) on the accommodation

necessary for the Matron -

I received a most kind
(short) answer from Genl. Higgn'
to my first, saying that
he must consider the questions
about the Matron with
his "colleagues", & would write
again

I *wish* we could have a
better report of my dear
Pop

ever yours & hers

F.N.

How splendid the horse chesnuts
in your Path must be
now -

I am going to write to Pop -

9012/33 signed letter, 4ff pen

Private 10 South St. Park Lane W.

June 2/88

My dear Sir Harry Verney

In reference to your conversation
about the unpreparedness, in
some respects, of our Army for
War, - you asked me to write
to you - about readiness -
or otherwise in the event
of being suddenly summoned
for a Campaign of our
Field Hospitals, Bearer Companies
&c.

Should it not be very
particularly enquired into
whether the 'cadres' or
personnel of Medical Officers,
N.C. Officers & men, cooks
& compounders, bearers & bātmen,
washermen, watermen &c &c

are regularly & systematically exercised *together* with their matériel, equipment, stores, & transport complete, say at Aldershot, Woolwich, &c - exactly as if they were out in the field, so as to make them thoroughly acquainted with their duties in actual warfare together? Or whether when the time comes to send them on active service they have to be PITCH-FORKED together - the Medical Officers knowing neither their N.C. Officers nor their men the men not knowing their work, or even how to pack their

equipment again, when unpacked, as has actually happened? But not only this ought to be enquired into but whether each Field Hospital or Bearer Company has to be collected at the outbreak of War, from various Divisions or *various Districts* of England, in order to make it complete - - consequently many if not most of the personnel have perhaps scarcely seen each other before with whom they will have to work - much less worked their material together - as has actually happened?

Or whether *each District* has

its own
 its 'cadre' for a Field Hospital
 complete - personnel, matériel,
 equipment, stores & transport
 - exercised together - duties
 thoroughly known -
 and the Director General
 of the Army Med: Dept.
 has merely to ring his
 bell, & order Field Hospital
 from such a District to
 be mobilized ready to embark for
 seat of War. And it is
 ready?

Also: whether all the equipment
~~& if possible transport~~ is
 packed with it - in its own
 vessel, instead of its
 having to be collected at
 the port of debarkation

[2]

from various sources, as has
 actually happened?
 Should it not be enquired
 into, in short, whether
 the personnel of a
 Bearer Company or Dressing

Station

of a Field Hospital -
 of a Stationary Hospital - all
 to be sent out with
~~of~~ an Army in the Field -
 has been made well
 acquainted with its
 duties, by practice with
 its matériel, equipment &
 stores &c?
 Ought not these things to be
 minutely & stedfastly
 enquired into?
 And there is no man more
 anxious or who has worked
 harder to have everything

in a constant state of
preparedness than the
Director Genl. himself -
[As to General Hospitals for the
Base, it was originally intended
that the *Herbert Hospital* at
Woolwich should serve as a
place whence the whole
personnel should be transferred
to a Base Hospital in time
of War.]

The Report of Lord Morley's
Committee contains something that
bears on these subjects.

I am as you know a complete
prisoner from illness, & cannot
now get up to look for my
notes on these matters.

But I regret it the less because
these are matters rather to
enquire into than to give
information upon.

I need scarcely add that if
these things are to be enquired
into by authorities, the way to
gain information is *not* to
put forward a private letter,
e.g. like this: but for the
authority to master, himself,
the subject, & make enquiries
as from himself -

Pray believe me
Dear Sir Harry Verney
ever yours sincerely
Florence Nightingale

9012/34 is to HV from George, Gloucester House, Park Lane W. June
5/88, re seeing valuable and interesting letter of FN

9012/35 initialed letter, 2ff, pen

June 8/88

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

My dear Sir Harry

I am very glad you are not coming. Twice in the week is too much for you.

I return the D. of Cambridge's letter with many thanks - I fear he does not mean to *do* any thing. But, if he does, then Dr. Webb of Aldershot will know it is *my* doing. I did not mean that *pencil* Memo. of mine to go beyond yourself & Genl. Philip Smith. It is a dangerous game to play. [Have you heard from Dr. Webb?]

Gordon Boys' Home Hospital

I saw Mr. Fred *as you desired* about this - I have also

heard from Genl. Higginson with answers to my questions He has his meeting of "Home" Committee to-day, to decide about Matron & Hospital. I think you will find that the new curate was to begin his work among the boys some days ago -

I am afraid Sir Henry Acland is not so well. He is not at Oxford, but he is not, I believe, out of England.

Genl. Philip has sent me the papers of "Physical Exercises" he is introducing at Aldershot.

Mr. Gladstone spoke at Lady
Lyttelton's, of having seen you
with great affection

I am writing to my dearest Pop
but cannot get it done today
ever yours & hers

F.N.

Lovely horsechesnut & laburnum
have come

9012/36 initialed letter, 3ff, pencil

10 South St. June 8/88

My dearest Pop Would that here
could be a better account of you
-now midsummer is coming on.

Maude went to the Queen's Ball -

[8:917]

She had a little dinner here - She
looked so nice & beautifully dressed
in her Princess Narès tail -
& her little ostrich feather - She
had dressed herself entirely herself -
But I think her much altered
these last few months. At 40
she looked like a girl of 23 -
Now she looks thin & a little worn
in the face - flushed - & 20 years
older - but still so piquante &
always unlike anybody else - but anxious.

[end 8:917]

They enjoyed having Sir Harry
so much at Spring Grove - And he

did enjoy it so, thanks to you -
about whom he is so anxious -
You see how ill Mr. Bright has
been. He came to see me, as
you know - was so affectionate
-said your parties were where
he liked to go best in London
- the people so well chosen -
- the conversation so agreeable -
'I always say I know no
'society so good' -
He ~~did~~ came to talk about India
- but remained about Ireland -
He was entirely full of the
Papal Rescript - said that
the breaking off of Ireland
from the Pope - " not from
"their superstitions" he hastened
to put it - & having a Patriarch -

was quite on the cards - He
thought it a good thing - I think
that is a mistake - I think I know
enough of R. Catholic organizations
to know that the Pope is always
a Moderator. However, nothing
appears as if they were going
to break off.

My bonnet I have had made
according to your orders. ~~I am~~
~~in~~ with black velvet roll
inside - I am too ignorant &
stupid to pass an opinion up-
on it - as upon the Pope -
I have not yet worn it.

Dearest Aunt Mai writes
to me not seldom - such
singularly beautiful letters - But
she is very feeble - cannot sit

up in bed even but never says so.

Our Probationers' Annual Meeting passed off very pleasantly -Miss Pringle said: "it would be nothing without Sir Harry. But, he wanted us to sing a hymn - "And I was so sorry we could not then spare the time. We were so late - Next year it shall be all arranged", tell him" -

I have a deal to say, but very little strength except to say God bless you - I pray, I pray - & how much I am ever thine F.

You said: return the enclosed

So I do.

Remember me to Mrs. Davidson & Miss Beart ever thine.

2

How much heroism there is in the World - we hear so much of it in Hospitals - see the dreadful Edgeware Road fire where 2 labourers climbed up & saved the women the firemen didn't. And I mean to give you an account of a sailor who, scalded from head to foot, by the bursting of their boiler, brought in 6 scalded men to one of our Hospitals, & died himself there the same night - asking after his mates to his last moment

F

Wellcome Ms 9014

45

9012/37 address on a card, 1f, pen

not in FN's hand]

I have been so extremely careless
as to lose Mrs Coxs. address -

Will you write it again?

[FN] Col & Mrs. Cox

46 Oxford Terrace

Hyde Park

Sir Harry Verney

9012/38 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

10 South St

June 22/88

My dear Sir Harry

I have asked Mr. Croft to
admit your poor old Clerk
into his own Ward (Edward) -
"Miss Eames", a very good woman,
is the Sister: & will take care of him

[Dr. Newham specified
no disease in his "Certificate"]

Mr. King should, if possible,
be at St. Thomas' on

Monday morning at 11 -
& should show the Admission
I enclose to the Porter, at
the *Patients'* entrance -

I fear you could not arrange
for him to come *here* on the way
when my messenger should take

him to the Hospital - or
should meet him at Euston
if you could tell me the hour,
& if Mr. King could have a
red handkerchief in his hand
for Messenger to know him by -

Please let me know how you
settle it.

You know it is not usual to
admit Patients *into* Hospitals
who merely want a Truss -
But Mr. Croft kindly says
that John King should spend
a night in the Ward at all events
- that *he* will inspect him -
- that, if he needs a Special
Truss, he may stay till it has

been fitted on -

I have told Mr. Croft that I
will pay for the Truss - Of course
Hospitals do not pay for these -
[At the Surgical Aid Socy. it
requires 16 Subscribers to get
a Truss. I always answer,
'I will pay for the Truss, but
I can't canvass 16 people']

Success to poor old King -
Pray give him my kind
regards. May he be made
comfortable!

Miss Crossland is going on her holiday in about 10 or 12 days. I merely mention this, because you & Parthe kindly said you wished to have the Probationers at the end of June - *Pray* don't think I am *asking* for it - It may not be convenient to have them - And they are excessively busy with the Quarter's Examns. just now.

I am distressed not to be able to write to Parthe to-day -
ever yours & hers F.N.

I was so pleased with your letter in "Times"

9012/39 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil [6:656]

10 South St June 30/88

My dear Sir Harry & Parthe

We send you back our old friend John King. Mr. Croft has paid the greatest attention to him, even detaining him when on Thursday I had notice he was discharged - & not parting with him till last night he told me he was fit to go, when I telegraphed to you

Mr. Croft said on Thursday that King needed to be

"nursed & mother'd"
that he did "not know
"how to manage his Truss",
~~tho~~ that is now more
manageable, & quite well
fitted -

I said: should Dr.
Newham see him at once,
while the Truss was "in
operation" - ~~adapted~~ adjusted by
St. Thomas'? & show
himself (Dr. N.) & John
King's daughter how to
manage it?

[I am afraid old Mrs. King

would be of no use]
Mr. Croft is going to write
to me to-day, & enclose
a letter for Dr. Newham,
I believe - who, he says,
should see John King
"occasionally which
"will be a great use to
him" - [he does not
say to-day]
I have no words to say
how kind Mr. Croft,
the Ward Sister, Miss Eames,
the House Surgeon & all

have been to your Patient
which has been a case
of constant adjustment

in great haste
ever yours both's

F.N.

[end 6:656]

9012/40 initialed letter, 1f, pencil [1:387-88]

10 South St July 4/88
My dear Sir Harry & Parthe
 God bless you both -
Our Probationers will have a
happy day, even if the
weather is not quite propitious -
 And I hope you will not
be over-tired -
To you Lady Ashburton would have
come to-day, but cannot. She
will come over to-morrow for
"a few hours" to see Parthe, if
possible - She goes to
Marienbad on Tuesday -
 My poor prayers - *rich*, if
Christ prays in us - are with
you. F.N.

9012/41 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

10 South St July 8/88
My dear Sir Harry & dearest Pop
 Never was there anything so
successful as the Probationers'
day, except that I am afraid
you were very tired
[And I was thinking about the
 rain all day!!]
Miss Crossland says: "Once
"more my children and I
"have spent another delightful
"restful day at Claydon - I
 "think I never took a party
down who enjoyed themselves
more or appreciated more
the beauties of Claydon
and the kindness of Sir Harry

"and Lady Verney who as
one of them said were so
much in harmony with the
whole place -
"We had only one shower - the
rest of the day was lovely"
Then comes an account of every
hour's ~~occupation~~ pleasure. & of
Mr. Battersby's "very nice
"address" -
"finally we got home safely
Big Ben striking 11 as we
crossed the Bridge."
"I hope Lady Verney & Sir Harry
will be no worse for their
exertions"
"Lady Verney seemed more troubled

"with her cough - & more easily
tired," I am afraid
"For myself instead of being
tired this, the next, morning,
I feel much refreshed by the
day in the country"
Dear Sir Harry: we will of
course at once dismiss
all the Probationers their
Chairman finds un"attractive"
they cannot be fit for our
Nurses - Or would you
allow those who have nearly
completed their year's
training to finish their year?

Other Hospitals might take
them

My dearest Pop I have
had your lovely little book;
it came in with the lamp -
And I was obliged to put
out my only remaining eye
by reading it at once -
But Lady Ashburton has come
in who saw you yesterday -
And I must reserve the
rest of my letter for tomorrow
ever yours

F.N.

9012/42 initialed note, 1f, pencil

I shall be very glad to see
you, dear Sir Harry, for as
long as you can spare me -
Gordon Boys' Home affair
with us not yet settled !!!

I am on my way to
Hanwell, where I have
engaged a bed - Friends
may come & see me there,
for I am a harmless lunatic
14/7/88 F.N.

I *hope* therefore to come next week. But I am afraid, dear Pop, you hardly know how little I can do - I have not been down=stairs five times in five months - & always the worse for it. I cannot hope to do nearly as much as I have always done before at Claydon.

You are very bad, I am afraid - both as to cough & pain - I grieve beyond measure - But your courage is unfailing

I hope you enjoyed the

children - Gwendolyne, I am sure is the infant type of which the Virgin Mother (in the Madonna di San Sisto) is the grown=up woman†

You have not wanted me while they & dear Maudie were there.

I have so much to say & to hear that I must leave it all now till I come.

Have you sent your last little book to Paulina Irby?

I gave your splendid story in MacMillan to Miss Pringle when she was very low - And it quite revived her - She has an uphill game to play.

9012/44 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

Aug 6/88

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

My dear Sir Harry & Parthe

If quite convenient & if you
are alone, will you have me
on Wednesday or Thursday?

No, thank you: not Mr.
Morey at all, please -

I shall not be able to
write, but will telegraph on
the morning I come, if I come.

I am expecting some one -
And I am not very well.

Do not kill 3 or 4 sheep
or ask a large party to meet
me - That will save expence.

God bless you

F.N.

9012/45 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

Aug 7/88

My dear Sir Harry

I am in all the agony of
getting thro' impossible business -
- I don't know how I can see
you either "to-day" or "tomorrow".
alas! (I did not know you were
coming) - Or I should
render myself incapable of
going to Claydon, (for I am ill)
where I hope to be, perhaps
on Thursday - & see you & Parthe
every day

How is she?

If I can see you tomorrow, I
will send -

F.N.

Did you have a letter from me this morning?

Wellcome Ms 9014

55

9012/46 initialed note, 1f, pencil

7/8/88

My dear Sir Harry

B. Frere's letter returned -
I have paid Massey's Bill
for you 15/6

But you have paid for Catharine's
present for me - & never
told me what

F.N.

9012/47 initialed note, 1f, pencil [where is initial?]

Ask the Bishop whether **[1:601]**
he knows anything of the
state of the negroes in
Hayti, & whether it is so
grievously disappointing -
& whether negroes from the
Southern states ever migrate
to *Hayti*, or from *Hayti*
to America
20/8/88

9012/48 signed letter, 2ff, pen

Private

Claydon

Aug 30/88

Dearest St Margaret, Saint & hero,
(the good Saints were always witty)

I answer at once that if it
will be useful to you, I *can* &
will "stay" here till quite or
almost "the end of September"

I think it would be cruel to
bring you back "for a fortnight"
here in "September"

I have not seen my sister so
ill since 1883 when you
saved her: increased pain -
increased cough - head sunk
on chest - And what to do I
know not. She ought to have the
best Medical advice. But she
has done & will do nothing they
tell her.

I am so very glad you are
to see Col. George & Cathie at
Lugano - There is the most
terrible irritation on both sides,
his & my sister's -

But I hope to get Sir Harry
up to London on Monday Sept 3
to see him (G.V.) before he
starts for India.

Two things G.V. ought to know:
one, Sir H. did write to tell
him his allowance was stopped -
& did not leave it to Mr. Western
to tell him

The other my sister had
nothing to do with his
allowance being stopped - She
did not even *know* of it
till it was done

My sister is so pathetic
 sometimes - She said; "I have
 not the slightest influence
 with any of the three" (sons) -
 I said: 'but oh my dear if
 'you throw brick bats at their
 'heads' ----- She did not
 resent it as she would
 have done before - but took
 it quite meekly

May I send my love to
 Capt. Verney? & thanks for
 his letters in London -
 I am obliged to write in the
 greatest haste - Tomorrow if
 I can I will write again -
 not that there is much more
 to say. God for ever bless you
 ever yours F. Nightingale

9012/49 initialed letter, 1f, pencil **[3:414]**

Sept 3/88
 the day of Emily's new birth
 & your father's

My dear Sir Harry

God bless & prosper your
 cruise in search of your
 son, I pray -

My love to him & Catharine
 You will find when you
 come back the memorial
 wreath of red which is Love
 & the Cross of white on
 the grave of her who
 lives in God's loving hands where
 we are too -

ever yours F.N.

Take some luncheon with you
 Mind you have something at 11

9012/50 initialed note, 1f, pencil

5/9/88

Ask Mr. Grey whether there would be any possibility of my being able to buy that Article on Kant he was so good as to lend us:

& what is the name & No. of the Review it is in

F

9012/51 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

6/9/88

Dear Sir Harry

I am so very sorry, but I am writing an answer to Lord Dufferin; ~~which~~ to-day will almost certainly be my last mail to him; and I fear I must take the whole day to do it - I work now with so much difficulty

Pray excuse what I am so sorry to do - It is my loss - F.N.

9012/52 signed letter, 2ff, pencil

{printed address at right angles to the writing:}

Sept. 9/88

Telegraph Claydon House
Steeple Claydon Bucks Winslow

Bucks

[12:400]

Dear Sir Harry

As you know, St. Thomas' Hospital supplies itself with Nurses from its (our) own Training-school - that being the very intention of the School viz. that after the thoroughly organized year's training, & a further practice in the Hospital, we should supply other Hospitals which apply to us for

our trained women

with Nurses - ~~But w~~

But we have had an unusual pressure upon us of late - And as I know you would be glad to help an Aylesbury Probationer *if competent*, I would recommend that Miss Pringle, our new & excellent Matron at St. Thomas', should be written to by the lady who recommends the Probationer -

Miss Pringle

St. Thomas' Hospital
Westminster Bridge
London S.E.

who will, I am sure, *if she is satisfied* of her competency, try to find a place

as "paid Nurse" for her at St. Thomas' -

[I should add that the way ~~often~~ sometimes taken when a Nurse from another Hospital has applied to be taken on as Nurse at St. Thomas is: that she should first go thro' the regular year's training at our Training-School; ~~in~~ at which however there are very many waiting for

[end

12:406]

every vacancy] yours Florence Nightingale

Wellcome Ms 9014

60

9012/53 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

19/9/88

My dearest Pop I trust in
God that you will really
tell Sir H. Acland all you
suffer - Your mind is so
warped with benevolence &
hospitality in conversation
that you do not give
the Medical side a chance.

I am glad Sir Harry is
coming home to do the
hospitality - I will give the £10.10

I will see Dr. Acland after
you if you like it

your old F.

Wellcome Ms 9014

61

9012/54 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

Sept 17/88

Telegraph Claydon House
Steeple Claydon Bucks Winslow
Bucks

My dear Sir Harry

I trust you will find Mr.
Calvert better - Will you
give him my kind regards
& tell him how sorry we
are for his illness, but
hope he will soon be
restored, please God.

Pray take some luncheon
God bless you

yrs F.N.

9012/55 signed letter, 2ff, pencil [6:657-58]

26/9/88

Telegraph Claydon House
Steeple Claydon Bucks Winslow
Emily Baker Bucks

Dear Sir

Thank you for your Sunday's
note

I wrote to Squire's of London for
"Kepler's Malt Extract with Cod
"Liver Oil & Hypophosphites" -
Squire sends it but with a note:
"We have sent Malt Extract
& Cod Liver Oil - It is not made
"with Hypophosphites, only with
Phosphorus" - I should like you
please, to see this & say whether
it will answer your purpose. & if so
how much Emily Baker is to take -

You are coming to-morrow morning

I understand
here at 10 to see Mr. Calvert -
Would it be convenient to you to
see E. Baker here afterwards,
instead of at your house, as you
kindly proposed?

You would then decide, she
tells me, as to whether to
continue her treatment. And
you would see Squire's Preparation

Perhaps you would be kind
enough to write me a note
afterwards -

I am afraid that Emily Baker
will not be able long to take the
"rest" you prescribe - She is going

home, at her own desire, to help
her mother who keeps a lodging
house at Buckingham.

Do you think she *laces* too
tight? And will you speak to her
about the "rest"?

I have rarely seen her, but
heard her lighting the fire in a
Dressing-room, breathing hard
like a steam-engine - & was
alarmed.

With thanks
yours faithfully
F. Nightingale
Philip L. Benson Eq. MD

[end 6:658]

9012/56 initialed letter, 1f, pencil [1:601]

Sunday Oct 7/88

My dearest Pop

That unmitigated villain, Sir
H., means to spend the afternoon
of his Sabbath, the Day of Rest,
as follows:

Missionary Service here

" " Steeple Claydon

starting from here at 5 -
& meaning to do on his way Eli
Beckett, perhaps Mr. Gough, &
Perseverance Socy.

(3 services to-day)

He is quite impenitent - but
perhaps might be induced to take
a square tea at 4.30

your F

9012/57 initialed letter, 3ff, pencil

10, South St.

18 Oct 1888

8 a.m.

Dearest Margaret

I cannot help sending to ask
Sir Wm Bowman's opinion,
tho' do not trouble *now* to
give me more than a
post card - You will know
my anxiety in troubling you -
Love to dear Lettice - & take
all ~~my~~ the love for yourself
that you care to have,
dearest -

[2]

Could you - you who are the
only person who could
really write a book, not
on Botany but on plants,
leaves & flowers, tell me of
recent books
[I have written to London for
copies of your books in the
Blue Room] on
Popular Conchology
" Entomology
& British Sea Weeds
But *they* are all out of
print.

Could you kindly give me the titles of
books with *coloured plates (good)*
on 1. British Sea Weeds
2. " Sea Shells with a chapter on
Land shells (Snails
3. " British Butterflies
written as nearly as possible on your
pattern about plants & trees & flowers
The books are for Ralph & Gwendolen
They *must* have good pictures, please,
& not be scientific -

since I wrote this, I have
Mr. Fred's blessed bulletin
that Bowman does see a
small improvement

God bless you
ever yours
F.N.

Pardon my previous letter
& pardon this enclosure

9012/58 initialed letter, 7ff, pen

10 South St Oct 21/88

I do pray indeed, my dearest
Pop, that, as you said, you
"be not dismayed"

But God says to you, as
He did to Joshua, after
Moses' death: "Be strong
& of good courage, for
I am with thee" & thy
spirit is heroic -

I have a great reverence
for Moses & Joshua. it
seems to me that Moses was
the greatest statesman
that ever lived & the most
devoted man - Others have

legislated. He alone led -

It was as if Cavour had
left Turin & Rome & had
given himself to lead &
civilize & form into a nation the miserable
superstitious creatures of
the Abruzzi, whose name
is 'abrutissement' -

That Moses, brought up as
a king's son, nursed in luxury,
educated versed 'in all the learning of
the Egyptians,' should leave
all this to head & go back
to a parcel of wretched
slaves from whom he had
sprung & from whom he

had been saved, to
lead them about for the
whole term of his natural
life to extreme old age in the desert, without a country, because
he saw that they would be
totally unfit without this
discipline to become a
people at all beats
everything we read of in
history. And the
result is as unparalleled
as the preparation - a
nation *without a country*
which has survived every
species of degradation
& is still the strongest
& most abiding element
tho' scattered over the whole

world in the world

Out of it has come our
religion -

It still holds the purse
of Europe -

Money & spiritual life.
To Joshua having, without
Moses, to put the
key-stone to the organisation
of this great work - comes
a spirit which, happily
for us, is very fully
described:

[2]

"as I was with Moses, so I will
be with thee: I will not fail
thee, nor forsake thee.

"Be strong and of a good
courage:

"Only be thou strong & very
"courageous" [And so you
are, my Pop - "As thy day, so
"shall thy strength be", as you
said.] "very courageous, that
"thou mayest observe to do
"according to all the law" - [and
how little they had then to go
by, compared to what we
have! they scarcely knew
that God is the Loving Father]

"turn not from it to the right
hand or to the left, that
thou mayest prosper whither
-soever thou goest -

"This book of the law shall
not depart out of thy
mouth: but thou shalt
meditate therein day &
night" [how little they
had to "meditate" on, how
very little, at night,
compared to what we have
- and yet how very, very
few, even of the Saints &
philosophers, think out the

"when once will is mixed
with it, a medium for the
rapid acquirement of new
force, which shows itself in
varied aspects, as courage,
endurance, steadfastness,
intensity of purpose, insight,
unselfishness. We learn
many things in days of health
but not X X X

Here is the grand opportunity -
Make pain & disease & death
yield to you their inner core
& transmute you into a hero,
one who takes his spirit in
his own hands, & gives it back to
God who gave it" -
So are you, my Pop, a hero -

[4]

We have had outrageous
fogs here, but I comforted
myself in that there would
be still, sunshiny, autumnal
days at Claydon - so lovely

My kindest regards to
Mr. Calvert.

I sent Sir Harry 6 copies
of the Queen's Jubilee Atlas,
& Sir Morell Mackenzie on
the Emperor - because he
asked for them - It is
equally impossible to believe
that Mackenzie could have
published this book without
her the Empress Frederick's leave, or that she could
have had the unwisdom to
give her leave

[8:832]

Everything that has happened must make her position more intolerable.

In reading the few pages I did, I thought: how can M. Mackenzie expose himself to be given the lie to by these exact Germans, who of course have an attested copy of the Post Mortem? - And this apparently is just what they have done - confuted him

But this heartless fight over the Emperor's remains is agonizing - Never was there anything so horrible -

How can she bear it?
And the German papers: "The

"Liberals would soon have found out the Emperor Frederick was wrong. And so would he!!

[end 8:832]

&c &c"

I took away my scrappy 3 lots written for you of Indian notes, intending to add to & arrange them - at least to read them over - & have not even looked at them! Shall I send them back as they are?

Remember me most kindly to Mrs. Davidson & Miss Beart
My love to Lettice - Aunt
Florence's love -

Thanks many for your
beautiful grapes & flowers.

I went away with a
heavy heart -

Good-bye; good-bye -
Hy Bonham Carter's third son,
Norman, from Balliol, sails
on Thursday for Calcutta,
(Civil Service) -
Alfred has been laid up for
two months with breaking the
sinew to his knee -
tendon

A little girl is just born to
him -

God bless you
ever your F

9012/59 initialed letter, 2ff, pen [part in 3:208]

11/11/88

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

My dear Sir Harry

Thank you very much for
your several letters.

I *shall* hope to see you while
you are in London. But I have
been very much overworked (in
a way that it is *right* for me
to be overworked) during the
last fortnight, & *shall* be till
nearly the end of this week
And I dare not make any
appointments besides at all,
however dear to me. [I did
not know you were coming
on Tuesday]

I have been obliged to
take to my Eye-doctor again,

& also almost to my bed

He says, & they all say:
I must not do the least
thing to exhaust myself
'until this tyranny be overpast.'

Indeed I *can't*

If you stay over *Thursday*
morning, perhaps that
would be the best time for
me - But I must not
make any plans -

I earnestly hope I *shall*
see you.

Lord Lucan died yesterday **[3:208]**
afternoon - For 3 days &
nights, his cries & groans
were terrible. I never

heard any one trying to
comfort or do anything for
him - or any one praying
- tho' once I heard the Nurse
say: Good gracious me -
The last 24 hours were quiet,
except twice I heard a
sigh. Perhaps *God* was
speaking to him during that
time - [I heard two
regiments go by with
their bands playing,
changing their quarters,
I suppose, - & wondered
if he heard & cared &
knew he should hear
them no more] Then
he passed into the
Immediate Presence,

where we shall all be
soon. And the room is
silent as death.

[end 3:208]

I think of my dear Pop
always
yours & hers ever

F.N.

Aunt Florence's love to
Lettice - & thanks for her
dear little letter & lovely
rosebuds & violets - &
~~she~~ Aunt Florence will write soon.

9012/60 dictated FN letter

Claydon House
Nov 13th 1999

My dear

Pray have your windows open in our ownroom and dining room,
or the house will be close. Can you go upstairs and look at what
is required on the upper story so that we may give the order. I
ahve been bad theses days, but shd like the Phelps to come here,
andmeet the Wars ont he 24th if you see them.

If you see MrBalfour at dinner, pray say to him that I was
much touched at his writing me such a long and interesting
letter, when I know he was so laden with business. Ask anybody
interesting whom you see at the dinner. Pray
don'tgoverdoyourself, dear, Thine

9012/61 initialed letter, 3ff, pencil

Nov 15/88
{printed address:} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

My dearest Pop

I have had a very
solemn time - Sir Harry
will *tell you about it* -

I have been quite unable
to send you till now the
enlarged Photograph of me
belonging to Miss Crossland -
which she brought here 3
weeks ago - or even to look
at it - This is its history:

A Mrs. Linicke, one of our
trained Matrons, a German,
had one of the photographs of
the Probationers with me, done by Col. George - She

has a brother at Leipzig
who got it my phiz enlarged for
her - as you see - Then
Miss Crossland wanted one
And she got one done for
her - which is the one
now sent. [*Miss Crossland*
made me swear *she*
should have it again]

Now Miss Pringle wants
one - & of course others do -

Mrs. Linicke says, very
properly: 'I had a perfect
'right to have an enlargement
'of my own copy: but I do
'not like to multiply it

'without F.N.'s leave - &
'at the risk of her
'displeasure' -

[All this while, my dear,
the villain, your husband,
was perfectly cognizant,
~~without my knowledge~~ while I knew nothing, of
what was going on]

I answered that I was
'snappish but not 'rageous'
but that it was as much
as my life was worth
to say any thing without
you - & that it must go on
to you for your fiat or not
So here goes -

[2]

I restore your Laveleye - I
have got a copy for Rosalind
(-which I shall give her
from you -) according to your
behest -

I send you Hurlbert -
which marks the extreme
amiability of my disposition
[- I should like to read it
after you have done with
it.]

My love to your dear little
maiden who is very happy
with you
& kind regards to Miss Spring Rices.

I am so glad you are
pleased with De Foville &
the Spectator - & thanks
for sending me the Spec.
which I will read & return.
[Sir Harry will tell you
how I have been & am
driven]

Now fare you very well,
my dearest Pop - in
spite of pain - pain
so courageously borne -
May God bless you.

in haste of hand
but not of heart
ever your

F.

9012/62 unsigned letter, 2ff, pen

Nov 25/88

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

My dear Sir Harry & Parthe

You have often been kind
enough to ask Miss Pringle-
And she has declined on plea
of business. But she always
says how she recovered her
sleep at Claydon. And she
is devoted to you both &
so fond of the place -

I may tell you *in confidence*
that I am seriously uneasy
at seeing her look so worn
out. And I think St. Thomas'
may lose her - an irreparable
loss.

I can think of nothing to do

her good but a week at
Claydon. *From* Dec 11
to February she *must* be
at St. Thomas'. And my
conviction & that of others
is: that, before ~~then~~ *February*, she
will be obliged to resign
if she does not get better.

She could not come to
you before Tuesday week,
Dec. 4. *The only time*
therefore that she *could* be
with you would be
from Dec 4
to Dec 11

I have not said a word
to her about it. I am
certain she will decline.

But I thought, if you
kindly wish to have her
(she is not at all a person
who requires looking after)
& if you would write to
her, *ENCLOSED TO ME*,
(otherwise I shall never
know that you *have* written)
it might be just possible
to persuade her to go.

I pray God it may!
Perhaps I ought to add that

she could not come at a
telegram's notice or even at
a day or two's notice - There
is always so much to arrange
for a Matron before she
can get away even for a week.

But don't ask her if you
had rather not. Only I
know that, if she went
anywhere. it would be to
you's -

9012/63 signed letter, 4ff, pencil

Private 29/11/88

[13:207-09]

Nurse McDonald 10, South Street,

Aylesbury Matronship Park Lane. W. {printed address:}

She was trained with us

1878-79 x. From us she

went to Manchester as

Staff Nurse - thence we

believe she went to

Aylesbury - and is now

working under Miss Scott, -

a Matron of our training, -

at Brighton. Miss Crossland

has never seen her McDonald since she

was trained in '78-79. Nor

x She speaks only of the last "6

"years" - & gives no account of

other 3 intermediate years -

have I. From what

Miss Crossland remembers

of her, she would *not*

consider her "eligible for

Aylesbury Matronship"

"She has no pretensions

to being a gentlewoman"

Of course my ~~rec~~ knowledge

of her is very inferior to

Miss Crossland's, tho' I have

known her slightly. She

did not make a good

impression on me - I thought

her off-hand, rather flighty,

& not likely to have much

consideration for Patients
or those under her -
But think how slight my
personal knowledge is -
I think it important for
you to have a capable
trained *gentlewoman*
as your Matron - the
more so as you take
Probationers.

And I think even if a Nurse,
a woman of ~~inferior~~ superior
education, a trained
Nurse, is raised to be

Matron, it should not
be, should it? in
the Hospital where she
was Nurse.

We have no recollection of
Nurse McDonald being
a woman of superior
education - We have
had such women, equal
or superior in education
to many of our Lady
Probationers, one of whom
at least we have had
the pleasure of placing
at the head of a large
London Infirmary, after much
previous experience

[end]

[2]

2. Lettice was so happy with Grandpapa & Grandmama - so sorry to leave -

Dr. Playfair's verdict, as no doubt you have heard, was, after considerable attention, that it was not a case for "rubbing", nor a case *for him* at all - He thought seriously of the case; but said that care & general health was all that could be done - Grieved as I was, I was relieved - It was so obvious that in Lettice's case, local treatment would do more harm than good - the injury being elsewhere

But Dr. Playfair is a wise and an honest man - & will not try experiments

3. Thanks for your letter about the Matronship of the Aylesbury Infirmary - I don't know yet whether we shall have any one to recommend - But I was sorry to learn that one of our Sisters, Miss Escreet, had written to some one she knows at Aylesbury, recommending her Ward-Nurse, Nurse Green, whom apparently she calls *Miss Green* -

Nurse Green is a good enough
trained Nurse, and a
Hospital Matron must be
a trained Nurse - But she
must be much besides -
Nurse Green will not do for
you -
Miss Pringle told her that she
would answer any questions
from Aylesbury about her -
But that she could *not*
recommend her as *Matron*.

I am afraid my dearest Pop
is not much better -
Thanks for flowers & grapes
last week
ever yours & hers
F. Nightingale
Rosalind is delighted
with Laveleye - I
transferred P.'s marks to
hers - She is hard at
work at Co-operation - &
Political Economy -

{three lines scribbled out}

9012/64 unsigned letter, 2ff, pencil

Private "Miss Earl" 29/11/88

[13:207-09]

Aylesbury Matronship

10, South Street, {printed address:}

[Miss Robertson recommends Park Lane. W.

~~In the first place, we would~~
take no one from her "testimonials"
- I thought we & Sir Harry Verney
were here for the express
purpose of substituting
training for "testimonials" -
We used to say: 'Testimonials
'are not worth the paper they
'are written on': but a
gentleman of great experience
corrected me: 'Say rather
they are misleading -' 'Send a
private note to the writer
of the Testimonial, & as
many times as not, you

'will find that the holder
of the T. has been dismissed,
but that "they wished to
"give her another chance" -
I remember Miss Robertson
very well - She came
armed with a message
from you early this year,
she said, on important
business - I thought myself
obliged to ~~force~~ squeeze
out an afternoon for her -
She had nothing to say!!
I thought her a nice, rather
incapable woman, quite a
lady - An odd thing! I like
a 'crack' on Hospitals with

any one who knows them -
But hers was nothing but
a 'crack'. And I certainly
should never have strength
to see her again, as she asked.

"St. Helena Home", is a nice
home for Convalescent Nurses
& takes 3 or 4 pay=Patients
I don't think a Nurse
would gain much experience
there or from Miss Robertson

She does not say where
"Miss Earl" was trained -
perhaps at Aylesbury. And
she does say she is not a
gentlewoman - The

same remark I have made
about promoting an ordinary
Nurse to be a Matron in
the same Hospital
applies here - does it not?

I am sorry to find these
letters so unsatisfactory x - &
earnestly wish you a
good Matron for Aylesbury

x Ich kann nicht anders

[end 13:209]

9012/64 {second letter with the same no.} initialed letter, 2ff,
pen

Matron for Aylesbury Dec 4/88
PRIVATE 10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir Harry

Thanks for your note,
received this morning, saying
'that the Election for the
Matron is tomorrow -
'that there is no very
suitable candidate -
'that if you do not know
of one by tomorrow
(Wednesday) morning,
'when you will go to the
Infirmary, you will try
'& persuade the Governors,
to defer the appointment
'for a week or a fortnight

[13:209]

"but that you may very
likely not carry such a
proposal x x x the
'supporters of some
candidate will think
they may lose by delay."

In answer, we think, - Hy B. Carter,
& I, it better not to bother
you unless we are sure
of our candidates - but
we have, (Miss Pringle &
Miss Crossland being of
course our advisers), some
in view for you.

It appears to us
unbusiness-like for us - &

probably likely to give
rise to reasonable
objection - at the
last moment to put
forward a candidate,
as suggested.

'We hope that the
Governors would probably
act upon Sir H.'s
advice to defer the
appointment "for a
"FORTNIGHT", & that
'the risk at any rate
must be accepted as
inevitable -

[end]

'And so I should
advise Sir Harry -'

This is Hy Bonham Carter
& I F.N.

9012/65 signed letter, 2ff, pen & pencil

*Result of Meeting -
Matronship of Aylesbury*

Dec 5/88

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

My dear Sir Harry

Would you kindly, if you
have not written it to me
already, telegraph to me
the result of yesterday's
Meeting at Aylesbury Hospl
- whether a Matron was
appointed? and who?
or whether they wisely
took your advice &
deferred the appointment
for 'a fortnight -
I think we fixed upon
our candidate for you
last night - but shall
not disturb any one

[13:209]

of ours unless we know
for certain that you
want one -

[end]

F. Nightingale

{written horizontally}

Private

Please be so good as *not* "to tell Mrs.
"Parsons", No. 4. that "she must not stay out"
&c &c. She will know, of course, that it is
I who have denounced her. And I should
not have written at all, if it had not
been to offer that the key of No. 4 should
be left here when she goes out.

If a person is left *alone*, in charge of a
house, she *will* go out for the day, whether
known or unknown to her employers, & leave the

house empty -

I consider it so unsafe

to leave one person alone at night in a house,
that I always leave not less than *two* in charge

However, I do not press my opinions on others
But I would ~~take it~~ ask as a favour if you
would kindly *not* take *this* opportunity to give
your orders to Mrs. Parsons as you propose

F.N.

Many thanks for
flowers & grapes -

9012/66 initialed letter, 2ff, typewritten with pencil inserts
[3:209-10]

10, South Street,
 Park Lane. W.
 8th. Dec. 1888

My dearest Pop You see Miss Pringle thought she could not come to you on account of Xmas business notwithstanding your kind invitation. [We have lost a dear sweet **[3:209]** young Hospital nurse yesterday at St. Thomas's. Her last struggle with death was long and sore, and she was not released till early yesterday morning. Miss Pringle was with her all night, her mother was there and she cried in agony' You cannot pass because we are all holding you back, go Jessie, it is your mother says it, you are to go.' and she died. She is a great loss, she was such a promising nurse, and so sweet and gentle, but we could not be sorry and it ran in my head,

'A convoy attends
 A ministering host of invisible friends
 Ready winged for their flight to the regions of Light
 The Horses are come, ~~and~~ the chariots of Israel to
 carry thee home

I said to Miss Pringle' she is now in the immediate Presence' and Miss Pringle says she felt as the awful change came over her young face' I thought He is hiding her in the secret of His Presence', Her name was Jessie Craig, the poor mother is almost broken-hearted. She is very poor. Do you know ~~fillieg~~ I could not help thinking of Elija and Elisha. How Elijah kept trying to prevent Elisha from following him to see his death, and how Elisha would follow, ~~him~~ follow to the last, and then, how he was taken up in the chariot of fire. & Elisha saw it & a double measure of the spirit came upon him

That it so touching and it was so like the night before last. She did pass through the fire, but now how much greater will be the errands He will send her on and how much

strength He will give her, and how much she will know and enjoy that we do not. She had done her little work here. We are sending flowers

and crosses of immortelles. The Hospital nurses all subscribed
their
little mite to put flowers on her coffin and to give something
over
to the poor mother for mourning. A son supports the mother and
the
two young sisters, and a married daughter, who seems more of a
charge
to the mother than any of the rest. Of course the Hospital pays
for
her funeral I would gladly write more **[end 3:210]**
ever your
F.

Lady Verney

9012/67 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

10 South St
Dec 18/88

My dearest Pop

What a delightful Telegram
dear Margaret sent me to-day.
But I know well that the
greatest care is still
necessary -

Thank God for His loving
kindness -

Louisa Ashburton is so
anxious about you - I said
you were very bad - She said:
ah she's so heroic -

And so you are, my dearest -
The Spring Rices called to
enquire -

Somebody in America has
sent me the most lovely
brilliant scarlet & orange
leaves out of the autumnal

Forest - What a sight
the American forest must
be for colour in autumn -
& the most exquisite
(pressed) Ferns - It
was a kindly thought -

They were sent to *your*
"care" at "Claydon" -

God bless you & him
ever your

F.

9012/68 signed letter, 2ff, typewritten with pen inserts [6:659-60]

10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.
19th. Dec. 1888

My dear Sir Pardon me for not having written sooner. I beg to thank you for your account and enclose the amount. Your patient Elizabeth Hubbard is doing very well I think. She took your last medicine the iron and Ergot of rye for a fortnight as you desired and the monthly period came on allright, I think about half as much again as usual; ~~which was~~ is this satisfactory to you? Now she will begin again the old medicine for a fortnight. Curiously enough the iron did not at all make the bowels costive; she only took opening medicine once. I think the girl is a great deal better, she looks more lively and the goître has sensibly diminished and is a great deal softer and less stiff. Her health is always as good as it can be. If you come to London, we shall be very glad to see you as you kindly propose. I think you will be quite satisfied with Elizabeth's progress and the goître does not show nearly so much. With my best Christmas wishes

Allow me to remain, my dear Sir
faithfully yours Florence Nightingale

Dr. Benson

[I] was very sorry for Mrs. Robertson's illness. Was it owing to anything nected with the mischief for which she wears the Truss? I hope don't think her state serious. F.N.

pounds, shillings & pence -
 Life & health - & 38 millions
 of lives lost in 10 years
 from preventable epidemics
 in India are not of the
 smallest consequence -

2 I don't think *Miss Pringle*
 would have fallen into the
 state she has, if I could
 even have done my duty by
 her.

I think *she would come*
 to you AFTER JANUARY 10,
 if you would be so very
 kind as to ask her again,
 for 2 or 3 days. She was

so very much touched
 by your both writing & by
 your insistence -

3. [I hope Mr. Glyn will not
 think if he happens to see a
 letter of mine to Lady Rosebery
 in "The Scotsman" on the
 Queen Victoria Institute for
 District Nursing - Scottish Branch -
 that I would do for that what
 I would not do for him - I
 do so hate the whole thing, that
 I am lost in admiration at
 myself - But I was asked -
 And I did not know it
 would be published. I have not
 seen it. And another *for a*
 Vauxhall Park for the poor (Mr. Fawcett)]

9012/70 initialed letter, 1f, pen [1:390]

Christmas Day/88
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.

My dearest Pop

I am so grieved you are
so bad - &, with your
anxiety & my own - I do
think of Sir Harry, &
commend you both, with
my whole heart, to our
Father, who *is* Almighty
Love -

I don't like the X Commandments:
- it is all, 'you shall *not*, you
'shall *not*': till Christ
explained them. Negatives
never gave love: love to
each other and to God.
And I don't like the

(perpetual) perfection of
telling us of the
having *no* other will but
His. That is only another
negative - A *strong*
will, to *second* His:
that is the real end &
aim & perfection. And I think
you *do*.

Let *that* be our
Christmas blessing
Alas! how far I am from
it!

Fare you very well
my dearest

ever thy F.
Louisa Ashburton has just
been here - full of you -

9012/71 initialed letter, 2ff, pen [3:414-15]

Xmas Day/88
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir Harry

This comes with much,
much Christmas love,
& the dear message of
Christmas Day:

"and on earth peace,
good will towards men."

'The peace the angels
sang: may it be thine'!

And may the child Jesus
be born anew to-day in
all our hearts!

The gifts the Wise men
brought were gold & gems:

But, as the hymn says to
each of us:

"Love is thy gold: thy service
a gem,

"Bring these to the child
of Bethlehem,"

as you do.

We need not ask for
God's love & care, for
His forgiveness - we *have*
them.

But, as Lady Ailsa did,
we may, on this day -
"Face to face alone with
God", she accepted the

divine offer of forgiveness,
so full & free.

And then, with her whole
heart, she surrendered
herself to God.

I am so very sorry that your
cold is so bad - the
greatest care must be
taken - & for the
accident which happened
before -

I commend you, dearest
Sir Harry, body & spirit,
to our Heavenly Father.
ever yours & Parthe's

F.N.

[end 3:415]

9012/72 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

26/12/88

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

You cannot think how thankful
I was for your letter, my
dearest Pop -
God bless you & him -
ever thy
F.

I hope Dr. Acland is *not*
going to Genoa - But I have
no opportunity of "advising"
him, I am sorry to say, as
you wish. I do trust
he will not go.

9012/73 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

Dec 27/88

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

My dearest Pop
I am always thinking of
you - I say, 'Heavenly Father,
pray Thou Thyself for them.'
Sir H. Acland has
written to me the kindest
of letters. He will put off
going to Genoa on Sir Harry's
account. He *is* the kindest
of men - It is heavenly love.
Louise Ashburton has been

here twice. She is so grieved
about Sir Harry, & she sends
you her "dearest love" - She
has now bought up the last of the

public-houses round the
Victoria Docks (last week)
to the great acclimation of the
men, & appropriated them all
in the way you know - I
thought Sir Harry might like
to hear this, if able -

It is quite a ring fence
against sin -

ever dearest Pop

yours & his

F.N.

Pray don't think, my
darling, that I wanted to
worry you about the Indian
sketch of me. 'Blow me
'if I do!' You know I
knew nothing about it till
you told me - I did it,
sacrificing to Friendship,
& you were the altar -
because you asked me

F

9012/74 signed letter, 1f, pencil

10 South St

Dec 28/88

Dearest Margaret

How kind you are -
Would you, if it does not hurry
you too much, come to me
before your dentist (I am so
sorry you have that trouble)
at 11.15 if that be not too
early for you: or soon after.
And would you have a little
"refreshment" in the shape of
coffee & eggs? Don't trouble
to answer this. I shall be so
thankful to see you - any how -

ever, blessed Margaret,
yours F. Nightingale

9012/75 initialed letter, 1f, typewritten & pencil

10 South Street
Park Lane
29th. Dec. 1888

Dearest

I send you 'Daisy Dell' to amuse you.

The Board-schools belonging to our church St. Thomas's, of which my people are now members, I think are wonderfully well managed.

A few days ago there was a Christmas exhibition of the children marching and doing Swedish exercises, and acting two little plays and the Fairy Operetta of 'Daisy Dell', which I have sent. They learnt and practised these after school hours with no other teaching except the school-master's and mistress's. Got it all up themselves with a little assistance from Mr. Geary, the clergyman. 'Daisy Dell' was the culminating point, and old mother Grumpy was capital. But when her conversion was effected by her finally being made to laugh, the victory was immense. I sent my people who were rather inclined to look mightily down upon this affair, but they came home perfectly enchanted.

I send you the music and words for Mr. Ager and I am sending it to our School-master at Lea, who is great in getting up children's concerts and entertainments. I also send you a very different thing; the "sermon in the Hospital".

I was so thankful for your dear letter this morning - & for Mr. Morey's good Telegram - please tell him - & for dear Margaret's visit
ever thy F.

9012/76 signed letter, 2ff, pencil

10 South St Dec 30/88
Blessed Margaret

I hope you were not too
much overdone yesterday.

Sir H. Acland wrote to me
last night after his visit,
detailing the symptoms & saying
"Nothing could be more
"satisfactory" as follows

[2]

on Sir Harry

"The only circumstance likely
to retard his entire recovery
will be *his doing too much,*
body or mind, - *sitting up* -
reading over much - *talking.*
But he is very good &
promises prudence."

H. Acland

Dec 29/88

"The Nurse should be
retained for the present."

H.A.

[3]

"Unless recalled by Dr. Benson
on Monday," Sir H.A.

proposes to take his daughter
to Italy on Tuesday -

He will call to see me on

Monday afternoon.

Maude is coming to-day -

She will write of course
about Lettice - & tell me about you

I thought I had better tell
you what Sir H.A. says -

ever dearest Margaret
yours lovingly & gratefully

F. Nightingale

9012/77 initialed letter, 3ff, pencil [1:391]

Dec 30/88

Dearest

How blessed is the news!
I heard from Dr. Acland
last night after the visit.
But he insists on the
absolute necessity of Sir
Harry being careful, not
"doing too much, body or
"mind: ~~setting~~ not getting up - reading
"over much - talking" - all
that you know - & he *must*
~~do it~~ obey for your sake & God's.

I am sorry Dr. Acland goes
on Tuesday

God bless you both -
ever your F.

[end 1:391]

[2]

I am very glad you have
'settled' "young Edmund Verney"
(of "Drogheda") for Sir Harry.

I am afraid, dearest Pop,
you are not much better -

Miss Shalders sent me a
Sermon in Verse, (supposed to
have been preached by Ugo
Bassi in Santo Spirito Hospl.
which I know so well, dreary
place, at Rome) which has
such lovely things in it -

[1:391]

"As

"I think, when God looks down the ranks of
Heaven,

X X X

He doth behold the Angel of the Earth,
Stretched like Prometheus on the promontory

X X X

Bound to a perpetuity of pain,
Willing and strong, & finding in his pain
God & his one unbroken note of praise
In the full rush of cosmic harmony.

X X X

"As children might, impatient of the School,
"Despise the letters, longing for the songs
And stories that they catch the echoes of.
The songs are written, but first learn to spell!
The books will keep - but if we will not learn,
We shall not read them when the right time comes,
Or read them wrongly & confusedly,
And *each hour* has its lesson, and *each life*:
And if we *miss* one life, *we shall not find*
Its lesson in another; rather go
So much the less complete for evermore.

X X X

For must we not believe
A soul, bred up in perfect rule of growth,
And of obedience to the Will Divine
Through all its stages, would be born in each
In physical & spiritual harmony
With that world's order as conceived by God?

X X X

9012/78 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

10 South St

New Year's Day
1889

Dearest, blessed Margaret

A blessed New Year to you &
yours & many of them to bless
the world -

Thank God for your dear
letters - And thank God that
Lettice is so much better

Sir H. Acland did not
come - But his daughter wrote
by his desire that he was rather
poorly with anxiety & the sudden
cold & irregular food, & was
resting - & that they wanted to
get him to the South by Dr.
Andrew's desire -

His admonition to Sir Harry is

silence: not getting up: not
too much reading: keeping the
Nurse

I shall send tomorrow to Dr.
Theodore Acland to know how
his father was when (if) he set
off to-day

Sir Harry, our Sir Harry,
complains of constipation - you
say - Would you ask Mr. Morey
to ask Dr. Benson whether
he might have my prescription
of Castor Oil in Peppermint
& Whiskey, as given by St.
Bartholomew's men, which
I gave Mr. Morey for Sir Harry
at his request.

It has occurred to me; -
keep Sir Harry's Nurse as
long as they can for him -
then let her be Night Nurse
for a month to my sister -

Do they make her go to
bed ~~for~~ in the day?

God bless you - I shall
for all -

write
tomorrow to
my sister
But the fog
puts out my
eyes -

ever yours, blessed Margaret,
F.N.

I am afraid you suffered sadly
at the Dentist's -

9012/79 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

10 South St.

Jan 2/89

My dearest Pop

Blessed be God who has
given us such a deliverance.

I wish you a blessed New
Year, & ~~many~~ more of them, in
spite of storms & clouds.

And please give Mr.
Calvert joy for me with my
kindest regards.

Aunt Mai is sinking, not
fast, but day by day her
weakness becomes extreme -
& I am afraid she suffers a
good deal

My eyes are almost put out
- fog - ever thy F.

9012/80 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil [1:392]

10 South St. Jan 5/89

My dearest Pop I was so thankful for your letters, you cannot think - Praised be God -

To-day is the anniversary of our dear Father's death - Sam will put "rosemary - that's for "remembrance", & bay, & violets on his grave - Shore ~~will be~~ was here last night - I believe Aunt Mai's life may now be counted by days. He goes back to her tomorrow (Sunday)

My love to "Morfy" & the boys - dear Morfy - if I may say so

The fogs here are terrible - You know that Louisa Ashburton is threatened with Cataract in one eye - She goes to Power, of Bartholomew's, to-day for his verdict -

You will be greatly relieved that Sir H. Acland is prospering - He was so cut up with anxiety, the sudden cold & irregular food that he was quite ill on Sunday & Monday last - But they broke their journey at Lucerne - He "quite

would be anxious] He says he
was ill - but is better - He says:
"Comfort is now luxury: the inns are
"palaces - But the good of these
"large hotels & steamers" is that
one meets such interesting
people who are generally
communicative.'

I am thinking what report
to send him of Sir Harry:
[he says: "I could do no other,"
than stay with him]
Shall it be thus:

'Sir Harry going on quite
well - but the temperature
went up once, (not to any-
-thing abominable,) with no

apparent reason but to say:
you are not rid of me yet.
His conduct has been
irreproachable: he has not
once proposed to go out
skating with his grandsons
- nor even to come up to
Gordon Boys' Home in a
fog - But I am afraid
weakness has something to
do with this new born goodness' -

And may I tell that he
is keeping the Nurse?

Tho' not given to sensuality
I think the difference of this
London wet-brown-paper

darkness

[last night traffic & children's parties were all 'suspended' - no one stirred out - & it is little better to-day],
~~mus~~ the difference with the shores of the Riviera & Pegli & Genoa, lovely Genoa, must be like the difference between Hell & Heaven -
And the fog is malicious - It does it on purpose - For it is all with the West wind. What will it be with an East wind? When summer comes, the Sun will not be able to get through -

[2]

If you can give me any other proofs or ~~oth~~ examples of Sir Harry's youthful virtue, I shall be happy to transmit them to his pastors & masters without Romeike's fee -

[By the way, I think the world must be improving, for I was asked by an Hospital architect to "name "a sum" as my "fee" for doing his Hospital plans - How dead the world must be never to have offered me one before!]

But fee or no fee,
I am always yours & his
lovingly & anxiously

F.N.

9012/82 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil [1:393]

10 South St

Jan 7/89

Dearest You will know what I
felt (& indeed every maid here too)
about the fire - I will not describe
it. We thank God, we bless
God for this great unspeakable
deliverance; & more, yet more
for His wonderful calm, God's
own peace keeping your minds
& hearts during the storm of
danger - We Cannot be
thankful enough -

Sir Harry writes: "We are
"under God's hand: And where
"else could we be so well?"

The frost & fog here have
been so severe that we still
tremble at the thought of
that night.

And I should like to thank
Mr. Morey & John Webb & the
Fire Brigade - But where
did it get water enough in such a
frost?

I'm like the "sluggard" telling
my dreams. But I wakeful
during the greater part of the
night kept thinking of fire,
& that "Macbeth should sleep
no more." I think it possible,

tho' the superstition should
not be pushed so as to
destroy our peace, that
two sisters or brothers may
communicate with each
other by other means than
words -

Pray tell Sir Harry how
touched I was by his letter
& that I will write - God
bless him - and you, dearest.

Is "Morfy" gone? & who
have you now?

ever thy F

9012/83 initialed 9012/ 1f, pencil

10 South St Jan 8/89

Dearest I was so thankful for your letter, tho'

I am afraid it means that
Sir Harry does feel some effects
of the chimney-fire, tho' but
for his serenity, he would have
felt a great deal more -
and you, I know, have been
suffering very much.

I hope Sir Harry's Doctor will
rather keep him in bed too long
than let him get up too soon.

Mrs. Hawthorn has been here,
so anxious about you both.

God bless you both -
ever thy F.

9012/84 initialed 9012/, 2ff, pencil

10 South St Jan 9/89

Dearest, I was so very grateful for your dear letter this morning - so very, very grateful -

Miss Pringle's characteristic account of Christmas Day at St. Thomas' is enclosed, in case you might like to spend a minute over it - it is so like herself. [I should like to have it back again, please, when done with.] I have nought better to send

It is but too true that Louisa Ashburton has a

cataract beginning in one eye. But she says Jesus knows what is best.

I am afraid the Doctor's view & account of Lettice was bad, & distressed Margaret very much - But like a wise man he said that there was nothing to be done but let nature do her best - Lettice did so enjoy her visit to you alone - 'Grandpapa & Grandmama were so kind - & Grandmama read poetry 'to me!' ever dearest Pop,

yours & Sir Harry's

F.

Thanks for lovely flowers & grapes -

9012/85 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

10 South St Jan 14/89

My dear Sir Harry

Your letters make me
so happy. They rejoice
my soul. And on the
other hand I must exhort
you not to be venturesome
but to keep very, very quiet

I send you a little
New Year's book by Miss Marsh
with her lovely account of
the housemaid nursing her
fellow-servant, p.p. 10 -17

God bless you both -
ever yours F.N.

9012/86 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

10 South St Jan 15/89

My dearest Pop - I am afraid

you are very anxious now.
I am afraid the 'irreproachable'
man has been talking too
much & seeing too many people.

When does Sir H. Acland
come back? He has
doubtless written to you -

And I am afraid you
are very suffering -

I exhort him to quiet -
I send you a little book of
Mrs. Ewing's, which I have
no doubt you have - But
I never saw before -

I think the last three
historiettes in the book
(the "Legends") are lovely -
especially the last, "Ladders
"to Heaven" - & the last but
two - "The Trinity Flower" -
The "Kyrkegrim" (the last
Dovecote]
but one) is a gem of
incisiveness -

[in Ewing, Daddy Darwin's

Aunt Mai is dying - &
with great suffering -
God bless you both
ever your

F.

9012/87 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil [1:393]

10 South St Jan 17/89
My dearest Pop

I was so thankful for
your note this morning. I
do trust those rigors are
keeping off. We don't like
them at all.

You will have been
prepared, dearest, by what
I told you, to hear that,
since last Friday, dear Aunt
Mai's life has been only
a question of hours, and,
alas! Of more or less
suffering. She went home

at one this morning - home
~~went~~ to her God after
whom she had longed,
whom she had sought
more than any one I know,
except perhaps M. Mohl -
To know Him, to understand
in some measure His Moral
government in everything & every body she saw was the
object of her life -

Now she knows -
now she understands
now she will make eternal
progress - Him, the
Almighty Love, she has found.

They will all miss her
dreadfully - Shore most
of all - They were all there -
ever thy

F.

I will write tomorrow -

9012/88 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil [3:415-16]

10 South St

Jan 18/89

My dear Sir Harry

Your letters are very
precious to me -

How often I think of
those first two verses of
Romans XII, where first he
'beseeches' us, not from fear
but 'by the *mercies* of God',
to give ourselves a living
sacrifice, *holy, acceptable*
unto *God*: our reasonable
service.

And then he goes on to
ask himself & us, - after
begging *us* to be *acceptable*
to *God* - whether *He* is

acceptable to *us* - prove,
he says, what is that good
& *acceptable* & perfect
will of *God* -

And then he reminds himself
& us that even this we cannot
do without having our
minds renewed, & being
transformed -

So we must ask that

Almighty Love will
come & dwell in us - & -
watch for the answer -

We think, or at least we
talk, a great deal, about
pleasing God -

But are we always
pleased with God?

The question seems
almost a ridiculous one -
But I remember reading
in a book, by one of the
old Spanish Saints, a
long time ago: Can we
say that we are pleased
with God?

Every time of course that
we complain we are *not* -

I will not write any
more to-day - My mind
is very full of you & Parthe.
But Embley makes it over-
full - Parthe will tell you -

Will you remember me
most kindly to Mr. Calvert?

I am afraid Parthe is
very suffering
ever yours & hers

F.N.

9012/89 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

10 South St Jan 21/89
My dearest

If you should be thinking
of sending for Sir Andrew
Clark to Sir Harry, I would
so gladly share in the expence
of having him down -

I write in greatest haste -
ever your F.

Aunt Mai is buried tomorrow

9012/90 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

10 South St Jan 22/89

My dearest I was so
glad you wrote to Sir
Andrew Clark -

I send you his answer,
which requires no comment
of mine -

May it be blessed -
I have given Squire the
Prescriptions on the sheet
I send you - & desired him
to send them made up
by to-day's post to Sir
Harry, *in case* you & Dr.

Benson wish them to be used.
The manner of this morning has
been thus - You may suppose
I was greatly distressed last
night when I found that
you intended *me* to send
Morey's 'papers' to Sir A.
Clark. So this morning
I concocted a letter from
Morey's excellent letters
& sent it to Sir A. Clark
to meet yours - Most
fortunately he was at home -
But for fear he should
have a Telegram summoning

him to S. America, & go off without answering you, I sent a Messenger to *wait till* he wrote his answer, & asking him to write to you "at once" -

However, after keeping my Messenger waiting several hours, he sent the enclosed thro' me, for which I was most grateful -

†He was so kind - I am sure he loves Sir Harry & you -

[I sent him of course a Consultation fee - which he returned!!!

It only remains for me to say: if, after this, you are not satisfied with Sir Harry's progress, do have Sir Andrew Clark down. [I will gladly pay the whole or part of the expence]

And make, first, Dr. Benson write a full ~~Re~~ Medical Report, if you judge it necessary, ~~to~~ of Sir Harry - to Sir Andrew Clark.

Since I wrote this, I have Morey's Telegram: "much better report of Sir Harry." Thank God {in margin of first page} ever dearest yours F.N.

9012/91 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil [3:416]

10 South St Jan 23/89

My dear Sir Harry: You &
Parthe are always in my
thoughts & prayers.

Almighty Love is praying
for you, for me, for us -
what a thought that is!

And what can we do but
answer: 'I will take the
'cup of salvation, & call upon
'the name of the Lord' -

I will take Him

I will thank Him -

I will second His prayer -
Let us go to our Maker -

who ~~He~~ is the high & lofty One
that inhabiteth Eternity -
whose name is holy
that dwelleth in the high
& holy place - where *else*
does He dwell? - He dwells

with them also that are of
a humble & contrite spirit -
-what a wonderful combination
of 'places' - (as tho'

we should say: He dwells
in heaven: He dwells in huts -)

and what does He dwell

for? To revive the
spirit of the humble, and
to refresh/revive the spirit/heart of the
contrite ones - May I be one!!

What business have we
to be lingering over our
own petty thoughts of sin when
such high & holy thoughts
are offered to us by Him
Himself?

It is true when we say:
"And here we offer & present
unto Thee, O Lord, ourselves,
our souls & bodies; "that we
must add: 'O Lord, it is
nothing but sin I offer
Thee' - sinful body & heart But what is His
answer: And I offer you
forgiveness - And I offer you

myself to dwell in you'.
O wonderful offer -
What answer/return can we
make but to take it? blessed gracious offer!
May God be with us
all!

ever yours & Parthe's

F.N.

Thanks for your precious letter,
just received -

[end 3:416]

Letter 92 unsigned letter, 1f, pencil

10 South St Jan 24/89

My dear Sir Harry

Like the men of old,
you *will* "stand up & walk" -
But I don't recommend
this course - I recommend:
'lie down & go forward' -

Mind you do -

Did you know Lady Ailsa,
who died last June?
Louisa Ashburton says she
was just like an Angel -
I send you her little 'In
Memoriam'. P.p 6, her

tomorrow morning -
God speed you -

Our affairs at War Office
and India Office are very
desperate - To save £800
or £1000 they will destroy
every thing - millions of lives
in India - To get £800 or £1000
they would eat their fathers

ever, dearest, yours F.
Yes: I knew the myth about "Lady
"Sandhurst & the jam-pots"
which generally figure as "pickles"

But it is a myth, as I know,
et pour cause - for I knew
Lord Sandhurst - He laid the
loss occasioned him by this
man at, I am afraid to say
how many tens of thousands - far
more than "jam-pots" & "pickles"
from the beginning of the world
in *all* the world could have
cost 10 times over - Lord S. was
an exceedingly able Commander-
-in Chief, as wilful as Military
men of rank who have never been
crossed, usually are - And he chose
to have a trial without asking advice
You, with your strong historical bent, will
{written vertically in the margin} trace how the myth arose.

9012/94 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

10 South St

Jan 28/89

My dearest Pop

It is so very, very difficult for me to form an opinion - & yet I think of your question continually - I mean about having Sir A. Clark down -

What would be the effect on Sir Harry of sending for one Doctor rather than another? Would it worry him more to get Sir A.C. down than to get Dr. Gray? And if the visit had to be repeated, would not this be practically impossible in Sir A.C.'s case?

But Sir A. Clark knows the case, Sir Harry & his constitution thoroughly, has been consulted now, & is personally interested in ~~the~~ Sir Harry & you - And you have a decided view about sending for him -

As Sir A.C. in his letter made the most pointed reference to Dr. Benson, should you not think that Dr. B. ought to report to him at all events?

2. Might not also Dr. Gray meet him in consultation, (Dr. Benson being of course present,)

for *future* contingencies?
or would this worry Sir Harry
too much?

I need not say that I
stick by my proposal
to pay Sir A. Clark.

I will write again
tomorrow, dearest Pop -

God bless you & him
ever your

F.

9012/95 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

10 South St Jan 30/89

Dearest, very dearest I am
always thinking - always crying
to God - But it is so difficult
for me to judge

Would you think well -
that was the gist of my
Telegram to-day - unless
Sir A. Clark has answered
your *Telegram* by Telegram,
saying that he can come
before Friday - to have
Dr. Gray, as alas! Sir
Harry did not have a
good ~~day~~ evening yesterday - &
suffered even from that

small getting up in the evening -

If Sir Harry does not dislike the idea of Dr. Gray, it must be so very desirable to have a second opinion at once -

You can still have Sir Andrew in consultation afterwards - & he will then direct *both Dr. Gray* & Dr. Benson, which would seem desirable, as Sir Andrew is a too expensive luxury to have more than once -

Sir Andrew's knowledge of Sir Harry is invaluable - But you would think it well to have first-rate advice at once -

Miss Pringle told me she suggested, "IF Sir Harry does "get up", then let him ~~come~~ be carried into the Cedar-room for an hour & have the fillip & joy of being with you - But he is scarcely able now to get up in his own room without suffering

And Miss Pringle does not know that, if with you, he would be jumping up continually - and you could not prevent it - to have the pleasure of being quite close to you - And you could not make him hear without -

God speed -
ever your
F.

9012/96 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

10 South St

Jan 31/89

Dearest very dearest

How I feel with you & for
you - God speed -

Does Sir Andrew Clark
sleep to-morrow? & see his
Patient in the morning too?

I suppose not -
May God bless the doing of
it. And He *will* bless it -
Will ~~he~~ Sir Andrew bring up his prescriptions
to Squire's to have them
made up? or *I* would
have it done -

I shall hang on your next
Telegram & letter

I suppose you do not
favour the idea that,
taking future contingencies
into consideration, Dr. Gray
should meet Sir A. Clark -

May Almighty Love pour
His best blessings on you both
prays your

F.

I could have wished that Mr.

Calvert stayed over Sir
A. Clark's visit -
still more that you had
someone staying with you -

But yet you are not alone:

for the Father is with you -

He shares your "burden"
with you. He longs to do so -
Let Him do so ! F

He wishes to share
it even more than I do.

9012/97 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

10 South St

Jan 31/89

My dear Sir Harry

Every word you write is
treasured up in my mind -
& also your precious message
by Miss Pringle -

I quite agree with you that
Fred, notwithstanding all
difficulties & disappointments,
will make his mark for the
good of Siam - And indeed I
believe they have good news
already from Siam -

He is gone to Harrow to-day
escorting the two Siamese
Ministers, & the young Princes -

May God be with your
spirit! And He is
with you -
ever yours & hers
dear Sir Harry
F.N.

I hope Dr. Newham has
really done Parthe's poor
teeth well - Our maids
who required a Ton of
Chloroform in London
if they had a Tooth out,
thought it quite a
pleasure to have one out
by Dr. Newham without
a word -

F.

9012/98 signed letter, 1f, pencil

Feb 2/89

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

My dear Sir Harry

Now I trust you are
going to be good, and lie
in bed for two or three days.
Pray do for God's sake -
It would relieve Parthe's
mind more than any thing -
Sir Andrew orders it -
You are bound to take
measures for your recovery
for all our sakes -

so help us God
ever yours & hers

F. Nightingale

Ah! mar {written vertically} P. Turn Over

Ah marauder! how dare
you go marauding about
the room in that way?

F.

9012/99 initialed letter, 1f, pencil **[3:417]**

10 South St Feb 3/89

My dear Sir Harry

I hope you are very good -
- I am so fond of the last half
of Jude - he asks that we
may be saved by fear, if we
won't be saved otherwise -
But then he adds that He
is able to present us
faultless with exceeding
joy - How little, as
Louisa Ashburton says, we
remember that He is
Almighty: we say: we
can't do this: &, we can't do
that - but we don't apply

to Him who longs to do all
for us - even to present us
faultless - all our want of love, our selfishness taken away for
ever -

The God of "consolation"
and of "peace" and of "hope"
"hope" be with you -
how comforting those names are -
And He *is* with you -
I have just seen Mr. Calvert -
He was good enough to come
up-stairs - Sir James Paget
says he is quite well - Claydon
has done it -
I pray for you hourly -
Pray for me
ever yours & Parthe's
F.N.

9012/100 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil [1:394-95]

10 South St Feb 3/89
Dearest, very dearest. I trust
that Sir Harry is observing good
Sir Andrew Clark's directions -
staying in bed for a few days -
taking his food - still but not
depressed -

I try to do, as I know you do,
"hang on God's unknown will
from moment to moment" -
the will of Almighty Love.

Paulina Irby says that
when he was getting better there
were some nice notices
about him in the
"Manchester Guardians" before
"January 16"

She writes most anxiously

And Shore is so sympathetic
(in his own trouble) He is at
Embley now - Barbarina has had
the measles - eyes suffering - They
have taken her into the country for
a bit

How sad & terrible is the suicide
& death of this Austrian Crown
Prince - There is no sorrow
like unto that sorrow -

Wildgoose, at Lea Hurst, has
lost his wife quite suddenly -
It reminded me of Ezekiel:
Behold, I will take away the
desire of thine eyes at a stroke.
Yet shalt thou neither strive nor cry.

So He spake in the morning -
And at even my wife died -
And I did in the morning as
I was commanded -
Thanks, thanks for the lovely
flowers last night -
& still more for the Telegram -
Wildgoose's Memorial Card
to his wife said: who
~~has~~ passed *through* death' -
I like that word -

ever, dearest, always with
you

yours & his

F.

Kindest regards to Mrs.
Davidson & Miss Beart,
please -

9012/101 unsigned letter, 1f, pencil

Feb 4/89

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

Dearest blessed Margaret

I am so thankful Capt.
Verney has been sent for by
my poor sister - Independently
of the greater decisions to be
taken, someone he Sir Harry loves
to hold his hand & whisper
the things he likes into his
ear - my poor sister cannot
even kiss him -
most likely his mind will be
clear to the last - & such
an affectionate man - he must
not be left even to the
excellent Morey - Love

9012/102 initialed letter, 1f, pencil **[1:395]**

10 South St. Feb 4/89

Dearest, ever dearest

I learn at your courage -
But indeed it is a privilege,
as you say, to watch & see
& know the last years of
such a life - The last years
of such a life are even the
most valuable -

Hail to thee, happy soul: the
soul of sweetness & of faith -
Would I were with you -

But God is with you - the
Almighty Strength & Wisdom -

Now we feel Him -
ever yours & his

F.

9012/103 signed letter, 2ff, pen

4/2/89

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

My dear Capt Verney

I am so very thankful that
my sister has sent for you.

Yet I fear the account is
very bad.

I have nothing but letters
posted last night.

Perhaps you would kindly
send me a Telegram.

We trust him to the
Almighty Love - If you
like, tell him so -

Miss Pringle says: for my sister "It is
"so touching to think of that
"Saint in the extreme

"feebleness of his body
having such full strength
in his faith. he thanked
God so fervently for this
illness, as having brought
him nearer face to face,
he said, with his God".

Miss Crossland says:

"If it be God's will to
take him, it will be the
restful going home of a
Sir Galahad - I shall
always think it a
privilege to have known

even as little as I have
 known of Sir Harry Verney
 - so rare a type of the
 simple Christian gentleman
 -it is Lady Verney who
 claims all our sympathy."

Give her my dearest,
 dearest love -

Perhaps she would like
 to hear these words about
 Sir Harry.

I am so glad you are
 going. let us hear

ever yours affly

F. Nightingale

9012/104 initialed letter, 1f, pencil [3:417]

10 South St Feb 4/89

My dear Sir Harry

Christ is your Friend & Brother

God is your Father

The Holy Spirit your Comforter

-what more can we have?

The valley of the shadow is all
light

Yesterday Archdeacon Farrar
 preached in Westminster
 Abbey a grand sermon on
 the New Life -

I know you have such
 sweet thoughts:

while the outward man
 decayeth, the inward man

to your children - & hundred
 fold love to yourself

Perhaps you will come if his
 life is prolonged - Capt. Verney
 said something about it.

God bless you

ever yours gratefully

F.N.

9012/105 signed note, 1f, pencil

Tuesday Feb 5/89

no improvement -

Temperature was over 100° (but the highest 102.6)
from 5 p.m. - Sunday except between 3 a.m. to 11 a.m.

to 7 p.m. Monday tho' he had had a
good night. This has never happened
before. He *would* get up - but was very much
weaker - He saw Capt. Verney, but *would* talk
about County councils, & excite himself - & Capt.
V. came away directly

I have not yet had the morning's Telegram -
Would I could send a better report!

To Mr. Calvert

F. Nightingale

9012/106 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

10 South St

Feb 5/89

Dearest, ever dearest

Would you not have Margaret
without Sir Harry knowing that
she was in the house?

If he could be asked: 'would
you not like Parthe to have her
without your knowing it?' would
not his answer be Yes? would
not he be grieved that you should
give her up for fear of his getting
to know it?

Alas! would that I could
help you - But you & he are in
the hands of Almighty Love -

ever your

F.

9012/107 signed note, 1f, pencil

just a trifle better - Feb 6/89
 Temp. did not rise above 101.4 but was above
 100° except between 6.15 a.m. & 2.30 p.m. -
 pulse intermittent - The least exertion raises it
 but Dr. Benson thought the lung just a little better
 - did not do well in the way of food -
 would get up at 5 p.m. but was very, very weak
 cough bad, but not in the night.
 Edmund sees him without damage
 They will not let Margaret come - or the others
 for fear of excitement -
 He ate & liked two grapes & apple ~~The~~ ~~le~~ Morey

thinks there is rather an improvement
 I have no Telegram this morning
 F. Nightingale
 Dear Mr. Calvert I wish I could give a
 better account - I hope you are pretty
 well
 FN

9012/108 initialed letter, 2ff, pen [3:418]

Feb 6/89
 10, South Street, {printed address:}
 Park Lane. W.
 My dear Sir Harry
 I think ever of you and
 learn a lesson at your faith.
 I never see a soap-bubble
 when I am washing my hands
 but I think of God's goodness,
 when He invented water & taught
 us to invent soap, He thought
 of us all & thought how He
 could make the process of
 cleansing delightful to our
 eyes, so that every little
 bubble (or drop of rain) should
 shew us the most beautiful
 colours in the world -
 And it is an emblem of His

spirit, for when we put of our
 own into it, & handle them
 too roughly, immediately the
 dew-drop & the soap-bubble
 break, disperse & disappear.
 So I try to put as little of my
 own as possible into things
 which are *all* the things of God.
 Some Scotch Doctor says: wait
 for the buds & the birds,
 & trust in God. So I scarcely
 ever see that lovely thing, a
 bird: without its saying to
 me: Trust in God. And
 I think God thought of me

(and of others) when He had
 that tree planted in Dorchester
 House Garden - for the little
 birds to fly up from it to be
 fed at my window - tho'
 often disturbed by crows &
 workmen - Thrushes & long
 tailed birds have been this
 year to my food -
 My mother was so fond of those
 verses: {in pencil} by J. Anstice
 "O Lord, how happy we should be
 If we could put our trust in Thee
 If we from self could rest;
 And feel at heart that One above
 In perfect Wisdom, perfect Love
 Is working out the best -
 X X X

"O could these wayward hearts
of ours
Such lessons learn from birds &
flowers
Bid them from self to cease
Leave all things to a Father's will
And taste, before Him lying still
E'en in affliction peace"
Dear Sir Harry; may God be
with you & Parthe
And He *is* with you
Pray for your & her
F.N.

9012/109 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

10 South St. Feb 6/89
Dearest How good you are
in writing - And how I
hang upon your words.
Every body is so anxious
to have news of him & of you -
How different from that
poor man, Lord Lucan, who
died next door, almost in
the same room, to ~~with~~ me!
Dearest - may God's strength
be yours - And it *is* yours -
ever your
F.

9012/110 incomplete, signed letter, 1f, pencil

10 South St. Feb 6/89

My dear Capt. Verney

Thank God you are there -
& would that your blessed
Margaret were there too -

My sister says: "Dear Edmund
is so kind & so judicious." And
"he goes in without damage" -
that is to Sir Harry - You
must indeed be a Godsend to
him & to Morey & to my sister -
such an admirable Nurse -
& so beloved of his father -

Now I must cry Peccavi:
Mr. Calvert tells me that he
asked you to tell Sir Harry
that 'he ought not to have sent

God bless you & thank you -
ever yours affly

F. Nightingale

How Ellin & Lettice
mourn their Grandfather's
illness -

9012/111 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil [1:395-96]

10 South St. Feb 7/89
P.M.

Dearest, very dearest

I have this moment had
your letter of yesterday -

Nobody shall come till
you think it quite right
& wise to admit them -

But indeed I don't think
they want to come unduly.

Margaret says: I do so
respect & understand her
wish (meaning yours)

Fred says: we only wait
our (that is your) orders from
the Sick-room -

They all long to be with

you - as much as I do -
but really their spirit is
obedient as much as their
legs -

Nobody shall stir an inch
till you give the signal -
And they shall be content,
which is what you want -
We are so thankful that
there is anything of real
improvement that we
would not mar it even
by a thought or a wish.

He wrote to me in happy
faith. he said you had
made such a beautiful
prayer for him, which
strengthened him so much -
I did not understand whether
you had spoken it or written
it for him -

We all pray unceasingly
- our life is a prayer
for him & for you -
John & Charlotte Clark came
yesterday - & begged me to
give you their deepest

sympathy -

Mrs. Hawthorn writes -
Whatever you decide upon
as best shall be done -
& willingly - do not fear -
ever dearest your & his
F.

9012/112 signed note, 1f, pencil

. Feb 7/89

account decidedly a bit better
 very weak on Tuesday at 9.30 p.m.
 but slept altogether nearly 10 hours
 at 11.45 on Wednesday a.m. Dr. Benson made an
 auscultation of the lung, which was certainly more
 favourable, & told Sir Harry at his request that
 he might tell me so - [Sir Harry never asks how
 he is] Sir Harry wrote me himself 2 note-sheets in
 a good steady hand, tho' in pencil of course, full
of the most happy faith & truly serene -
 at 1. he made a good meal

p.m.

at 4 the temperature was normal
 at 6 he refused his food & temp - began to go up
 at 7 he ate his dinner
 temp- was below 100, as far as we know, thro'
 the night till 6 yesterday p.m.
 pulse was not rapid but irregular -

It is too soon to say that he is steadily
 improving [I have no Telegram this morning]
 But we may bless God who gives him such
 happy thoughts, such strong faith & serenity.

F. Nightingale

F. Calvert Esq

9012/113 signed note, 1f, pencil

. Feb 8/89

Dr. Benson thinks lung decidedly improving
 11 a.m. Feb 7. Dr. Benson's visit: "altho' there is no
 increase of strength, there is improvement in
 almost every other respect" - He is certainly "better"
 since Sir A. Clark saw him, altho' he is weaker
 There appears no reason why he should not
 recover, but, so far, he is not recovering. He is
 growing weaker, but very slowly
 From Thursday Feb 7 6.a.m. to 6. p.m. tempe.
 under 100°
 but he seemed so very tired -

he had a good night with no coughing
1.45 p.m. a good meal.
Capt. Verney sees him & makes him laugh
which is a good thing

F. Nightingale

To Mr. Calvert.

9012/114 signed note, 1f, pencil

Feb 9/89

The account of yesterday was so very good -
and I had a post-card from Edmund about 9
at night (I don't know exactly what time that
would leave Claydon) with an excellent report -

Dr. Benson's report most encouraging - There is
just the smallest perceptible dulness in the
base of the right lung. The expectoration
is less & the character of it only "frothy" -
no "matter"

The tongue is cleaner - the digestion better

- he made a good meal at one p.m.
but alas! at 6.30 p.m. the feverishness returned
& the temperature was already at 100.8 (after
having been below 100° for the previous 24 hours)
And he was too weak to see Parthe - He is
so weak after these attacks -

Edmund makes such an excellent Nurse.

In his Sir Harry's two previous illnesses in South St. he
was so efficient as I saw him 2 or 3 times a day & so devoted as
a Nurse -

Parthe says: he is "so kind, so judicious"

Dr. Benson thought Sir Harry might be
carried into the Cedar room on Sunday -
But I don't know how it may be now -

F. Nightingale

To Mr. Calvert

9012/115 signed note, 1f, pencil

Feb 11/89

After the temperature going up on Friday, Feb 8, p.m.

which alarmed us so much but which subsided
at 9.45 p.m. the temp - appears never
to have ~~been above~~ reached 100° - [my latest date
yesterday (Sunday) at 4 p.m.]

Dr. Benson's report of lung, favourable
2 nights without coughing
2 good meals on Saturday and one on Sunday
I have a pencil note from him dated yesterday full
of gratitude to God, to you & to his attendants &

children

yesterday his looks were much more like
himself

No fever
weakness & fever on Friday very distressing
He is promised to go into Parthe's bed-room
on Tuesday (tomorrow) if all holds as now.

Dr. Benson hopeful -

Thank God

To Mr. Calvert

F. Nightingale

9012/116 signed note, 1f, pencil

10 South St.

Feb 11/89

Thank God, dearest, for your
blessed news - But I know
how much care is needed. he
himself says he must not
speak - He says your
two visits a day are his happiest
times - but yet that he has a
great deal of happiness -

I am glad you are going to
have the Freds -

Thank God again & again for him

I hope that he may go into
your bed-room - But I hope he
will not presume -

I am afraid you are very bad -
We are in a deep snow - ever your F.

9012/117 initialed letter, 1f, pencil [3:419]

10 South St

Feb 12/89

Thank God, my dear Sir Harry,

that you are ~~so much~~ better -

And thank God too that he

gives you His patience - that
you know you "must not talk"

& must take extra "care this

"cold weather " - But you must

be tired of this song - & so I am

thankful that you are so good

yourself - At least I hope you

are - & do not exceed -

All about you combine to be

careful - They don't tempt you -

to be naughty -

Here we have hard frost &

snow - And It is piteous to see

the blackbirds & thrushes - Do you

feed them - not with crumbs

but with potato, fat & rind of

meat & the like?

All your words are precious

to me; but still I don't want

you to tire yourself with writing -

Mr. Calvert says: he can

only measure His gratitude to God

by his anxiety these last weeks.

ever yours & Parthe's

F.N.

9012/118 signed note, 1f, pencil [1:601-02]

Feb 13/89

There was a slight check on Monday night:
the temp. went up to nearly 100° but did not
pass 100° -

He was rather feeble yesterday (Tuesday) & did
not himself wish to go out of his room
- but enjoyed the sun on the snow.
Dr. Benson thought him "rather weak" - but
otherwise ~~all was~~ satisfactory
he took a good meal at 1.30 p.m. yesterday
- the night of Monday - Tuesday good -

I hope ~~this~~ & believe that this is nothing
more than a small 'down' which we
must expect

They hope to get him into the next room
today. F. Nightingale
To Mr. Calvert

9012/119 signed note, 1f, pencil

Feb 15/89

Very good news: everything improving
Went into the next room, & apparently without
damage (after a good meal at 2 p.m. -) at 4.15,
- returned to bed-room at 6.30 p.m.
("cheating Morey", who meant to have taken him in in
wheeled chair & walking in with Mrs. Davidson)
Dr. Benson's report satisfactory.
night previous not quite so good

F. Nightingale
To Mr. Calvert

9012/120 signed note, 2ff, pencil

Feb 16/89

I am afraid the account is only so-so -
No recurrent fever followed the dissipation (of Thursday)
of going into the next room -

And Dr. Benson reports "continued improvement" in
the lung -

But he had a positive distaste for food yesterday
-(Friday) - complained twice of giddiness - &
"wonderfully queer" feelings in his head -
from excessive weakness, no doubt

was obliged to lie down in his own room
when getting up - but did go into the
{printed address vertical} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

next room afterwards.

When Maude arrived, he was lying there on the sofa in front of the fire -

She had not seen him when the post left - but thought it a "very middling account" -

He seems less able to listen to reading without giddiness - or to read himself -

& says of his own accord ~~was~~ "I must not speak" -

There has been no rise of tempe. & no fresh cold, but there seems to have been an increase of weakness.

Parthe suffering much - I am glad dear Maude is there

The weather there is beautiful; but does not seem to give him a fillip

F Nightingale

To Mr. Calvert

9012/121 signed letter, 1f, pencil

Feb 17/89

Dear Mr. Calvert

I had a letter by the afternoon post; and a Telegram this morning -

"A fairly good day yesterday:
- very good night"

The letter confirmed the account that Friday was a very bad day - twice a slight attack of faintness - the greatest disinclination to food, which only Morey's tact & perseverance overcame in any measure -

At 7 p.m. tempe. below normal

At 9 p.m. Parthe saw him: but he said: I must not talk -

He was to see Maude yesterday - The good nights, actually better than when he was in his usual health, are the sleep "God giveth this beloved", I suppose. He would scarcely live else - [No cramp, such as he used to have.]

Parthe was very low about him - & suffering very much pain
Glad Margt is there F. Nightingale

9012/122 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

10 South St. Feb 17/89

Dearest I am afraid we had
a very bad day o Friday -
And so Sir Harry & Mrs.
Davidson have been a'larking -
Tell them both that, tho' we
greatly approve of larks,
their flights seem to have been
impetuous. Young larks are so
wilful & imprudent - are not they?

I think his good nights
("for so He giveth His beloved
"sleep") - better far than
when he was in his usual
health, - are the saving
of him. And Morey's great

tact & perseverance in getting
food down his throat -
how good that is!

I am afraid you are very
bad.

Lord Ripon came here on
Friday about some rather
distressing business of ours
in the War Office & India
Office - I do so respect that
man when I see him - With
so little that is attractive
about him, his straight=
forwardness, his immense
power of mastering detail,
& whether the work is
against the grain or not,

'every event of life with the
 'service of God' -
 And then he says: "my dear Harry" -
 And so do we: don't we
 just?

I am quite posed at the
 heathen converting the
 missionary - The
 missionary goes to the
 heathen full of wise
 counsels, especially against
 walking - when lo! it is
 not the missionary that
 converts the heathen, but
 the heathen that converts

the missionary - (just as M.
 Mohl always said) - The
 missionary was Mrs. Davidson,
 therefore the heathen must
 be Sir Harry - [I shall
 give that story to a
 Missionary Meeting]

But we will forgive the
 heathen if he will get better
 God bless him & Parthe -
 ever yours & hers
 F.N.

9012/124 signed letter, 2ff, pencil [1:602]

Feb 18/89

Dear Mr. Calvert

It is difficult to give a decided opinion -
 Doctors disagree - Dr. Benson thinks he is *not*
 weaker. Morey thinks he *is* -
 There appears no doubt that the lung has
 done wonders in repair since Sir A. Clark
 saw him - Sir A.C. has been most kind
 in continuing the correspondence, and, in
 concert with Dr. Benson, altering prescriptions
 The cough, weakness, & inclination to faint

at times, & the want of appetite are the present anxious draw backs -
He is only too lively - & not the want of interest but the too great interest the difficulty - There is nothing languid about him in manner or voice, when read to, which both Fred & Maude have done -

Saturday was not a good day - very bad as regards food.

But he made an excellent meal at 1.30 p.m. yesterday - & went into the next room at 2. 15.

Nights as good as possible - Parthe's cough better - but otherwise very suffering

F. Nightingale
To Mr. Calvert

9012/125 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil [3:420]

10 South St. Feb 19/89
Indeed, my dear Sir Harry, I shall not "scold" you - The "repentance" which brings us to the Loving Father's arms & heart, - to His forgiveness & His ways to make us fit for Heaven, - is the very "humbled & contrite spirit" to which His most precious promises, His highest promises are offered - that He will come & dwell with such -
"I have redeemed thee: I have called thee by thy name:
" *thou art Mine:*" - a poor girl

at Lea Hurst, a great
friend of mine, who,
after years of heart-disease
& bronchitis, is now dying,
reminded me of those words -
"thou art Mine" - what
love to say that to such
as we are -

can we not find joy in
such Love ?

we have not to do any
thing *by ourselves* - we
are *His* - He has
undertaken us - we have
given our poor sinful
selves to Him

"Be it ~~unto us~~ according to
His word:

" *This moment* let it be - "
says Wesley's hymn -
Why indeed do we delay a
'moment'?

We are so thankful you are
better -

God bless you & Parthe
ever yours & hers
F.N.

[end 3:420]

9012/126 unsigned, incomplete letter, 1f, pencil

Feb 19/89

Dear Mr. Calvert - I give you joy - I give us joy -

Good report continues & confirms Maude's of
taking food well & no faintness - tho' Sir Harry
writes himself: "I must expect to be queer
for some time" - & "my illness prolongs itself" &c &c
At 6 p.m. he writes himself of Dr. Benson's visit,
'Dr Benson says: " I have not seen your tongue
"so healthy before"'.
I will not repeat Maude's blessed report,
as you have seen her. Sunday's night was

9012/127 signed letter, 1f, pencil

10 South St Feb 19/89

My dearest - What joy that
there is this improvement -
How infinitely touching is the
life of that heroic spirit
in that frail body.

What joy in its relations with
God

Thank you for the most
lovely flowers
ever yours & his
your old Flo

9012/128 signed letter, 1f, pencil

Feb 20/89

Dear Mr. Calvert

The account of yesterday is not quite so good
as that of the day before - but still nothing to
make one uneasy - The 18th was the best day
we have had since he fell back
They are looking forward to Margaret & Lettice
on Saturday gladly - Half an hour is quite as
much as he can bear at a time without
bringing on a violent coughing; & the quiet of a
day or two now is perhaps good for him.

He talks of getting into the Cedar- room soon
- I *hope not* downstairs -
- good meal yesterday at 2 p.m.
- Dr. Benson's report of lung favourable 11.30 a.m.

[Sir A. Clark has suggested a new Liniment
for right lung which was applied -]

Morey's diary ends with "all well" -

[Twice only has he said this]

F. Nightingale

9012/129 unsigned letter, 1f, pencil

Feb 29/89

Dearest blessed Margt.

I hope you were not the worse for coming to me - The wind had changed to the N.E. for your walk back to 38, alas!

Parthe has written to you, (so I say no more about him) that you "may not be troubled". She says. She feels so much for your many anxieties - Aunt Florence's love to dear Lettice.

[2]

Poor Parthe's cough seems always better when she does not sit in the Library.

But it is those terrible "bumps" & nights -

O my dear Lettice - next to your blessed Mother, you are one of the best friends they have.

9012/130 incomplete signed letter, 1f, pencil

admirable - [I told Sir Harry your wise & delightful remarks on the first two verses of Ps. 127 - Thank you so very much for them]

Will you kindly give my love to Margaret & Lettice - & ask Margt. to be so good as to make an appointment to see me while she is under your hospitable roof? We have so much to talk of -

sincerely yrs

F. Nightingale

9012/131 signed letter, 1f, pencil

Feb 21/89

Dear Mr. Calvert

This, ~~is~~ that is yesterday, is the 4th day of the improvement - God be thanked!

I only hope He will not let them be too venturesome

But there is no word to-day of his ~~pressing~~ asking to go to any other room - So, as the wind is now N.E., no doubt they are prudent.

Good meals Tuesday 7.30 p.m.

(Roast pheasant &c &c) Wednesday 2. 0 p.m.

Dr, Benson's report very good " 4.30 "

"all going well" ends Morey's Diary

He dictated a letter yesterday in answer to

Secy. of R. Agricultural Socy. - he is now the father of the Society.

As Parthe has written to Margt., I will not trouble you with any more to-day

F. Nightingale

9012/132 signed letter, 1f, pen

22/ 2/89

Dear Mr. Calvert

quite good account

good meals

Dr. Benson's report favourable -

good night

But I have no other letter to-day

except Morey's Diary (which is unusual)

F Nightingale

9012/133 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

Feb 23/89

Dear Mr. Calvert

I had letters by afternoon post yesterday; & letters & Diary this morning -

All is going on well except that the old difficulty about getting him to eat recurs, whenever his medicine does not act; and he worries himself about this; & *will* try & substitute tea for honest food - not knowing or not believing that it is the *want* of food that causes this & the feelings in his head of which he complains.

Good Morey is the bar between him & starvation -

And now they have a new & improved little instrument from Maw's - And in consequence he took a good meal yesterday at 1.45 p.m.

The night before, he was tired & went ~~up~~ to bed early yesterday he went as usual into next room, but did not propose Cedar-room; which was well, as the winds were chill - They are quite aware that he will require much care in these N.E. winds, if he will but let them give it.

They are looking forward to Margt. & Edmund & Lettice to-day -

Sir Harry writes himself: says his "ailment" "is Old Age" - we think just the contrary - & that he is "looking forward" to their visit among other blessed things

Tempe. now generally under Normal - I am afraid Parthe is suffering very much

F.N.

Thank you a thousand times for
Your letter in the newspaper cutting.

9012/134 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

10 South St.

Feb 23/89

Dearest I am afraid that you
are very suffering -
You will have your little
company to-day - Margt.
said she had had the
kindest possible of all kind
notes from you -
No doubt you have heard
from Mary Ponsonby of
Lord Dunsany's death at
Hastings - I hope Sir Harry
will not be taken by
surprise. It must have been
sudden at last.
As you have your little company, I will only
say God bless you & ever your F.

59012/135 unsigned letter, 1f, pencil

Feb 23/89

Dearest blessed Margaret
I hear from Sir Harry that you & Capt.
Verney & Lettice are going there to-day -
I am so thankful - but only hope you are
going to stay beyond Monday - He is
"looking forward" to you.
Parthe says she has written to you - She too
with "looking forward"
How are you? did the diabolical Dentist
do your job yesterday? I was so afraid
that, going out of my room into the cold
N.E. winds, you would suffer - Please
say that you did not - & are not suffering now -
Have you been attending more County
Councils?
How is dear Lettice?
God bless you - yours ever

9012/136 signed letter, 1f, pencil

Feb 24/89

Dear Mr. Calvert

I had no afternoon letters from Claydon & no morning Telegram - but I am persuaded that every thing is going on well - & that Sir Harry & Parthe will enjoy their 'company' to-day -

Thanks for Sir H.'s letters which I will return - & for yours, many -

I hope you are pretty well -

F. Nightingale

9012/137 signed letter, 1f, pencil

Feb 25/89

Dear Mr. Calvert

Nothing can be better than the accounts - he sitting in the Cedar-room yesterday with Maude's rug over his knees & a little black cap on his head - reading a sermon of Eyton's on childhood -

he not at all the worse for coming in on Saturday too, or for seeing Edmund & Margaret & Lettice

Margaret & L - stay on for a few days - & Parthe is very glad -

The difficulty now is to get in any solid food - but he takes plenty of food - there has been

no faintness - & he walks quite nicely -

Dr. Benson's report is quite satisfactory - but there must be great care to keep him from cold - And they have cold winds -

Tempe. & pulse regular -

Altogether this is the best report (a two days' report) that we have had yet -

God be thanked -

F. Nightingale

9012/138 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

Feb 26/89

Dear Mr. Calvert

I have only this morning a little letter from Lettice, written

"for Grandmama", who says "a very good day, "sitting in the Cedar-room for a couple of hours "& seeming quite comfortable - Now he has "gone back to his sofa & his nest, & Mother "is reading to him"

I had letters from "Mother" & "Grandmama" by afternoon post - all to the same effect

But I am glad they do not call him

"convalescent" - More care will be taken

I return with thanks Margt.'s charming letter to you & will return Sir Harry's

One of the best proofs that he is better is that there is now no occasion for Morey to keep ~~Morey's~~ his hourly Diary with hourly taking of Tempe. & Pulse -

F.N.

9012/139 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

Feb 27/89

Dear Mr. Calvert

The news is all good, except that he *will* write too many letters

He has recovered much, if not all, of his power over his emotions, except when the "national defences" come on the 'tapis' -

The night-nurse reports that the cough is now almost nothing - a sip of the cough mixture suffices to stop it - & the expectoration very little - She too is struck

now with the recovered evenness of his spirit - He has always something pleasant to say over his breakfast.

Lettice rode round to the sick people she used to visit with him - to tell them about him - & him about them - which pleased him very much -

He was with the small party in the Cedar-room from 5 o'clock - And they did not hear him cough once - And he had a little visit from Margaret & Lettice in the morning - And this is better for him than all that writing of letters -

I return you his with many thanks - **[8:832]**
He was very much interested about what they call the "unveiling" of the Bismarcks in the Contemporary - If it is by George Bunsen, with more or less verifying by the Empress herself of the domestic part, it is a very different thing from if it is by Stead, who is merely a very

clever journalist is it not? - Either way it must do the poor Empress irreparable harm at Berlin - Must it not? Royalties are so thin-skinned.

F.N.

[end 8:832]

9012/140 signed letter, 2ff, pencil [1:662-63]

Private

10 South St
Feb 27/89

Dearest Margaret

I cannot thank you enough
for your full & most interesting
letters. Alas! this is the last
day, I fear, I shall find you at
Claydon.

Would you thank Capt. Verney
very much for sending me the
Brooklyn City Government,
or 'County Council' -

I don't "think" you "cowardly" -
I know too well the exhausting
nature of Claydon's days -

And I know too well the

exhaustion of the strain of
listening to her condemnations
of people dear to one - Still
you know I think there is
more 'rhetoric' in it than any
thing - It is not the less
painful for that.

About the coming to London: I
do feel so much for them both -
I think Parthe really needs
the intercourse of wits in London
for the health of her mind, as
you cannot give her yours -
And she fancies London good
for him - But he really needs
Claydon for the health of his body,

& rest - When you are gone,
I shall hear nothing about
the 'let'. I wonder he has not
had a 'bid'.

Do you know whether there
is any chance of Sir H. Acland
being admitted?

My best of loves to Lettice
& thanks for her dear little
letter.

I seem all questions - while
you are all graphic - Have
you any idea whether Dr.
Benson encourages this prospective
move to South St.?

I do look forward to her
future life with such terror -

If she is to drive away her
true friends, Maude & Fred,
& you cannot come, & dear
Lettice is a true friend; & isolate her-
-self

and if she is to consider the
Diploma of a Doctor & of
every one else to be the
affirmative answer to: Is he
a Unionist? - her life will
become nothing but a barren
encounter of wits - In London
she sees only her own side -
London is all very well. But
there is nothing of family or
affection in the people she sees -

He is becoming aware of this. But
it is too late. Good-bye, blessed
Margaret. I cannot bear to part.

ever your loving Aunt Florence

Wellcome Ms 9014

159

9012/141 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

Feb 28/89

Dear Mr. Calvert

I have good accounts from Claydon -
but still Dr. Benson, most wisely, will
not call him "convalescent" - but "only just
at the beginning of his recovery" - that till
within this last week he has had no
chance of gaining strength - But all is
going on well -

I am so glad you have such pleasant company
{in side margin} FN

9012/142 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

March 1/89

Dear Mr. Calvert

All is going on well -

Dr. Benson's report after Examn. "lungs very
"nearly right but not quite" -

Snowing heavily

I have a letter from Sir Harry

F.N.

Wellcome Ms 9014

160

9012/143 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

10 South St

March 2/89

Kind regards to Mrs. Davidson

& Miss Beart -

My dearest Pop

Weather here the top of
abomination - It looks as if
snowing all over heaven - but
there is very little snow on the
ground

I am afraid you are very bad

What a blessing that Sir Harry
behaves himself with propriety
& does homage to the Spirits

:
of quiet & warmth & Claydon -

Shore & Louisa were very
much pleased with "your
"charming letter" -

I have seen Lady Dufferin
for a long afternoon - & heard

[10:767]

from Lord Dufferin

She is a noble woman
who has begun an immense
work at the beginning & not
at the end - who is
perfect mistress of her subject
- it is a rest to speak with
such an one - who is entirely
simple - & wise, & devoted,
without excitement - And the
indirect issues of her work
are as important as is the
work itself - She has
really begun a new era
for the women of India -

But I will try & write
you a long account -

She looks terribly ill &

old - but her manner &
being has all the freshness
& calm of mature youth -

I do like her so much
better than him - he writes
as he ~~always~~ generally does with
empressée courtesy & almost
with affection - with
nothing in it, but a
character of Lord Lansdowne,
which is good -

He did write me however
a weighty letter before he
left India - Lady Dufferin
says he has been very
anxious - I repent in

dust & ashes for any word
I may ever have said not
quite sympathetic about
her work - For I have never
seen any one with more
of the grace of mastery -
& thoroughness - She is a
most remarkable woman,
with the simplest, quietest
manner you can conceive -
no about-ing or about-ing -

[end 10:767]

Sir Harry has written
several times: "I send you
a letter from the Grand Duchess".

I don't know whether he
knows it has never come -

God bless you both
ever yours & his F.

Wellcome Ms 9014

162

9012/144 unsigned letter, 1f, pencil

March 2/89

Dear Mr. Calvert

he is going on *quite* well
but I am very glad that Dr. Benson has put his
foot down & said that no change must be
even spoken of till middle of April at earliest
He, Sir Harry, is now awake to the fact that
quiet & warmth are essential to his life -

A propos to some new ~~proposal~~ suggestion that he
should still be Alderman for Bucks, he ~~lighted~~
excited himself

9012/145 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

10 South St

March 3/89

Dear Mr. Calvert No news - but no news
is good news in a case like this -
I still hear of whiteness of lips - & distressing
feelings in the head - but not so much -
The feelings in the head are from want of
nutrition - Quiet from harass & warmth
the remedies - with food & a proper stimulant -
I hope you have not lost your pleasant company
F.N.

9012/146 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

March 4/89

Dear Mr. Calvert

The account of Sir Harry, both from himself -
& my sister, is perfectly good - He was
dressed in his coat & in the Cedar-room -

But I am sorry they are talking of coming
to London at the end of the month -

I hope this may be averted for Sir Harry -
For my sister I am sure it is necessary (for
a short time)
F.N.

9012/147 initialed letter, 3ff, pen

10 South St.

March 5/89

My dearest

So I may hope to see
your face in a few weeks
You must really *want*
London - whether for the
sake of the teeth, or the
poor bumpus'es. which
you bear so heroically, &
which as you say Sir
A. Clark & Sir Jas Paget
ought to see - or whether
for the sake of seeing
clever & interesting friends,
it is equally desirable
& indeed essential - after the
long & terrible strain you have had
my dearest, & which of course alas! is

not over -

I am thankful that a
wave of prudence has
come over Sir Harry - that
he does not part with
his good Night Nurse -
& that he does not move
into the E. wing - When you have
your Patient safe in bed, he is safer than now.

You ask what the weather
is here. There has been
nothing like it all the
winter for detestability -
& no March like it
that I ever remember -
And we are told that we
are to have weeks of this.
A brilliant hour now & then
does not mitigate the mischief

On the contrary.

Sir Harry is such a knight,
 trusty & true, born & bred,.
 that he wants to "TAKE"
 "Parthe to South St" -
 that he "looks at" & "kisses" her "poor
 "suffering hands" - & does
 "not" like to be absorbing
 "any attention" -

You will judge when the
 time comes nearer -
 whether he can bear London & South St - *not*
 being all on the same floor
 as you - bear the being
 in the N. room, if he is to
 be at all on your floor.
 When sun is life to him -

-bear the stairs at South St
 &c &c &c
 ever yours & his
 F.

Private [2] *Burn*

Would you like Mr.
 Calvert to offer himself
 to you "for a week or
 "ten days", as he wishes?

I can stop it if you
 like it. Of course I
 had much rather let it
 go on -

Please not to mention
 my having written to you,
as I thought I ought, to
 ANY one least of all to Mr. Calvert. but to answer
 immediately, (even by Telegram,
 if you can put it so that
 no one should understand it)

I only want to do what you
 wish. So does he - your F.N.

9012/148 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

March 5/89

Dear Mr. Calvert

he is going on quite well -
But I am thankful that a wave of prudence
seems to have come over them - Yesterday
to my dismay his excellent Night Nurse was
to have left - & he & Morey to have moved
into the room you know in the E. wing -
To-day they have put off both: his move -
& the Night Nurse stays another week.
Thank God! *This* is the time of danger -

(more than when Patient is in bed)

PRIVATE I had your kind note by this post -
& am so sorry I cannot answer your
good questions decisively/dependably at once. I ask
you pardon for asking for a little time
to be able to give you such an answer as you would wish -

I entirely agree with you that they should
not be left without one of the family - And
you know their tender & grateful affection
for you. But *perhaps* a few days later would
be better to make your kind offer - Only of
course you want to make your own engagements - F.N.

9012/149 2 initialed letters, 1f each, pencil

March 7/89

Dear Mr. Calvert

I am so grieved not to be able to accept the
hour (2.30) kindly proposed by you for to-day,
- I do not like to propose 4 or 4.30 to-day,
because that probably is the very time when
you may have engagements or not wish to
go out - And you not well yourself!
What shall I do to be
convenient to you? F.N.

March 6/89

Dear Mr. Calvert

For the first time since before Xmas, I have no news from Claydon - No news is good news -

Pardon me for not being able to answer your question yet in a dependable way

F.N.

9012/150 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

Dear Mr. Calvert The news is perfectly good - And he has not as yet committed any iniquitous imprudences - But I am aghast at the 'free & 'easy' way in which they talk of coming to South St. & their 'airy' manner of looking at things - *Private* You were so very good as to ask me a question "about the 'carte du pays'". And I ventured to take time to give a dependable answer - "George & Morfy" are coming on "Friday" - Genl. "Philip Smith" on "Monday", to talk about "National Defences" {written vertically} March 7/89 {printed address} 10, South Street, Park Lane. W.

& some business. [I am afraid this will agitate Sir Harry sadly] However they themselves seem somewhat aware that National Defences &c will try him - They seem anxious to have no one else, however dear, *at present* - James Verney is coming another day - & Sir H. Acland another, which I am glad of -

I think you will probably kindly consider these things & think it would be better to put off your attractive offer of a visit.

.N.

9012/151 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

10 South St. March 7/89

My dearest I wish to expose
to you some small part
of the innate wickedness
of man -

Your man proposes to
"walk before breakfast" in
the Park with Mr. Calvert.
[He might as well propose
to fly across the Channel]

He proposes "in a few
"days" to return to his "old
"room" - Does that mean
the "Small Red Room" to
the North? That would
cause the greatest risk of

a relapse -

But if he means the S.E.
room in the E. - wing, it
is scarcely better - Those
rooms in the E. wing are
so cold - two outer
walls, & the third, the
one to the N., almost an
outer wall -

whereas his present
rooms are all one warmth
- no outer wall near them
except the S. wall -

But I need not lay
this before you -

I hope his good Night
Nurse is not going yet.
I am so sorry yours
whom you liked is gone.

Further, that Knight is
going to "bring Parthe to
"South St." for "5
"weeks or more before
"April 28" - that is, in
little more than a fortnight
from this time -

I hope you will come -
But I hope he will not
run such a risk of a

relapse -

But were I to recite
all his enormities, all
the paper in London
would not suffice

God bless you both
ever your
F.

9012/152 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

March 8/89

Private

Dear Mr. Calvert

I have no news from Claydon this morning -
No news is good news - I have written strongly
against his proposed change of room: which was one
of the points you kindly mentioned to me -
About the other which you were so good as to
mention to me: your visit to Claydon: I think
no course could be better than what you
proposed. namely to write (perhaps next? week) &
offer a visit without mentioning a time, on

the ground of his proposed "morning walks
"with you in the Park here" -

if ~~this~~ you can kindly make this
uncertain course possible with your
other engagements -

I am glad you have pleasant company

F.N.

9012/153 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

March 9/89

Dear Mr. Calvert

Again I have no news from Claydon -
I have no doubt all is going on well -

May God guide their course & their
decisions -

Thank you very much for telling me what
you have written - I still hope that
your kind visit to Claydon may be accomplished

F.N.

9012/154 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil & pen

10 South St

March 10/89

I do indeed thank God with you,
my dear Sir Harry, that He has
so blessed you in this illness -
And I pray Him, as I am sure
you do too, to '*bless me too*' -
The first movement of the
Expeditionary Force down-stairs,
I understand, took place yesterday
- And as it was, I suppose,
under the command of Morey,
let us hope with prudence -
At all events that accomplished
commander would not allow it
to be thro' the dangerous pass
of The Library - My private

suspicion is that on the part of the Force it was only a flank march on the way to Church ~~to~~ some other day - "Sir "I beg to advise you", as bankers letters say, that to-day is one of the worst days we have had in London, with E.N.E. wind & thick fog. I dare say it is a fine day in the country. There is no trust in London weather for the next month -

I meant to have written in answer to your most welcome letters to-day - But as, to-morrow,

Genl. Philip comes, you will not want me - Suffer me to say that I dread the excitement about "National Defences" for you, & pray that you will not suffer it to be. You do not know how much you may retard recovery - & exhaust your scarcely returning strength -

God bless you & Parthe - Give my kind regards to Genl. Philip, & tell him how I regret his leaving Aldershot - & how much I want to see him about his reforms.

F.

I saw Louisa

Ashburton again. She has acquired another Coffee house in a Public-house on the Albert Docks, for which she pays rent to the Company (or whatever it is) of the Albert Docks - £180 a year - with leave to bring in all her reforming & spiritual apparatus for the men - She believes she can easily make the Coffee-house self-supporting & pay its rent - She has a Mother's Meeting of 150 women at the Victoria Docks. And it is quite touching how she draws out the women themselves to speak their own feelings - Mary Compton at Kent House - far from well -
I will write tomorrow

F.N.

9012/155 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

March 10/89

Dear Mr. Calvert

I had a note from Morey yesterday afternoon, (brought by Mrs. George Verney,) which said that Sir Harry had gone down-stairs that morning at ten o'clock (for the first time of course since the Sunday before Xmas Day)

I do not understand whether it was to his own Dressing-room downstairs - but I think it probable that as Mrs. G. Verney was there

it was to the Breakfast-room -
 As Morey seems to have been in command of
 this first movement of the Expeditionary
 Force, let us hope that it was accomplished
 with prudence - At all events that great
 commander would not allow it to be
 thro' the dangerous pass of the Library -

I have my own private suspicions that
 on the part of the Force it was only a
 flank March - on the way to Church to-day
 But to-day's East wind shows how
 little we can trust the weather yet

F.N.

9012/156 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

Private

March 11/89

Dear Mr. Calvert

From four different letters I have to draw
 conclusions -

He has evidently not suffered from being
 down-stairs yesterday & the day before -
 At the same time he is certainly exceedingly
 frail -

They are going to be prudent - And tho' Dr.
 Benson seems to say that if he goes on

without draw-back, he might move
 in 2 or 3 weeks - yet they do not
 mean to hurry, & Parthe would if it were
 adviseable even come up without him
 for a short time -

~~It~~ This is satisfactory -

I am sure coming up for a little time is
 necessary for her. She is very suffering -
 There was no question yesterday of his
 going out to Church or at all, tho' they had a
 beautiful day -

God guide them.

F.N.

9012/157 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

10 South St March 11/89

My dearest With what joy
I received your dear letter -
I am glad that he has
some prudence - But I
hope that he will not
exhaust himself over
National Defences with
the long General

You are very suffering I
am quite sure - And I
trust that when weather
&c permits you will come
to London - tho' perhaps alone

Yesterday (Sunday) which
was fine with you was
one of the worst days
with us: N.E. wind,
thick fog, only dispersed
in the evening by a cold
drizzling rain -

God bless you
ever yours
F.N.

9012/158 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

March 12/89

Dear Mr. Calvert

I have no news this morning - but did not
expect any - For the news I want to have that
there was no exhaustion after the excitement
over "National Defences" with Genl. Philip Smith
could not come yet.

We may trust he is going on well: but I
quite agree with you that the decisions which

are taken now are perhaps the most anxious part
of the whole - God guard them!

I am sorry you are not going there - But
perhaps you may go still, tho' later, if
compatible with your other engagements

F.N.

9012/159 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

March 13/89

Dear Mr. Calvert

I have a satisfactory letter from Morey -
Neither of the principals writes - because
Genl. P. Smith was still there -

He drove out yesterday & the day before;
& was none the worse -

The Nurse who has done so remarkably
well goes to-day - I am sorry -

The distressing feelings in the head

at times still continue - & the occasional fear of
his falling -

These are by no means new - You know
perhaps that he fainted last May in
my room - This is the *more*
reason for care -

F.N.

9012/160 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

March 14/89

Dear Mr. Calvert

He has been out 3 times in the carriage
& twice on foot - The day before yesterday
when Genl. Philip stayed till 8 p.m. -
he (Sir H.) had prayers in the morning,
lunched & dined down-stairs as usual &
had a long day with Genl. P.S.

& did not appear the worse the next day -
I am glad that Genl. Philip thinks so well

of him, because he is a competent witness
& is so fond of his Uncle Harry -
But we must still cry caution - I know
that some of those who have seen him
lately without having seen him much
during his illness are extremely struck
by his frail-ness

F.N.

9012/161 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

March 15/89

Dear Mr. Calvert

I have no news from Claydon this morning & only indirect news yesterday afternoon - Appetite good, habits almost as usual, (save, of course, riding & being out after dark) - "appears well", but distressing "feelings" in the head - decided as to going to London by & bye -

I did not quite understand from your kind note last night whether your visit & the

"Builder's" was "postponed" -

F.N.

9012/162 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

March 16/89

Dear Mr. Calvert

I have only a letter from Sir H. & that is full of interesting enclosures, *not* regarding himself He ~~says~~ "believes" they will come to South St - "in a fortnight". "And Benson consents".

[I am afraid Dr. Benson does not know the house in "South St."]

He, Sir H - adds, however, that they "have not fixed their day for going to London" & it

"may be later"

I hear indirectly from Genl. Philip the same account which he gave you of Sir H. "having got on so much lately."

F.N.

9012/163 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

March 18/89 *Private*

Dear Mr. Calvert *Burn*

I have a letter from Sir Harry - one of his deeply felt, religious letters - saying little about his own health - something about hers - gladly ~~speaking of~~ expecting your coming to Claydon to-day - & speaking of their coming to London

Your visit will do great good - Please not to mention *me* as an "authority"

F.N.

9012/164 initialed letter, 1f, pen

March 29/89

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

My dearest Pop

I was just writing to you to say how glad we were that you personally were coming on Tuesday when we heard that Sir Harry was not so well.

I hope & trust that it is not very serious. But everything is serious enough to require the greatest care

You, alas! I know, are suffering sadly. God bless you both. I hope for a Telegram in the morning.

yours ever anxious F.

9012/165 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

March 30/89

Dear Mr. Calvert The Telegram 10.10 a.m. from
S. Claydon this morning is:

"Better this morning: temperature not so high" -
 thank God - You have probably the same -
Letters this morning from Edmund Verney - & from Morey
(journal) give a serious account but not a
desponding one. Sir H. Acland says: "generally
"speaking, the attack is just about what it was ~~about~~ before
"Christmas" - He sleeps there to-night.

 The good Night Nurse was coming last evening -

 Probably you have just the same accounts
as I have -

 I am so thankful Capt. Verney is there -
I trust that you are pretty well.

F.N.

9012/166 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

Claydon March 30/89 3.30 p.m.

 Telegram -

 "Harry decidedly better - going on well -
 "appetite good and sleep" -

Dear Mr. Calvert -I hope this Telegram
will do you good - No doubt you
have had a duplicate

F.N.

9012/167 signed letter, 1f, pencil

10 South St March 30/89

My dear Capt. Verney

It is an inexpressible relief
that you are there - & I am
deeply grateful to you for
writing to me -

I am glad that you have
the same good Night Nurse
again

May God bless the means
& Sir H. Acland's care -

My poor sister - how
terribly anxious for her -
ever yours affly

F. Nightingale

Let me thank you now for

your edition of Baker's

War with Crime - It is
a subject which has always
interested me so deeply
4.10 p.m.

Good Telegram just come.
Thank God

F.N.

9012/168 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

March 30/89

4.10 p.m.

The blessed improvement news
has just come by Telegram
- God be thanked a thousand
fold -

I think the Telegram
comes from my sister -

God be thanked for her!

F.N.

ever my dearest Pop
your loving F.

9012/169 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

March 31/89

Edmund Verney's Telegram 9.27 a.m.

"Quite as much improvement as can be
expected"

Dear Mr. Calvert

I hope this will do you some good; &
that you will keep quiet yourself & do what
the Doctor orders -

God's blessing on both the brothers -
And He *will* bless them F.N.

9012/170 initialed letter, 2ff, pen & pencil

April 1/89

Dear Mr. Calvert Thank you for your most kind
note very heartily - & for its enclosures which
I thankfully return -

They are confirmed by the several accounts I have
from Claydon, including two sheets of the
invaluable Morey's diary - The good Night
Nurse has, as you know, returned - And Capt.
Verney who is an admirable Nurse & cheerful,
without being exciting, with him - & Morey - &
the Nurse Edis, are doing wonders of care -
The accounts are indeed more favourable than

I had dared to hope -

I have a letter from Sir H. Acland who
kindly writes himself - He says it was a "very
"sharp attack - more acute & severe than
"before" - but "after 48 hours he has as
"before begun to rally & the intensity is
"subsiding": but "I think that recovery will
"not be as *rapid* as before". He *quite*, however,
prognosticates recovery. Thank God!

I hope you are better

F.N.

I am afraid the culprit has been naughtier
than even he tells you - He took far too
long a ride on Monday - On Thursday
he walked back from the carriage & - had a
chill - Then he read the proof sheets

And here was the result

F.N.

9012/171 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

Dear Mr. Calvert Thank you for your note.
I have only good news - I had a Telegram from
Sir H. Acland last night who says the
acute stage has passed" but that
"great care must be taken to prevent a
"relapse" - I have a letter from my sister
this morning - & one from Fred at
Claydon this afternoon - Both speak well of
him - but Patient *will* do too much for
himself - I trust you are better - {printed address,
vertical:}10. South Street,
Park Lane. W.
F.N. April 2/89

9012/172 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

April 3/89

Dear Mr. Calvert Thank you for your note -
It is such good news that you are better -
I had a letter from Sir H. Acland last night -
& Morey's invaluable Journal this morning -
The lung gives a good account of itself - the
temperature rather higher than it ought, & the
appetite smaller - the sleep too rather broken -
but, as the lung was going on well, these did
not cause more than temporary inconvenience -
Sir h. Acland says he Sir Harry may be in London by the

end of this month - but insists on great
care. He says my sister's cough is very bad

F.N.

9012/173 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

April 4/89

Dear Mr. Calvert Dr. Benson saw his
Patient at 7 p.m. yesterday evening - &
reported his condition as better - He did
not attach any importance to some of the bad
symptoms. Sir Harry had passed an
uncomfortable day - not owing to lung but
to stomach - Still I wish they would
have Sir H. Acland again -

[Sir H. Acland is very much pleased with Dr.
Benson] F.N.

9012/174 signed letter, 1f, pencil

April 4/89

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

My dear Capt. Verney

I trust that you, their
main-stay, are able to be
at Claydon -

It seems disappointing
that Sir Harry makes so
little progress the last
two or three days - and,
tho' stomach is not lung, it
will make itself heard -

Do you think it has
anything to do with the
state of the Claydon
drains? That is the

question which makes one
uneasy - And you are
the only person I can
trouble with it

If you are satisfied, I
have no doubt things are
as satisfactory as we
can expect -

And are you going to
have Sir H. Acland again?

God bless you -
I do not want to trouble
you to write to me - tho' it
is a great boon -

ever yours most truly
F. Nightingale

9012/175 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

10 South St April 4/89

My dearest Pop I fear that
you must be very uneasy
at Sir Harry making no
progress the last day
or two. Stomach symptoms
are *not* unimportant,
because they are not
lungs -

We grieve beyond measure
for your suffering & his -

Thank God for the
subsiding of the acute
stage of the lung mischief.

Sir H. Acland expresses

the greatest confidence in
Dr. Benson -

But, purely from myself,
will you not have Sir H.
Acland again?

I would so gladly pay -
I do feel with you at the
immense strain put
upon you - But God
will bring out of it all that
His Infinite Love proposes -
He *does* -

Louisa Ashburton got out
of her carriage at the door
yesterday, and, unannounced,
came up the two pairs of
stairs to my bed- room
door - to ask after you
& Sir Harry (of whose
relapse she had only
heard that morning)

She said: what a
prolonged trial for you -
but that God was working
out His beautiful loving
plans - or something to
that effect - You know
the fervent simplicity of
her manner - It is nothing

on paper.

Maisie is with her: very poorly -

I am so glad you have the nurse you like for Sir Harry again -

My kind regards to Mrs. Davidson & Beart - I am afraid your cough & pain are very bad -

Would you not try the spray again? You will say, it is all Try, try -

ever, dearest love, yours
F.

Charlotte Clark has sent me such a pretty sketch of Lady Coltman -

9012/176 initialed letter, 1f, pencil [3:420-21]

April 4/89

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

My dear Sir Harry

Thank God who has been so very kind to us -
But I am afraid you are suffering a good deal -

You have passed the "wonderful passage"
"from death into life" -
as we are told, such have passed from death into life, - here, already here, -
who believe in our Lord, in the forgiveness He has brought, who have accepted

His salvation, so freely
offered, & have offered
themselves in return with
all their sins to be
trained in His ways -

Christ may make us wait
for some mercies

- but He always offered
instant forgiveness in the
Gospels to the sinners

~~& those~~ who came to Him.

How happy you are in
spite of suffering - & trial -

May God bless you &
Parthe - And He does bless
you

ever yours & hers

F.N.

[end 3:421]

9012/177 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

Ap 5/89

Dear Mr. Calvert Thank you very much for
your note - & for the "prophecy of perfect virtue"
from Sir Harry

The account of yesterday is decidedly better -
- very little coughing & no expectoration
- temperature & pulse quieter

- less discomfort & stomach easier -
I trust you are becoming as well as usual

F.N.

9012/178 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

April 6/89

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

Dear Mr. Calvert

Thank you very much for
your note. I trust that you
are yourself pretty well.

He had certainly a bad
bad morning yesterday, but
was better in the evening,
& the danger of it over & gone.
And Dr. Benson appeared
satisfied that there was
no serious mischief going on.
There was very little coughing
or expectoration.

He certainly will not be
able to move before the end
of the month, if then - F.N.

9012/179 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

April 6/89

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

My dearest

I am grieved indeed at his
yesterday's morning, & grieving with you,
because it is so bad for one
of his age -

Might I hope that, tho' Dr.
Benson thinks there is not
serious mischief going on, he
~~might~~ has seen Sir H. Acland?
As you say,

I trust that he will soon be
well enough for you to leave
him & come to South St. -
he following when he is able
It is so desirable for you -

You speak about him.

Mr. Calvert has really been very poorly - I was quite afraid of a misfortune impending - so we must forgive him - He was quite upset at hearing of the relapse - And the Doctor forbade his going out or writing. Then he recovered with Sir Harry Then he was upset again by these two days' badness - His life is bound up with his brother's - So we must forgive his crossness - which is apparent - & like a child's

I only mention his poorliness because of this
May God bless thee -
ever thine & Sir Harry's
F.N.

9012/180 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

10 South St. April 7/89
Dear Mr. Calvert Thanks for your kind note
I had a good little account from Morey by afternoon post yesterday, & this morning a Telegram: "Decided improvement: normal temperature and pulse" -
Thank God: I think this is a very great "improvement"- [You know that for these past very uncomfortable days temperature has been high, pulse quick & slightly intermittent]
I am so glad you are "well again" - It will cheer them at Claydon - F.N.

9012/181 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

April 9/89

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

My dearest

I am so very glad that
Catherine Spring Rice is
with you. And it is heaven
to know that Sir Harry is
so much better - But oh
he must be adjured to be
careful -

The weather here is
abominable - a bitter
& wet E. wind -

I have had Rosalind
staying here ill with
her mother

I should be so obliged to
Miss Spring Rice if she
could spare time to tell
me how Lady Monteagle is -
I have no means of hearing -
except thro' her kindness -

Mr. Calvert is pretty
well again -

I am looking forward to
seeing you both
ever with great love
thy F.

9012/182 unsigned answer to note, 1f, pencil {written on the note} & initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

You did not leave in my room,
dear Sir Harry, more than this - You took
away my pencil scrap - & I have not
seen your [other writing here]
letter from *Dr. Badhurji* since you
took it away yesterday
Dr. Badhurji gave me as address
 Sir W. Wedderburn's
 Meredith

Gloucester

and later
[too faint to read] Gate Gipsy Hill

10 South St April 12/89
My dear Sir Harry

 I rejoice that the important
Hannen day is over - I hope
without too much fatigue to
you - I hope without
any astounding imprudence
on your part

 The weather here is worse
than I ever knew it in April
- black dense fogs - lights
burning half the day - cold
East wind

 I am very glad you are
not here now -

I am glad you have
reached the Cedar Room -
But again I say: pray
don't be naughty, if
that's not past praying for

 Thank you for asking
after Rosalind Shore Smith
She is better but far from
well - & is gone to
Embley, I am thankful to
say

 ever yours & Parthe's

 F.N.

Please thank Catherine
Spring Rice for her kind
note. I grieve for
Lady Monteagle

9012/183 signed letter, 2ff, pencil

April 13/89

Dear Mr. Calvert I am in dust & ashes, because I did not answer your note of April 10 - But I had it very late, too late to write -

I have none but good news from Claydon - Sir Harry eats & sleeps well, But he *will* do imprudences - He wrote to me by afternoon post yesterday, having seen Mr. Hannen - And I heard from my sister this morning on the same subject.

No doubt you have heard from them what they propose to carry out of your kind & generous

plans for the sanitizing of Claydon -

Morey writes to me that, Sir Harry is not the worse, except a little tired

My sister writes that they propose to come to South St. on Easter Wednesday -

Mrs. Broadhurst, the cook, that they are feeding him up, & that he relishes the food - she knows my uneasiness on this head.

Catherine Spring Rice is there, helping with the Verney papers.

Sir Harry goes into the Cedar-room - he writes cheerfully - & says the important day of realizing your generosity about the house (he means with Mr. Hannen) has taken place - &c &c

F. Nightingale

I hope you are pretty well

9012/184 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil [1:396]

April 18/89
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.

My dearest Pop

My heart & thoughts &
prayers are always with you
in the terrible strain you have
borne so gallantly & so
devoutly - for the last 4
months - but they
will be especially with you
to-morrow which is your
dear birthday - and in spite
of all we may praise God
that you were born & live -
And tomorrow is Good Friday -
the type of suffering & progress,
- divine progress -

I send a prosaic little
present to your feet -
ever yours & Sir Harry's
your F.

I sent to-day to Embley
in *both* our names,
with an inscription,
a really heavenly Cross &
wreath to be laid
on my father's & mother's
grave on Easter Sunday

F.N.

{written diagonally}
Weather here
perfectly
detestable
Miss Irby is come -
20 Hyde Park Gardens.

9012/185 initialed letter, 3ff, pencil [3:421]

10 South St.

Easter Sunday

April 21 1889

My dear Sir Harry

"Christ is risen to-day";
as is the salutation, the
'Good morning' in some
countries.

And the answer: "And may
He rise again to-day in
your heart!"

Earnestly do I pray - & I
am sure you do for me -
that He may rise again in
the heart of each one of us -
& dwell there - enabling us
to do everything as He would

have it done - & as He
would have done it Himself -

I missed reading the Last
Week & the Last Day of Our
Saviour's mortal Life with
you last week - ever fresh
& ever deep - ever freshening,
& ever deepening - as one feels
it may be one's last Good
Friday on earth - one's last
Easter -

May I take the liberty of
reminding you that you
said, whenever you had a

Builder in the house - you would have a pane or two opened in every skylight - in the *sky-light* of the *Escalier d'honneur* - which discharges its foul air only into the Lobby or North bed room - in the *skylight* of the *Lobby* - in the upper window of the Red Stair-case (- or make those two windows open at the ~~bottom~~ top -) in the *three sky-lights* - two in the passage on the upper story - which is always more or less foul - & which

they ventilate thro' the W.C.s, which are never shut - 3rd. in the passage sky-light opposite Capt. Verney's dressing-room -

And if there cannot be made a window to open at the *top* in the Blue Room & in its Bed-room - then to have a ventilator opened in *both* at the *top*, in addition to the one ventilator in the Blue Room -

The window-frames in the Blue Room are splintering for want of a little paint - & will not fit into the grooves - Also in the Bed-room -

[2]

Pardon me for reminding you
that you meant to have
these things done, whatever
you did, or did not, in the
matter of warming -

Success to your plans -

I had a good account of
you from Catherine Spring Rice
yesterday - but don't work
too hard -

Again an Easter, a dear
Easter greeting - And I
am ever yours & Parthe's

F.N.

9012/186 signed letter, 1f, pencil

10 South St. April 26/89

My dear Sir Harry

Our deepest gratitude to the
Almighty Love who has
brought you & Parthe so far,
amid such perils - But that
Almighty Father calls upon you
to be prudent.

Will it be right for you
to come out to-day at all,
as you so kindly offer? If so,
would 12 suit you? or 3?
Please say what time is
best for you.

ever yours affly

F. Nightingale

9012/187 initialed note, 1f, pencil

2 letters enclosed 29/4/89

My dear Sir Harry

Would you & Parthe look over these letters
to Lady Dufferin?

Are they too didactic?

I *must* send them in to her this morning,

as they have already been delayed
too long - & she

has written again F.N.

9012/188 initialed letters, 1f, pencil

May 1/89

My dear Sir Harry You were so

good as to ask me to fix
a time for seeing you yesterday
or to-day -

When your note came, I
had an admirable woman
just coming, who staid till
8.30 p.m. She is one
whom we are sending to be
Assistant Matron of the new
Birmingham Workho: Infirmary,
(1500 beds) of which the Matron is
one of ours -

Will you fix *your own*
time *to-day*? F.N.

10 South St. May 3/89

My dear Sir Harry

Pray send me word when you **[3:421]**
would like to see me - not to
read letters to me - for if you are
so good as to leave them, I can
read & return them - but
to talk to me, & if you like -
read Scripture & little books

ever yours & Parthe's

F.N.

9012/189 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

10 South St May 5/89

My dear Sir Harry

How are you this morning?
Harry Bonham Carter (he is not
in London) writes to me to know
*what as to time will best
suit you* if you wish to
grace our Committee Meeting
for the 'Nightingale Fund'
Accounts & Report, and are
able to take the Chair

If otherwise convenient to
you, there is no difficulty
in postponing our Committee
Meeting till *after Monday*

fortnight so as to have it
on or after Tuesday *May 21*

If this postponement suits
you, *I should like to let
Miss Pringle know at once
this morning*, because she
would like to take 14 days'
holiday at once - & needs it.

[Do not fix positively
to take the Chair even on or
after May 21. If you do
not feel inclined then, there
is no occasion to over-exert
yourself - Your health is the
first thing to us -]

A word of answer, please -

~~Shall~~

ever your

F.N.

Shall I see you to-day?

9012/190 initialed letters, 1f, pencil

May 6/89

Dearest

So glad if you could like these
Rhododendrons which you admired
yesterday in the midst of your pain -
I am afraid they are not so good as they
look across the room -

Thanks for all your beautiful flowers -
your F.

so anxious if you have had
a pretty good night - At least not so bad God grant

May 11/89

My Dear Sir Harry Yes: please

"To-day " at one, which I
think is the hour that suits
you - [I have an engagement
in the afternoon]

or tomorrow at 12 -

For Parthe *if she can* come
comes at 3.15 generally

A verbal answer, please
F.N.

Have you made an
appointment with Harry Bonham
Carter for N. Fund Meeting?

9012/191 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

May 12/89

Dearest Pray, pray do not come out to-day

It is so damp - They say this "cold rain"
- that is their expression of the wise men -
is doing such a world of harm - This is my
birth-day. And you will do what I ask
The first decent day I will see you, oh so
gladly, at any hour you please -

My girls are being confirmed to-day -

ever your F. I know, alas! how ill you are.

Dearest I cannot prevent you. And I assure you
it is utter madness coming - Every umbrella is up
The air is saturated with moisture which drips
on everything The leads which were drying
have in the last 5 minutes been wetted
thro' again - I cannot prevent you - But
I implore you not to come - There is not a
Nurse or a Doctor who would not say the
same 12/5/89 F.

9012/192 initialed note, 1f, pencil

[3:211]

at Sir H. V.'s request

Death comes to set thee free
 O meet him cheerily
 As thy true friend;
And all thy cares shall cease
 And in eternal peace
 Thy troubles end.
 May 12/89

[end 3:211]

May 12/89

Dear Sir Harry

PLEASE do not come till the
afternoon -

Dear Pop will not be able to come
at all to-day
 your & her F

9012/193 initialed note, 1f, pencil

May 16/89

Would Sir Harry like to come at 6 or
6.30?

F.N.

R.S.V.P.

9012/?

May 14/89

Dearest You spoke of dear Margaret coming to see me - I am sure it is bad for her in her Drawing-room gown - And I have dear Mrs. Sutherland here who has scarcely been in London since her husband's illness began (2 years) - But please tell Margt. with my dear love that I hope to see her *some* time.

What bad weather for you ! And I forgot to tell you that that villain does not wear his truss when walking or riding. And Savory says he *must*.
your F.

9012/194 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

"Western Publishing Ho:" Chicago.

F.N.'s life in blue type=writing.

May 16/89

My dearest

Don't think I want you to do anything about this - I should just have written a post-card (which all the world might read) - saying that I could not even read much less annotate anything of the kind - nor send "photographs" -

But you kindly insisted upon having

the 'blue' life -

Now I have a letter (marked by me No 3) saying that they *must* have my answer "by July 1 ", & know what it is to be "by June 1", Or that they will just do as they "please", & "use the material" they like -

Well let them - They *will* I send the letter (marked by me No. 1) the first I had -

What you have is No. 2 -

The letter I had this morning (marked No.3) is the threatening letter above mentioned -

ever your F.

9012/195 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

May 16/89

My dear Sir Harry

I have heard nothing from
Ld. Rosebery - but what I
am anxious about is that
he should see Mr. Hewlett -

not either promise him an
appointment or anything else -

If Ld. Rosebery would
allow me to tell Mr. Hewlett
he may call upon him, that
is all I asked for. It does
not pledge Ld. R. to anything -

Pray tell me anytime you
like to come here - It never
tires me reading with you.

F.N.

9012/196 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

May 17/89

My dearest I am so much obliged for your
kind offer of the carriage this afternoon, &
wish I could accept it - But I am really not
well enough to go out - tho' I should like to see the

May -

Thanks for all your beautiful flowers -
I dare say when your May is out, some will
graciously come to me -

I am afraid Sir Harry has not a small sofa
in the dining-room. Shall I not send in
one? He is very naughty. ever your F.

9012/197 signed letter, 2ff, pencil

10 South St May 19/89

Dearest Margaret I was so much
obliged to you for your note -
& for the printed paper enclosed,
with which I distractedly
agree - And do you know
there is not to this day a
single Training School for Matrons
& Nurses for Lunatics? We
are continually applied to to
furnish these

I was so absorbed with
my sister that I had not
time to greet my god-
daughter & Harry as I
wished - May I offer them

two books - but if they
have these, let me find two
others - or tell me of two
others -

Ah my dear Margaret
if you would but write a
book on Botany - not on
names & classes, but on
plants, trees & flowers, it
would be worth all the
Botany books in the world -

ever yours

F. Nightingale

Could you tell me of a
nice book for a girl of
14 who, having passed her
7th Standard, is going out as
a nursemaid, *IF* we can find
her a place - the daughter
of an old maid of mine?

The Hindus worship the
"Goddess of Learning" - I
worship the "Goddess of
Education" - i.e. - Margaret

F.N.

9012/198 signed note, 1f, pencil

May 19/89

Please let Lady Verney settle her own time
for coming, (after 3 o'clock), *IF* the
weather is not too bad for her -
a verbal answer, please -

And Sir Harry too - this afternoon -
a verbal answer, please -

F. Nightingale

9012/199 signed letter, 1f, pencil

May 23/89

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

My dear Sir You wished
for an introduction to Lord
Rosebery - as Chairman
of the London County Council -
If you can make it convenient
- I have just seen him - to
call upon him on Thursday
next, May 30, at 12 noon,
at the Office in Spring Gardens,
(the old Board of Works), he
will be very glad to make
your acquaintance

ever sincerely yours

F. Nightingale

T.G. Hewlett Esq 5087

9012/200 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

May 23/89

My dear Sir Harry

Lord Rosebery asked to see me - And he came,
& brought Sybil - He was very good & very interesting

You know that the Meeting in the Probationer's Home
St. Thomas', takes place next Thursday - Embley
is going to send them greeneries. If you are kindly
disposed to send them May, large tree flowers,
big yellow tulips, & anything showy & pretty,
- not little flowers out of your gardens & green
houses - but great sprays, - they should be at
please St. Thomas' by *Tuesday afternoon or evening - 28th*

Thank you much for the Horse chesnuts - &
for the May Mr. Morey was so good as to bring
to-day -

I never see you now, It never tires me to
read with you - But you see in the
afternoon when you come, I am almost always engaged - &
much with very harassing & painful business -

& afterwards I am
so tired -

Am I never to ~~he~~ see you again?

To-morrow you have the Committee Meeting
at Sir W. Bowman's, I suppose

F.N.

I have a parcel & note for Margaret
waiting here since Sunday -
Will you kindly tell me if there is any way
of getting it to her?

9012/201 initialed letters, 2ff, pencil

May 26/89

Dearest I do think to-day is quite unfit for you
to come out - You have no idea how nasty it
is - You were certainly the worse for giving me
the joy of your presence last Sunday, which was
just such another day - It *must* do it on purpose
If it clears up, I would gladly see
your dear face any time after 3?

But would you kindly arrange ~~it~~ with Sir
Harry the two times, one for you, one for him?
He is going to Church! and he has a slight cold!!

F. & was so exhausted!!!

10 South St May 25/89

My dear Sir Harry I was just writing to my Solicitor
that, as you had cut me dead, he was to sell this
house at any price he could get, as I would not be
your sister-in-law any more -

I could be down-stairs by *one*, if that would
suit you - or would gladly see you at 5.30 or 6,
or *both one and six*, if you like, & have a
little reading - *You must* have some food when you
come back from Parade - F.N.

R.S.V.P. Are you going to 20 Meetings to-day?

9012/202 initialed note, 1f, pencil

Certainly: the Nightingale Home Meeting is on
Thursday next at 4.30 -

The cause of Parthe's increased illness, alas! is
as you say, "the weather", - & being out in it
yesterday in a pelting rain, which
brought on both cough & pain here

27/5/89

F.N.

Wellcome Ms 9014

206

9012/205 initialed note, 1f, pencil

June 4/89

My dear Sir Harry

I would gladly see you any time this
afternoon you please, & will ~~fix~~ kindly fix,
after 3 - yrs

F.N.

a verbal answer, please

9012/206 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

June 6/89

My dearest

Odd that I should have been talking to you about

Mrs. Henniker yesterday - To-day she writes to
me asking to come on "Sunday afternoon" (when I
can't have her, because I have you) "or early
"next week", & wishing to see you. Shall
I appoint her *Monday* or *Tuesday* - & at
what time to see you? because I will have
her a $\frac{1}{2}$ hour *before* -

You were speaking of writing to Miss Pyne

for a Nurse - *May I write for you?*

And may I say that you want just
such a woman as Sir Harry had? Only she
must be able to lift - And her duty is
to include *Night* duty -

How are you?

ever thine

F.

Rosalind dines & sleeps here tomorrow, (Friday)
on her way to Ipswich

Wellcome Ms 9014

207

9012/207 initialed notes, 2ff, pencil

Sir Harry Verney

June 17/89

at one

or at 3.15

or at 4.15

a verbal answer, please

I might perhaps have the carriage at 5 as

you

so kindly offer for $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour -

but can scarcely tell yet

F.N.

June 10/89

My dearest

Miss Pyne has a Nurse now who she hopes

may suit you if you will kindly send word

by me what day & what hour she shall

come - I will send on to her Miss Pyne as soon

as you tell me

God grant she

may suit -

your

F.

9012/208 initialed notes, 2ff, pencil

1889

Altho' I did not know we were on speaking

terms, yet I would gladly see you at

12.45 -

F.N.

Battle of Waterloo

June 18 1889

Ah! to some it is a (private) Battle of Waterloo

to-day: with as momentous issues to themselves

Pray, pray for *them* -

Thanks for offer of carriage - I have a very

heavy appointment to-day & to-morrow -

I would gladly see you at *one* or 3.15 -

Please say - for $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour

F.N.

Wellcome Ms 9014

208

9012/209 initialed letters, 2ff, pencil

10 South St

June 21/89

My dear Sir Harry

Shall you come to-day?

If so, when?

[From 5 I shall be engaged]

Hy Bonham Carter tells me

I am to tell you about the
Memorial against the Registration
of Nurses which he wishes to
sign *in the name of the N.F.
Council*

F.N.

How are you?

{in another hand: 2.30}

10 South St June 21/89

Dear Sir Harry

I am sorry that it is quite impossible
to me to receive you "at 2.30" -

Any time between 3.15 ~~or~~ and 4.45 for
½ hour - or at *one* I would gladly -

I believe I *must* see you to-day
about Hy Bonham Carter's business - because
he leaves England tomorrow - as you know -

F.N. {in another hand: at

1}

9012/210 initialed note, 1f, pencil

June 27/89

My dearest

Dr. Murdoch is here (L.L. D - NOT M. D.) -
I shall send in at 6.30 to know if you like to see him,
unless you are at Tournaments & dances -

I thought Sir Harry looked very unfit to go out
again to-night, after Tournament & Lady F. Cavendish
your F.

9012/211 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

10 South St

June 27/89

My dear Sir Harry

Thanks for your last night's
note -

"Windsor, R. Academy, Devonshire

"Ho:" You have not a
comfortable Lunatic Asylum

HANDY, have you?

With regard to my going to the

Tournament: it is very, very
kind of you - but I think I
told you that it might as
well be proposed that I
should drive round the
Atlantic. But there is far
more than this: & you would
yourself be the first to cry

shame upon me if I went -

Today, as you know, (for
you have a card for it) is the
Annual Meeting of our Nurses
& Examination of our Probationers
at St. Marylebone Infirmary -
God bless them - And I
cannot go - They would say:

"So Miss N. could not
"come here; but she could
"go to the Tournament' -
They would be desperately
hurt, & with cause -

I cannot even go to our
own Nurses' Meeting at St.
Thomas', over which you

preside! And I can go
 to the Tournament! You
 would indeed be the first
 to cry Shame, Shame,
 upon me! & justly -
 But - it is impossible -
 Please, fix your own time
 for coming here to-day,
 as you kindly propose -
 (altho' you cut me at the
 Club) I have an
 appointment with an
 Anglo-Indian in the afternoon
 F.N.

9012/212 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

June 30/89

Dearest - I have an interview with an
 official to-day, which I am very sorry for
 - I must keep myself in my senses for that -
 But I cannot give up seeing thee, if
 thou wilt come for $\frac{3}{4}$ of an hour, or $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour
 from 3.15 to 3.45 as thou art so good as
 to tell me to name my own time - 3.15 -
 And then ~~at~~ by 4
 I must be quiet -
 & thou wilt go to the Levee -
 ever thy F.

9012/213 notes 1889

9012/214 unsigned letter, 1f, pencil

July 9 {arch: 1889}

My dearest I don't know whether you sent one in
 Mrs. Richmond's letter kindly to suggest her Miss
 Farrer to me as my Secretary
 I need help indeed -
 But it would be impossible to me to begin in this
 way with a full blown Secretary - It must be some
 lady with other occupation, *not* living in my house
 - coming to me for a few hours ~~in~~ a day - taking down
 in short-hand what I dictate & writing out or typing
 it down-stairs - Even that, you know, I tried - and
 it failed - My inability to talk or even to have
 any one in the room any more than necessity or Love

Wellcome Ms 9014

211

9012/215 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

10 South St.

July 11/89

Dear Sir Harry

You signed the larger Memorial
- *This* is the one that is to go in -
- Would you wish to sign it?
- I must send it in the first
thing in the morning -

If you wish to sign it, would
you sign it now, please,
Harry Verney Chairman Nightingale School
of
or whatever you think well -
& return it to me *tonight*
F.N.

9012/216 signed letter, 1f, pencil

July 12/89

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

Dearest Margaret

My eyes have never been
blest with the sight of you -
& I have never thanked you
for letting me have these
excellent books - they are
really excellent - but in each
case there is a ~~girl~~ heroine who
either jilts or marries - And I
am not sure they are good
reading for young *maids of 14* !
Please return me the Acct.,
as it has the address of the
National Socy. for me -
Thank you a thousand times -
How prospers the County
Council?

A naughtier child than
 Sir Harry does not exist -
 How do you think he looks?
 Ask him what he did today
 On Harry's birth-day I gave
 Grandmama Verney a
 "Longfellow's Poems" in Harry's
 name. If she forgets to
 thank him, will you thank
 him for her, dear mannie
 My love to all. God bless you
 ever, dearest, yours
 F. Nightingale

9012/217 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

July 15/89

My dear Sir Harry
 Please do not worry yourself about
 these things -
 I don't know anything that Dr. Steele
 could write or that Mr. Burdett could
 say that would make me give my
 signature. Rather they confirm me
 in the belief that I ought not to be
 a partisan
 I send you a copy of my letter
 to Sir H. Acland that you may
 see what wise Sir J. Paget says -
 I go a fishing - said the disciples
 I go a courting - says another
 I go a worritting - ~~th~~ say Burdett
 & Steele - How they do claw
 at you - Now do get rid of it all
 ever your
 F.

9012/218 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

July 16/89

My dear Sir Harry

Thank you for Dr. Steele's letter - And on *that* information ("2 ladies not very clear") he wishes us to alter our course!!!

You kindly ask me for an appointment. I am very busy this morning. And I have one of those horrific appointments ("Horresco referens") which says: "I will call *in the afternoon*" - Would $\frac{1}{2}$ to one suit you? [I was so sorry you were murdered last night] Yours ever

F.N.

9012/219 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil [1:397]

10 S. St .

July 18/89

My dearest

I answered Miss Farrer's letter to you (which you sent me this morning) today to her

I accepted her terms -

I asked her to come tomorrow

I begged her to go "Tuesday & Wednesday next" to "another engagement", as she wished -

I apologized to her - & indeed I do to you - for my dereliction these two mornings. [This morning I had a man with me.] I hope to use

her several mornings, tho' indeed I hardly know how. I ought to dictate letters to her - But that involves her being in the room with me

A Dieu -ever your

F.

Monday she copied a
letter for me

Have you kindly had her
two mornings or three?

9012/220 initialed note, 1f, pencil

To take the Morning Post to Sir Harry
& ask him to look for the ~~B.N. Assocn~~
"Memorial" of the Hospitals against Registration
in it.

F.N.

19/7/89

9012/221 signed letter, 1f, pencil

10 South St . July 20/89
Dearest Margaret

I should indeed be grieved
if you were to leave these parts
without my having the joy
of seeing you -

And I shall be delighted
to see Ellin -

Could you, after the dear
people at No. 4 are gone,
tell me *beforehand* any
afternoon that you will be
passing this way, & come
in & have some tea?

If not absolutely impossible
to me from other appointments
which I cannot put off, you

will see how glad I shall be. But I will *make it possible*.

FN

May God bless you

ever yours

F. Nightingale

I hope dear Lettice is
prospering

9012/222 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

July 20/89

Dearest - I cannot look at the Howell & James' affairs now - I am so much obliged to you - What I said was that if you are so good as to ~~recommend~~ arrange it - I would take the gown of striped silk 5/6 - if you recommend it for an old fellow like me -

As for the "costume", I thought I would take the merino too if you are so good as to recommend it - I don't know what

I could do with the striped silk piece. You know I *always* wear a jacket - *That* would not make up well into a jacket, would ~~yo~~ it? I should ~~no~~ naturally have a silk ~~or merino~~ jacket - And I have a merino one - But if you kindly recommend the merino - and I can't have it without the striped silk piece, I would take it all.

[But I suppose the striped silk piece is meant for *trimmins*]

Thanks, thanks

ever thy

F.

9012/223 unsigned & initialed notes, 2ff, pencil [1:771]

July 23/89

Mrs. Davidson wants to go with her brother

(who has only a fortnight's holiday)

to Scotland on Thursday August 1 -

[- *must* know on Wednesday July 31]

If she cannot go, she will give up going to Scotland

Her health is bad. Her right arm is painful.

If she cannot have this rest ~~holiday~~ now, she *may* have to leave Lady Verney -

July 21/89

Will it suit lady Verney to come in at
¼ after 3, if it is fine?
and Sir Harry (he asks) *afterwards*, giving
me ½ an hour between?

F.N.

9012/224 initialed note, 1f, pencil

July 29/89

To thank Capt. Verney very
much for sending me these
interesting letters -

I knew Sir Alfred Roberts
personally, & his training
of Nurses.

The next Para - will explain
to those who *don't* know him
what it is -

Two of his home-trained Nurses have
won the "Gold Medal" "against
"Nurses trained in any part of
"the world" upon a ~~Public~~ competitive
Examination!!

I need not comment upon
this - Eheu! Eheu! The mania for
public Exams. has spread to
Nurses!

F.N.

9012/225 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

10 South St. . July 29/89

Dearest, ever dearest

Many, many thanks for
your beautiful letter - I hope
that you are a little less
suffering -

& that Mrs. Davidson will
be able to go this week to
Scotland

& Janet be useful -

Sir Harry ~~te~~ is wonderful.

How gladly would I
come - But I have never
known such difficulties &

should wish - We have
had such a drive of
business & appointments I have
Miss Farrer for 2 or 2 ½
hours every morning - she
is a most intelligent
& agreeable woman - But
it requires to be VERY
'Able-bodied' to have a
Secretary to help you -

I had your Telegram about
the poor Swiss bonne of
Mrs. Newcombe's at 3 -
I sent off a Hansom with
a note to Miss Pringle at once

[2]

- then a Telegram - I had
your 2nd Telegram (about
Oxford) at 5.30 -
~~Mea~~ & sent off at once
another Hansom to Miss
Pringle with a note -

Meanwhile I had a
Return Telegram from
Miss Pringle: "Yes, have
written" - meaning, I
suppose, to Mrs. Newcombe,
as I asked her, admitting
the Patient for tomorrow -

Then I telegraphed to
you - a Long Telegram

I do not know that
I can do anything further
till I hear further.

God bless you - dearest,
ever dearest

ever your

F.

9012/226 incomplete, initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

[2] .

Aug 5/89

I am very glad that you are so
satisfied with the Aylesbury
& Towcester line - & I think it is
so very good of you to care so
much, for I suppose it will be
20 or 30 years before it is
finished or even begun -
Lothian Nicholson has been
successfully moved into the
country. but I am afraid
his life of great exertion,
mental & physical, is to be
entirely countermanded in
future - He has been a
singularly active man -
now he is an Invalid

== Yes!

I am earnestly anxious
to make my 'Secretary' do,
as my right eye & right
'paw' both fail more &
more

I have now two Secretaries,
(not on the same days) -
But the fatigue is so
enormous to have a person
in my room all the morning
& me dictating away -
& visitors on a strain of
business all the afternoon,
that it seems to me I never
was so overtired before -
I am afraid I am too old

to have a Secretary -

But I persevere -
I hope to come soon, as
you & Parthe kindly ask -
Would you say to Parthe who
kindly asked me to ask
Rosalind this week to Claydon that
she is at Embley, & I am
afraid for 10 days only -
ever yours & Parthe's

F.N.

9012/227 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

10 South St. Aug 21/89

My dearest I am "dead" - that
is, dead beat.x And my
business is not done, either at
St. Thomas' or the W.O. - And
it is very bad of you to say
I have "no excuse now that
"the Blue-room is done" - For if
Claydon has no other rooms
but the splendid Blue room,
I would have slept on my head
under the 'escalier d'honneur' -

But you know that I have
"no excuse" but an
overwhelming necessity in doing

x my two *Secretaries* are them as
done it -

work that won't be done -

I MAY be able to get off
on Saturday - but more likely
Tuesday - You will know
when I set off because
you will hear me hurra-ing
all the way along the line -

Do you like me or have
you any objection to my
bringing *for one week, besides*
Lizzie, Elizabeth Hubbard,
Mrs. Broadhurst's brisk little
girl, who came last year to
help when you were *minus* a
housemaid - Lizzie's uncle is
not quite well - Elizth will sleep

with Lizzie, if you kindly give
leave.

Miss Pringle goes on her holiday
on Saturday - And Miss
Crossland comes back from hers -

I see Miss Pringle tomorrow -
for the delightful Claydon
never-to-be-forgotten day I
shall tell them you invite
them "for any day before the
"Sept 5 or after Sept 12".

I shall be glad to be with
you while Sir Harry is on
his lark - I am afraid you
are very bad. Weather stormy
ever, dearest, yours & his F.

9012/228 initialed note, 1f, pencil

No chance for me on Saturday, my dearest

Director Genl. coming to see me -
Monday or Tuesday
thy

F.N.

Aug 22/89

9012/229 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

Aug 24/89

My dearest The great man (not the D.G.)
sends to ask to see me "early next week" -
He cannot yet "fix the day", because of the
"winding up of the Session" - Of course I stay -
- I should think it would be Wednesday before
I can come -

Tell Sir Harry that the paper he returned
to me was by *Miss Pringle* & the "Chief" am I.
They all call me "the Chief" - & Miss Pringle calls

me "mother-chief". She sends you her love - Rosalind is with you now - She has something which should bring her back to London on Monday - She *could* finish her visit to you the next Sunday. But that is for you to decide - Shore desired me to thank you for your kindness to her - & Louisa too & for your kindness about the pictures - She has taken the Copley Fielding in your ~~Drawing~~ Dining Room with her to Embley to copy with many thanks - & love -

I cannot tell you how sorry I am to be kept away from you now - I fear this weather is most trying to you - It is pouring & lightning now - with vigour -

I gave your message to Miss Pringle about the happy day to be fixed for Claydon - Miss Pringle goes to-day. Miss Crossland is come
ever yours & Sir Harry's
F.N.

9012/230 initialed letter, 1f, pen

. August 29/89
{printed address:} 10, South Street,
Grosvenor Square. W.

My dear Sir Harry & Parthe

I hope to be with you tomorrow (Friday) by 3.0 train
Last year you were good enough to telegraph to Bletchley for me to be sent on at once by, I think, the Oxford Express - It is a great saving of fatigue -

May I mention something which makes an enormous difference in the atmosphere of the Bedroom, belonging to Blue Room - but which I did not like to mention last year, because it is Margaret's? It is this: when I first came, her yellow inlaid Escritoire was on the left side of the East window, shutting out *no* sun. Last year

& the year before, a tall dark
cabinet on legs was there
shutting out at least half the Eastern sun & light,
(& almost entirely from the bed)

The room receives so little light
from the South window that
it makes a sensible difference
(for *any* one or I should
not have mentioned it) in
the *healthiness* of the room -
& the charm of the East window.

Auf Wiedersehen, dearest
people -

ever yours

F.N.

9012/231 initialed note, 1f, pencil

Dearest

I am to see Mr. Calvert
at 4 - & will enthusiastically
~~do~~ say all you say.

And I will gladly see
James at 6 or 6.30 - if
agreeable to him -

Then I am afraid I shall
have to give thee up - for I
am very seedy - but hope
to see thee many days

your F

1/9/89

9012/232 {Probationers' Visits to Claydon - not FN's handwriting}

9012/233 unsigned & initialed notes, 1f, pencil

30 or 31 Probationer-Nurses, Miss Crossland
says, will come to morrow to enjoy their
Red Letter day in your hospitality -
She has sent me a List of their names
& ages which I will send you
What time will they be here?
7/9/89

Sept 13 {arch: 1889}
My dear Sir Harry I did not answer your
note yesterday about dear Margaret's
painful Telegram, waiting till you should
hear this morning - P. did not know that
they had taken a house - Is it possible
that M. thought you were asking them
to come here entirely? That of course was
"impossible". Might I see any letter you
have this morning? F.

9012/234 unsigned letter, 2ff, pencil

Claydon: Sept 21/89

Dearest, blessed Margaret

I am so ashamed of occupying your rooms;
only I know it is no use saying so -

All blessings attend you, as you sow
blessings in your path. I hope things are
pretty prosperous with you, & you not over-tired,
& that Capt. Verney, to whom my love if I may, is
well again or on the way to be quite well -

The Nurses, of whom I saw several one
by one in your room, were so delighted with

their reception, especially by your children but most of all by Harry - One of them told me that he was taking them about, to the Cemetery & other places of amusement, & some gentleman, I believe Mr. Fred, called to him to take "me to your Father" - & he answered: "father has put me in charge of the Nurses - & I can't leave them, or "go anywhere else" -

I saw dear Lettice & hoped I saw a great improvement in her -

ever, dearest Margt. your
absent or present -

Still I hope I shall see you here
before or after this Election

When is it to be? And how is it to go?

9012/235 signed letter, 4ff, pencil [3:354-56]

Claydon Ho: Tuesday night. Sept.24/89

Most Private

My dear Capt. Verney

Thank you for your very kind note -

I need not begin my answer by saying how very distressing all this is, for I believe we all feel it equally. But tho' I did not know on Monday of the things you tell me till *after* Sir Harry started for Pleasley with Morey that morning (to stay till Thursday)

I believe I can throw some light on these his wonderful notes:

1. Sir Harry has it in his head that your Election

is to be *this* week, tho' we, the reprobates, believed that the writs were not to be out before week after next - On *this* supposition he writes *that* Monday's note, in great haste, believing that after *this* week he should have the joy of seeing you all at his ease

2. My sister had a most unfortunate letter from "Tom Freemantle" - is that the name? - which Sir H. saw before he went, saying that he was informed that Sir Harry had *canvassed* one person *on behalf* of Capt. Verney, & that he (Sir H.) had changed his opinions - & begging my sister to tell him the truth.

==
 Sir Harry is so little in a hostile mind that he has written to Mr. Calvert who unluckily comes on Thursday, imploring him not to excite my sister - we know, alas! how excitable she is - upon Election matters - or to talk to her as I fear he has done & written to you: & which really sends her 'off her head'

==
 About the "Bishop", he stays here from Oct. 9 to 11 - I am sure Sir Harry wishes you to come -

Is it true - [this is from myself - Sir Harry firmly believes that the Election is to be this week - why I know not, and he knows not -] that the writs are to be out on Oct. 8 - and will the Election

follow immediately? And will this clash with the Bishop's visit? And is that good or bad - I mean for Claydon weather?

==
 [Sir H. is so little hostile that he said to me: "I *wish* the Election to be *this* week, because delay is good for Hubbard".

Also: I am sure he firmly believes that the "Elections being over," he will welcome you "to meet "the Bishop" -

[2]

Now for the conclusions:

1 Sir Harry is always looking forward to the time when, "the Elections being over", you will all of you come for a long stay here - & so give him a great joy

[Indeed, as you know, he entirely *forgetting that you had taken a house*, wished you to come & have the Election from here] This persuasion that you have 'no house' returns to him, & partly, no doubt, dictated his Monday's note that he could

not, tho' he wished,

ask you here to stay.

2. he *wishes* you & Margaret to pay flying visits here & so give him a ~~little~~ little joy *till the Election*

[I should like to tell you that, after wishing me good-bye, he came back again into my room, &

said: " I wish you to know, because it gives you joy, that my son Edmund & I have never been on happier terms together than now. There is *no break between us*" or words to that effect.]

He *wants* you always to come:

But he forgets continually that his notes & letters contradict each other, & himself, because he is so inconsecutive - inconsecutive in all, dear Capt. Verney, but his deep love for you & for Margaret, his absolute trust in you & Margaret -

That is never interrupted - never broken - *there* he is never inconsecutive -

His health is not good - (they say I see him at his worst always - & I am sure I hope it is so -) he complains grievously of giddiness to me - & faintness - And sometimes I am glad he is inconsecutive, because otherwise I think he would literally be worried to death.

I fear 'Tom *Fremantle's*' letter affected him much, tho' I did not see him after he had seen it, & was the real immediate cause of his note to Margaret.

I did not know how to make this shorter - if I were to give you his real mind at all after your letter, or save him from having a great sorrow in your abstaining from coming here.

Have I made things clearer? or made that darker which was dark enough before?

I am sorry to write so much, when you have such a legion to read & to write-

With my love & reverence to Margaret
ever yours affectionately & anxiously
Excuse pencil. Burn F. Nightingale

9012/236 notes

9012/237 signed letter, 3ff, pencil, bundle 182 [5:356-57]

Private Claydon: Wednesday night. Oct 2/89

Dearest Margaret Sir Harry was quite delighted with your letter of Sept. 30: & impressed with what you told him about the Home Rulers *not* being Separatists - He took it from me, meaning quite eagerly to answer it the same day: but he cannot remember whether he did answer it or not - so I venture to write it to you -

He was also extremely gratified with Capt. Verney's letter to Mr. Calvert of Sept. 27. a letter which it would be impertinence in

me to praise - It was shown me by Sir Harry with Mr. Calvert's leave - Mr. Calvert was impressed by it - But Sir Harry is aware that he has written a letter which I am afraid will appear in a Bucks paper

In answer to some remarks of Mr. Calvert to him, Sir Harry - he is standing by you stoutly - said: 'My son is quite right to stand for N. Bucks - If he wishes to be in Parlt., this is the place for him. And he pledged himself to "stand while I was President of the Liberal Assocn."' 'And his supporters could not get in any one else'

In answer again to some remarks, he said: 'I do not wish to act "strongly", but to act rightly.'

Great pressure is put upon him to speak at some Unionist meeting - But he steadily refuses - "absolutely" refuses.

He deplores that he cannot stop Mr. Calvert's talk.

But whatever he *can* do, he does, to remain true to his principle of being absolutely neutral - & doing nothing against Edmund -

He knows of course now that the polling day

is on the 11th - ~~I hope he will lend his break~~

I think his memory is failing - & he is wearing -

Morey is admirable -

Oct 3/89 You kindly sent me a note from Ralph, who has not given me his address - or dated his note. But in the envelope was this piece of shorthand (quite safe from me) - If it was put in by mistake for a note from you to me, please send it me - Hail to the American travellers - & to those who have to take the stormier voyage of an Election here. But for those who go in to an Election for *Him*

[2]

of whom Capt. Verney speaks, all is safe - And
He will bless you - He does bless you
ever your affte

Aunt Florence

Sir Harry tells me this morning that he has
told Morey that he may have the brake all
day on the 11th. (as Mr. Huntley Greene lent his
carriage) "to take any one on both sides to the
"poll" Sir H. is quite steadfast

I am so glad you had Gwendolen & Kathleen -
I fear you are very much over-fatigued

9012/238 initialed note, 1f, pencil bundle 182

[13:55]

With a carton of Salicylic

Sir Harry

The Salicylic Silk is come - to dress the
wound of the poor old Cancer man at
E. Claydon.

How shall I send it? Here it is

[end]

F.N.

2/10/89

9012/239 signed letter, 2ff, pencil

Claydon Ho: Oct 7/89

Dearest blessed Margaret

Thank you so much for writing to me
& making me a sharer in your Sunday
& your Sacrament.

Yea, an Election can be made a
Sacrament when undertaken in such a spirit -
The Roman soldier's oath to serve his
country is not more sacred than the English
candidate's to serve his politically. May he be

blessed!

I return Mr. George Russell's excellent letter -

As I vilipended Dean Fremantle, I am bound to say that he was written a capital letter to Sir Harry -saying that Capt. Verney was quite right to stand - indeed bound to stand - as the Electors would have no chance of bringing in any *other* Liberal candidate -

Sir Harry rode over to Tevyford to enquire into the alledged 'row' - He found it was all nonsense - The Police Inspector said there was a little paint rubbed off - And he should assess/estimate the damage at one penny.

Sir Harry brought back a bad cold, but it is much better to-day.

What a stormy night for our American travellers - I hope the children did not cross to-day to S. Malo -

Aunt Florence's best love to yours -
I am writing in the dark -
may God bless you -

ever yours

F. Nightingale

9012/240 initialed letters, 2ff, pencil

Oct 10/89

My dear Sir Harry Is it not rather a waste of virtue to send your Brake to Swanbourne, where they do not want it - like sending coals=to=Newcastle=generosity?

Are there not Hubbardites here in the Claydons, or near, whom you could send to the polls to exercise their constitutional right?

F.

How are You?

Bright day for the Consecration

May God consecrate *our hearts!*

10/10/89

I hope you are not very much tired -

Our hearts are consecrated -

Dear Sir Harry Pardon me for troubling you. [5:358]

Where is Ludgershall? Is not the Brake
much wanted there? Swanbourne is
well provided - is it not?

Would you think well to do what you said
to me, viz. 'The Brake can be used to
'convey voters of *both* sides - I shall not
'interfere - They shall have the Brake in the
'morning before & in the evening after Parthe's
drive No livery & no colours F.

9012/241 initialed note, 1f, pencil bundle 182

Dear Sir Harry

I have some letters to return to
you, if you have time to come & see me.

F.N.

12/10/89

9012/242 signed letter, 2ff, pencil

Claydon Oct 12/89

Dearest blessed Margaret How can we thank

God enough? And you should have
heard how heartily Sir Harry gave Him thanks
and I read your hymn to him which you
had at Morning Prayers this morning, in "Ancient
& Modern" - What a gallant public-spirited fight
you have made, fair to foe & to friend, a true
service *for man to God!* On your side there
may be pure satisfaction - for there has been
nothing to degrade, everything to raise the

4855 - That is a great & blessed boon -

Please give Capt. Verney my love, & thank him for telegraphing to me - I was so anxious And Aunt Florence's love to each of the four -

I hope you are not very much tired - My sister says - but Sir Harry is writing to you, of course - pray come on Monday week with all the dear four whom she loves so much -

I hope, as you must go to Rhianva for the Quarter Sessions that you are not hurrying down, but going like Christians by a proper day train -

Morey has worked hard & straight-forwardly & after your own heart.

The garden pony sends his compliments - he did 34 miles yesterday, bringing in voters enthusiastically - & all for love

Sir Harry desires me to enclose the enclosed -

ever yours, dear blessed Margaret
F. Nightingale

9012/243 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

13/10/89

Dear Sir Harry I return a letter with thanks
of Mr.. Calvert's

It is cold & raw, as you know - And the Church
fire hangs fire - Won't you stay at home
& read with me?

F.

9012/244 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil [1:397-98]

Claydon Oct 20/89

Many thanks, my dearest, for your most kind note.

I am indeed sorry if anything has passed in which you have been the sufferer from me - I need scarcely express again how sorry I was for that unlucky event on the day of the Declaration -

It is grievous to me to have to say in answer to your kind wish that I could not put off my going to London now - In the last 2 or 3 days I have sent my business papers ~~to~~ & my business replies to the men I have to deal with

for immediate consultation with me & I have told them that I shall be in London tomorrow -

I was also told that I might have to see the S. of S. - "in October" - The death of my Gordon (Mr. Hewlett) greatly increases the pressure & difficulty.

We have also some very anxious St. Thomas' business which will, I believe, be decided this week - And I have said I shall be in South St. tomorrow -

I do not think that Margaret
 can feel "hurt" at my going - I
 have always gone away when
 she could come - And one
 year I went away on the
 morning of the afternoon she
 came, as now exactly

We are supposed to be due
 in London in the first week
 in October

I would I could say what
 I cannot, & what all this
 explanation but mystifies,
 how real & deep is the love
 which I feel reigns & rules between
 us, altho' obscured sometimes

by the "dense & tainted air"
 which we try to escape from
 & from which God's love will
 deliver us -

Shall I come down to you
 this evening, if thou art too
 tired to come to me?

ever thine, with love
 which will be infinite as
 God's F.N.

9012/245 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

Mrs. Verney

Oct 23/89

Would you kindly tell Sir Harry & my sister that
 Mrs. Hawthorn was here last night, & she
 would be so very glad if she could spend 2 days
 at Claydon? She will write - She is in great distress; one who
 was as much to her as a son, Archie Harris,
 having been while on duty about 70 miles from
 Candahar *shot dead* by a Pathan robber whose
 gang he was pursuing. But he was ready; having
 been the most devoted to his men, tho' only 23
 & serving God - a fine, manly young soldier - She has
 106 sons - but none like this - F.N.

£2.2 (I think that was it)
for the gown you were good
enough to buy for me -
with dearest love
& dearest grief
your F.
ever thy F.

21/10/89

I send "Earth's Many Voices".

9012/246 initialed letter, 3ff, pen

{not FN's hand; FN's pencil additions in **bold**}
10 South St.
Park Lane -
29th. Oct. 1889

My dearest Pop

I have had a second
letter from Mrs. Hewlett, the
widow of our Hewlett; I
think he was the most dis-
interested & heroic man I
ever knew, always excepting
Gordon. I think the way
she takes his death is quite
heroic. Writing of his death
she tells me that "this day fortnight" they were
starting for Harrow, & he
was looking forward to the

[10:226]

[end 10:226]

change with pleasure, that they had no fear of the journey, for he had been much better, (I am so thankful that she was with him) she will not say that she regrets the suddenness, for she says "it spared him very much pain, he so dreaded leaving us & he had no time to think, & as I was with him there was not the horror of being left to strangers, & he was so ready to go, his faith was so steadfast" (I can testify

to this for his was a hero's faith.) She says "for months past he had been face to face with death, & did not fear it even under ~~under~~ the fearful form in which for some time we thought it was to come" (You know he was threatened with cancer in the throat) he wrote to me). " for it was all in the day's march" & his last ~~look~~ **letter to me** said he was all ~~ready~~ **right** **"thank God"** ~~to go~~ Then his widow says "I am thankful to think that his sufferings were short, & even lying in that waiting

room, he looked peacefully
asleep." I know nothing more,
except that I fancy **there**
was a rush of blood **from** ~~to~~ the
throat, & he was suffocated -
He had only been home about
a year & a quarter, he came
to see me on his arrival
from India ~~of~~ June 21st, 1888
(last year). He was engaged
till his last moment in
writing that pamphlet on
"Village Sanitation in India"
& was so glad to have finished
it in the last ~~years~~ **weeks** of his
life. **He worked all these years till**
his death -

[10:226-27]

I am afraid they must be

left badly off, as I believe
his pension ends with his
life, but she says nothing about
this. There are 3 sons & 2
daughters, the sons are ~~all~~
at Harrow, ~~at~~ **Bedford** School ~~in~~ **and** Sand-
hurst. In India he had
been, as you know, through
the Mutiny, the Great Famine
& years of going about the
country; he was the first
man who travelled without
tents & without elephants &
made all his tours in a
tonga, an open village cart with
a pony.

[end 10:227]

I am so grieved for your cough.
ever your

F.

9012/247 signed letter, 2ff, pen & pencil

1/11/89

{printed address:} 10, South Street,
Grosvenor Square. W.

My dearest

I enclose an order for poor
old King. he will be in
same Ward as before under Mr..
Croft.

We think it unsafe for him
to come alone. An irretrievable
accident so often/quickly happens, even
by putting the foot down from
a deep step in alighting -

If you could send some one
with him to get him past
the ?change at Bletchley,
I would send Messenger to meet
him at Euston & take him to
St. T.'s He must have
a flaring handkerchief in his
hand to hold out of window -
& let Messenger help him to alight -
& all that

Please tell train, colour of
handkerchief &c &c to me -
I have told Mr.. Croft that we
shall probably not get him
to St. T.'s till Monday but
that I will send word if
you could telegraph IF he
comes tomorrow (Saturday)

You know Truss cases are
not commonly admitted

H. Cunningham's letter was not
in yours - but as I shall
see him to day, it does not
matter

I am so very very sorry
for your sufferings
ever thy old
Flo

9012/248 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

10, South Street, Nov 2/89
Old King

My dearest

Mr. Croft has instructed the Residents (Surgeons) at St. Thomas' to expect 'Maister King' on Monday. He, Mr. Croft, on Mondays leaves the Hospital at 3 o'clock. And he very kindly says he wishes to see King ~~before~~ leaving at 3 -

I hope therefore that I shall hear on Monday that I am to meet him at Euston by an early train - & what coloured handkerchief he will display in his hand for Messenger - If there is time, I will bring

him here to have something to eat, hoping to land him at St. Thomas' without hurry ~~before~~ ~~the~~ ~~one~~ o'clock on Monday - I hope you will kindly just turn over these details to Mr. Morey - to settle & do.

There is a train, I believe, that gets to Euston at 12.40.

Mr. Croft said: I hope he will not expect to stay at St. Thomas' always -

I said: There is no danger, for of course Church & State would come to an end in Bucks without him! And he knows it.

Alas! the cough

ever your

F.

9012/249 signed letter, 2ff, pen [1:817]

Nov 2/89

{printed address:} 10, South Street,
Grosvenor Square. W.

Dearest Margaret

You know, I dare say, a great deal more about Mr.. Tuckwell than I can tell you. And I believe he spoke for Capt. Verney at the last Election. I do not know whether he receives any thing for this.

Young Arthur Clough, the most unenthusiastic externally, the most enthusiastic inside, & differing from Mr. Tuckwell in politics, was so moved by the man's energy, especially in practice, & difficulties, & so anxious to do something for the boy (Maurice)

who was getting no regular education & whom A.H. Clough thought highly of, that he set on foot a little (very private) fund to educate him, & chose a College for him, Mason's College, Birmingham, as set forth herein - This fund is now *all but exhausted*; & they are trying to raise another sum, also privately, for the purposes ~~as~~ set forth herein also -

I am afraid your Election has been sadly expensive - And very likely you have contributed to Mr. Tuckwell already. But I told A. Clough, when he asked me,

that I thought you would
care to know of the
existence of this need & this
fund. And I hope you
will take no notice unless
you particularly wish it. You
must have enough to do -

I thankfully return Fred's
letter. I have had a nice
little one too, speaking of
Maudie's improvement in
health, owing to autumn
leaves!! & in spite of stuffy
bedroom cars -

With love to all
ever yours

F. Nightingale

And don't kill yourself

9012/250 signed letter, 1f, pencil

Nov 8/89

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

How very, very good you have been,
dear Capt. Verney & dearest
Margaret, to sent £5, such
a good & friendly sum, towards
Maurice Tuckwell's education.
He is a boy who will, I trust,
reward his friends' interest
by his future good career -
He has principle, energy &
cleverness, they say -

Arthur Clough has sent me
an acknowledgment (yesterday)
of your friendly interest for
Maurice. [It is quite a private
fund, known to very few-] which
I was waiting for before thanking you

But I ought to have written
before -
Thank you too, dear Capt. Verney
& dearest Margaret, for your
most kind letters -
& believe me
ever yours

F. Nightingale

I have forwarded, with many
thanks from me to you, Maudie's
Journal to her children.

9012/251 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil, bundle 182

10, South Street,

Nov 16/89

[15:1018-19]

My dear Sir Harry

This letter to you comes
thro' me from Mr.. Fred.

I will add what we know
about that Commander Rawson,
who led our troops by night
to Tel-el-Kebir: & was
mortally wounded by the first
shot - The moment the battle
was over, General Wolseley
galloped back to see after
him - He said: "didn't I
steer them straight, General?"
- no more - He was carried
to the transport - returning to
England with wounded, ~~where~~

our Nurses attending on them -

He lived *more* than a
"fortnight", & they were in
hopes by assiduous care
that he might live to reach
England - But he died
within sight of Portsmouth
before he could see his
young wife with his first
baby yet unborn waiting
for him there - as patient
as he was -

The Queen took much
notice of ~~there~~ her -

His was reckoned a
great feat - the march of the
Army under the stars -

in the pathless desert -

The orders were of course
that there should not be
a word spoken - nor a light
of any kind -

Philip Smith saw one of
the (undisciplined) Bearers
behind, lighting his pipe - he
rushed back himself - dashed
the pipe out of the man's
mouth - all in perfect silence

One sound, one spark
might have betrayed them.

I am glad that Rawson
is remembered.

[end 15:1019]

Mrs. Stewart has been here
to-day - Would we could
hear a better account of
Parthe -

I should like to hear
news of Bricklayer Tomes,
& old Maister King.

ever yours

F.N.

9012/252 signed letter, 1f, pencil [6:660]

Nov 26/89

{printed address:} 10, South Street,

P.H. Benson Esq MD Park Lane. W.

How is Philip Tomes, the bricklayer's truss?

My dear Sir

I have to ask your
pardon for not having begged
for my Acct. before - I left
Claydon rather suddenly, &
illness & business have pressed
me hard since -

We measure Elizth. Hubbard's
goitre every fortnight as you
desired - It remains
exactly the same - Ought one
to do anything? she is in
perfect health -

I use nearly every night the
Iodine Oil for my Arthritic
fingers - But I think the pain
rather increases - sincerely yours
Excuse scrawl Florence Nightingale

How is Philip Tomes the bricklayer's truss [end 6:660]

9012/253 initialed letter, 1f, pen

[3:422]

{dictated: FN's pencil additions in **bold**}

Dictated

10, South Street,

Park Lane. W.

Dec 10. {arch: 89}

My dear Sir Harry

It was so very kind of you
to write to me on your birthday;
I had been thirsting for a letter
from you - May all God's
choicest blessings rest upon you.
May He bless you always, and
He *will* bless you. **He does bless**
you -

I was so pleased to hear of
Parthe's **birthday** present to you, in the
first Vol. of the Verney Papers.

May I send you the record
of a good man - though perhaps
you have seen it already -
Clifford's "Father Damien"?

**I will try & write
tomorrow
ever yours & Parthe's
F.N.** [end 3:422]

9012/254 signed letter, 1f, pencil, bundle 182

Dec 13/89

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

Dearest blessed Margaret

I have heard from Mr.
Fred of Gwendolen's illness
& of your excessive kindness.
they are very anxious,
& especially about the
burden on you - And Maude
is ready to start at a
moment's notice -
I saw your first post-card
from Dinard to Sir Harry -
But I do not know that
you are not at Dinard
again - Dearest Margaret,

I am so sorry - God bless
you

I don't like to give you
one word to write -
but should be so thankful
if some one would write
me a post-card -
ever yours

F. Nightingale

9012/255 initialed letter, 4ff, pen, bundle 182 [dictated; FN's pen additions in **bold**]

[3:422]

Dictated

10, South Street, {printed address:}
Grosvenor Square. W.
Dec 20. 89

My dear Sir Harry

Thank you for your most kind and sympathetic letter. We do not tell of our need for a successor to the vacancy which has so unfortunately taken place, because of course we cannot go outside the circle of those whom we have trained ourselves, in number between 5 and 6 hundred - to take any one who must be comparatively a

stranger, and inexperienced n
our ways -

Nor, even were we inclined to do so, could we possibly impose such an one on the Treasurer and the General Court of Governors, who are our real masters.

We could not give away the blue ribbon to any ~~one~~ but ~~these~~ **one** of our Matrons, ~~and~~ **or** Assistant Matrons, or of the ~~higher~~ trained women who have occupied the higher posts of whom we have many admirable ones, as you know - in different Hospitals in the Kingdom.

But we do not at all like taking away the Head of any Hospital as we did at Edinburgh And so our difficulty is great. ~~The~~ Hospital Administration is nowadays so difficult, specially where there is a large Medical School, and a large Training School for Nurses, that we could not trust the judgment of any **outsider to recommend or of any** but those who know our Women. In fact the one who is leaving us is by far the best administrator we have ever had - ~~in fact~~ she is irreplaceable. And the grand Committee said very truly that

she was the only one who did not throw a suggestion at their heads, leaving them to work it out, but sent it to them thoroughly worked out and complete in itself. I entirely concur in this. I am afraid we shall have to appoint a very inferior woman, but I have only troubled you with this explanation to shew what our difficulties are, and that we do not wish to be inundated by applications from outside. The vacancy was made public on Wednesday and is probably in all the Hospital & Medical Papers

10 South St. Dec 20. {arch 1889}

this week, and we shall be deluged as it is with applications from our own Women, most of whom are quite out of the question. When you think that Hospitals are the only place where Women are in real positive charge of grown-up men, you will realize one of the difficulties of administration. I have seen good Matrons who had not the least idea that they had to set the tone and the tradition to all the Ward Sisters and all the Nurses, and in fact to all the patients, and more or less to the Students, without which Hospitals

had better not exist at all - In fact, in my young days, they had better not have existed at all, neither morally nor even physically.

There is no danger that we shall not give a lady Matron to St. Thomas' - We first introduced Lady Matrons - all our Matrons are ladies - how much more St. Thomas' - And we have lately been consulted by the Metropolitan Asylum Board on this very subject to make it a rule -

Xmas Day Eve**My dear Sir Harry****How can I thank you
enough for your last letter?****Now I shall feel: "It is for
God to choose the Matron -
I am only His servant -****God give you a happy
Christmas: "Glory to God in the
highest & - - - -****"The glory of God is His goodness"
as He said to Moses****Thanks for all you say
It does me good -****I am forbidden to write
but will write again
ever yours & Parthe's****F.N.**

9012/256 signed letter, 1f, pencil

10 South St. Xmas Eve/89

Dearest blessed Margaret

You cannot think how deeply grateful I was
to you for your Telegram & letter -
We are full of business - I am forbidden to write -
And I did not like to write by any other hand -
[I quite knew beforehand that you did not wish
(nor did I) that anything should be said at
Claydon-] I understand Maude is coming home - Is
it so?

May God pour His choicest Christmas blessings

on you & yours this season - [I wish I could write
to every one] - And you *will* be blessed -
Will you kindly give my cards to your 4
with Aunt Florence's love & to Miss
Gwendolen Hughes - if not too much trouble -

Is Ralph with you?
ever yours
F.N.

9012/257 initialed letter, 3ff, pen & pencil {dictated; FN's pencil additions in **bold**} Dictated

10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.
Dec. 89

Dearest,

I am so very sorry, but I have no connection whatever with, nor any knowledge of, the "Hampstead Convalescent Homes." I do not even know their names, not the names of their Matrons, nor have I ever had any patients at any of them.

One, was presented by Sir Sidney Waterton's generosity to St.

Bartholomew's, but St. B. only has leave to send its patients there. The only Convalescent Hospital, which I have anything to do with, is that at Ascot, under the Sisters who were out with me in the Crimea, and were afterwards at Honolulu. They are very poor, and I have a bed there. But I don't at all want to give them a Bust.

Sir Henry Yule died
 last night. Word was sent
 me that he would like to
 hear from me - And I wrote
~~last~~ twice. And he answered -
 He was our faithful friend
 of ~~30~~ 12 years on the India
 Council & on our Army Sany.
 Commn. He was one of the most
 candid & thorough men I ever
 knew - And there was no
 trouble he would not take
 for me - His is our
 second great Indian loss in 3 months
 But he was old - Hewlett was
 in the prime of life - He

has gone out with the Year
 May all God's best
 blessings of the New Year
 be poured on you both -

I am anxious to hear of
 you & of Sir Harry's *cough*
 ever your old Flo
 My love to "Morfy" & her
 husband - to my friend James
 & all her children - My
 New Year's thanks for their
 beautiful cards

9012/258 initialed note, 1f, pencil

2

God bless you & Parthe
 ever your & hers
 F.N.

Don't forget the Coffee before
 you get up in the morning
 {arch: ?89} F.N.

Wellcome (Claydon copies) Ms 9013

9013/1 is HCV note

9013/2 copy of unsigned letter, 4ff, pen, not FN hand, bundle 182

{printed address:} Telegraph Claydon House
Steeple Claydon, Bucks. Winslow
Bucks.

From F.N. Jan. 4. 1890 [5:184-85]

You ask me upon one of the most difficult subjects of the present day, namely, "Is the rule inexorable "by which families where an unmarried daughter has had what they "call a "misfortune" should be "turned themselves (with her) out "of their cottages?" I should rather ask of you = In these days the subject is so much more complicated. Besides, the sin is not in having the illegitimate child, but in the sin which preceded it. And the new doctrine about the connection of the sexes is now, I am told, so wide spread

among the lower classes, that it is quite an open secret. Thus, the great danger is that man & woman do learn how to commit the sin without the consequences. A Public schoolmaster of gentle boys, I mean who has particularly studied the subject, and has succeeded in maintaining purity among his boys, to a degree, I believe that no other Public School does, though many do a great deal, has obtained the most varied information from Ministers, Anglican and Dissenting, and from Roman Catholic Priests, who commonly know more about this than any other ministers,

and he declares that this open secret is more and more extensively practiced among the poor. (You probably know that quite respectable socialists have printed this, and, on one occasion, a very superior book-seller was prosecuted for publishing a book of this kind, and condemned) This appears to me greatly to alter the whole question -

2 The danger of increasing child murder is so obvious that it is scarcely necessary to mention it.

3 Again, it makes the case so different if the woman marries the man. We may

charitably suppose that they intend=
=ed to follow God's law, of one woman
to one man, and it is quite
different if a woman has had
2 or 3 children by different men,
And it is so dangerous if a
woman for her first offence is
condemned to disgrace -
(In all institutions now a differ=
=ence is made between primiparae
and women who have fallen
2 or 3 times - Indeed there
are institutions, as I think, so
wisely, which take in only primiparae
and then help the woman to service
and to maintain her child herself instead
of sending it to the work house. Other
-wise its fate - These women are
generally recovered -

One of our cousins is actually a
prime mover in a division of one
of our vast London workhouses for
this object.)

4 I need scarcely allude to the
nonsense which is talked
among the very poor, about the
honour of being married at
sixteen: which I know leads, al=
=most unconsciously on the young
woman's part, to sin with this
purpose. But this is very dif=
=ferent from the coarse brutish
sensuality which leads men &
women to behave like animals.
You know that very superior
upper servants even, will talk
this sort of jingo among them
=selves "I think it is time
"for Miss [mentioning one of

their Mistress' friends) to go off" -
This means to be married! of
course you know -

All this sort of thing, like the
publications of perfectly respectable
socialists, leads to mischief, without
the poor young thing knowing it is
mischief . And now, when
so many know that the mischief
can be done without the consequences,
this is a very serious consideration -
I am far from thinking that these
considerations are final. I know
how much may be said about
maintaining a high standard
of morality by the Landowner
in his Villages, but I think that
considering the almost promiscuous mixing

- up of young men & women in the Cottage bed-room, and the London one room, this sin is almost inevitable, and I think the chief hope, which it will take 2 or 3 generations to fulfill, is in the better moral education which we may hope to see, and which will prevent fathers and mothers from jesting openly before their young children on the most delicate and sacred subjects in the rooms of the poor.
- 5 The man is not punished , & the more villainous the man, the more he escapes.

From F.N. Jan 4. 1890
 {printed address: upside down}
 Telegraph Claydon House
 Steeple Claydon, Bucks. Winslow
 Bucks.

9013/3 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

4/1/90
 {printed address:} 10, South Street,
 Park Lane. W.
 Many, many thanks for your
 New Year's letter, my dear
 Sir Harry - I pray God
 that you may keep well
 You wrote to me on such a
 difficult subject - I send
 you my thoughts, *such as they*
are - Please consult
 wiser heads than mine -
 And *please return mine*
to me -
 Missions among the poor
 are certainly the thing -

To-morrow my father
will have been dead
16 years -

[1:278]

ever yours & P.'s

[end]

F.N.

Shore talks of the beautiful
clear weather at Embley -
(tho' he has been in bed)
I hope you have had it -
We have been immersed
in darkest fog since
Xmas Day.

9013/4 unsigned notes, 5ff, pencil

p. 1 Mrs. Verney's Notes

I would have this comparison between
a fair child & a leper
at p of the Lecture on the *Parson* [*Person?*]

"A clean skin & a dirty skin the
difference between health & sickness"

p.2

I would have the comparison between
the choked scullery & the choked skin

p. 3 & 5

also these excellent bits on the *Person*

Mrs. Verney's Lecture

"Air, water & soil" "pure". ["Drainage" necessary
to make "soil" pure.

Would you think it well to give here a short
account of what you mean by pure water, soil
& air?

If so, for air, nothing could be better or more vivid
than X Poor mothers really do not
understand about *dirty air* -

Or this might go in at *bottom of p. 7*

"fresh air"

p. 14 ^

But boards do not always fit close - nor bricks either - so that your floor does not dry, little bits fall through ~~yo~~ the ill-fitting joints decaying matter & vermin ~~come out~~ work underneath
Vermin When once vermin infest an old place, it may be without any fault of the housewife, it is extremely difficult to get rid of them

If you have a wooden bed-stead, all cracks & joints must be filled with a thick paste of carbolis [c?] powder or ~~carb~~ common carbolic

All crevices between the planks of the flooring

& the skirting ~~pl~~ boards should be filled with a paste of chloride of lime.

The legs of the bed stead may be placed in saucers filled with water with a little carbolic

Blankets & bedding may be sprinkled daily with Keating's insect powder

So you will get rid of vermin

If you *paper* your bed-room walls, mind not to put a clean paper over a soiled one but strip off the soiled one But the danger of a paper is that you cannot wash it with a damp cloth & wipe it with a dry one -

Oil paint is the best
 Or bricks white washed

p. 15 end

Would you not point out that if *slops* are emptied round or outside the drains, above all if the chamber utensils are, you not only let *damp* instead of *drying* air in thro' your open windows but an abominable *smell* or stink

Whitewash - frequently women can do this themselves
 - learn the proper proportions of white wash
 (glue) P. Turn over

[4]

I should say Miss Rowland was like
a young lady with a lap-dog trying
to teach a sheep-dog its duty
in fetching off a flock of lambs lost
on a bleak Scotch moor

Now Miss you never was a young-man
-lodger, was you?

p. 9 &c good

There is so much that is good

But *Miss Rowland's Lectures*

In any Address the first thing is: to remember

who you are, & who you are speaking to

You are speaking to *poor cottage rural mothers*

- not to High School-girls, who have hardly

any thing else to think of, who have no cottages

& are not poor.

The present Lecture is an improvement in this respect
but *flannel* p.4-7 "what I recommend" is what a *poor* mother
cannot

possibly get or clothe all her family in - as described
here - And *overcrowding* p. 20,22,23 is what she cannot

possibly avoid -

[Dr. Wilson's question was much better -

'What would you do if you had only
two bedrooms & a large family of different
ages, boys & girls?]

There are many other things of this sort:

it is altogether too *didactic* - unsuited

for a *Bucks* family

the mothers certainly won't take advice

for "infants" & drains from *her* - or for drains -

"long robes"

But there are many good expressions -

[Unluckily the Lecture is not paged]

don't say "I think" p. 26 or "commence"

p.7

instead of "begin"

N.B. *Air it* (two little words) would convey

much more meaning than the long paragraph

devoted to this -

omit word "ventilation" but matter good p.p 18 &c

Indigestion is a word which affronts

poor people

"SMALL stays" p. 11 (what does this mean?)

"Waists" p.11,12 good

p.6

I don't know whether you meant at

p. 6 to make a bad contrast to your

good picture at p. 1

9013/5 initialed note, 2ff, pencil

13/1/90

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

My dear Sir Harry

I feel so anxious to know
how you are; & that you
are really condescending to
take care -

One must be so glad
when a short Influenza
cuts short the long sufferings
(from Cancer) of a good
woman like the Empress
Augusta -

I wonder how the Grand
Duchess bears this fresh
loss - They were so attached

You kindly said you had
a letter from her to
send me - But it has not come -

Please thank Parthe for
her Kingsley -

ever yours & hers

F.N.

I hope Miss Farrar
arrived when
wanted -

9013/6 initialed letter, 4ff, pen & pencil, part not FN's hand, FN's pencil additions in **bold**}

10 South St
Grosvenor Sq. W..
16th Jany 90

My dear Sir Harry

I earnestly hope that you will not come up to London, or bring P. up while this epidemic of influenza continues; it is not at all exaggerated, but on the contrary people conceal it, as much as they can for fear of **a shoal of** inquiries - It has

even happened to me to be asked to recommend a consulting doctor, & to be desired to say nothing about **the illness it** - I think it is dangerous especially for country people, to come into the middle of it; it will probably be over in three weeks or so -

I am thankful your cold is better, & I have read carefully what you say about your health - I do feel sure that a little more frequent nourishment is very

necessary for you, instead of the reverse - I should always take a little something at **with a little wine or brandy at 11 o'clock**; the nourishment you take ~~in~~**at** an 8 o'clock breakfast & is quite insufficient to last till a quarter before two luncheon; & I should take something at your afternoon tea or milk, merely a bit of bread & butter, or, better still, a very small sandwich - Your 'Nihilist' is perfectly in the right, You always make a very light dinner, which I am sure is

My compliments to the "Nihilist" - & mind what he says.

right. "Cramp" at night is ~~always~~ **generally** owing to indigestion & to cold - & you take care to keep your feet warm at night? **never to go to bed with cold feet** -

I have ordered some grapes & some apples to go down to you - I think, as you know, that you ought always to take a cup of coffee or hot milk before you leave your bed; & I think a roasted apple is efficacious, taken before breakfast or a few grapes, eaten very slowly; but I hope you sometimes take oatmeal

Lord Napier of Magdala is
 dead - I heard of his death -
 bed - ~~till~~ to the last particular -
 It was for *him* that they asked
 me for a Consulting Doctor, &
 would not let me mention
 the illness - No one will be
 more missed - A fortnight
 before, he was attending his
 friend Yule's death-bed &
 comforting his daughter - He was
such a friend.

I hope Parthe has Miss Farrar
 with her - ~~eve~~

Thanks for the Gd. Duchess'
 letter; but it is written before
 her mother's death

ever yours & hers P.'s

F.N.

9013/7 unsigned letter, 2ff, pencil

[5:185]

10 S. St Jan 20/90

Private

Most certainly this "most
 "painful subject" cannot
 be settled by regard of
 whether one "will be
 "considered weak" or not.

Dean Fremantle is at
 once a man of religion
 & a man of the world -
 And the proposed clause
 in the Cottage Leases is
 very good - But then
 comes the consideration:
 How *can* parents preserve
 their children from

immorality? And the
 temptation to conceal
 will be tenfold if the
 children know that their
 sin will turn themselves &
 family out of their cottage -

I am glad that you
 yourself will "talk seriously"
 to the four cottages
 offending - *That* will
 do more good than anything

[end 5:185]

I cannot write another
 word to-day -

It is a real tragedy
 at St. Thomas' & Edinburgh

I will write again
 Miss Spencer at Edinburgh
 is we believe dying.

I have daily reports

Miss Pringle is gone to
 nurse her.

9013/8 initialed notes, 1f, pencil

[1:398]

21/1/90

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

Accept this bit of paper, dear

Pop, pray
 Affecting letter from Gerard Sellar
 about his father's death - his
 mother's "endless courage" &
 "unselfishness" - "Was there ever
 any one like her?" and Edith's
 care of & to keep little Rosalind
 "cheerful" - The funeral is to-day

Our affairs at St. Thomas'
 & Edinburgh the deepest
 tragedy I know -

your
 F.

9013/8

22/1/90

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

Dear Ellen Tollet is gone -
what a blessed release
for her -

Please return Mrs.
Bridgeman's kind letter
(enclosed)

ever your F.

9013/9 initialed letter, 3ff, pen & pencil {dictated; FN's
pencil additions in bold}

Dictated

{printed address:} 10, South Street, [12:411-12]
Grosvenor Square. W.
Jan. 25.1890

My dear Sir Harry

I should be so very glad to help in the
matter of this poor little half-witted chap
but I don't know of any institution
of the kind, and almost doubt if there
is any which takes in children half-
witted, half-deaf, and half-dumb. If
there were one in London, which took
in those from all England, would they
not require a million beds, and I should
certainly engage a bed for my old age
there. You have no doubt tried the
"Deaf and Dumb Asylum" at Birmingham

which is an admirable one; or the one at Earlswood; and our excellent Pauper Idiot Asylums - one at Darenth of which one of 'ours' was Matron, but then he would have no claim upon a pauper asylum, I presume, and the idiots there are whole idiots.

Do you know whether poor little Clark of Thornburgh has been an epileptic? Because in that case he might be treated as such.

Miss Farrer says that there ~~[illeg]~~ is a Hypnotic Society which treats the poor free on two days in a week - and really appears to do good in cases of epilepsy, nervous disorders and want of self-control

My own idea is that every country or district should treat those unhappy cases in their own institutions, adapting them to the case, and as a rule these children are so much better treated and have such a much better chance when *not* massed together; an instance has just happened at St. Thomas' - (But please remember you must not take advantage of this, and that I couldn't possibly get such a case as you describe into St. Thomas' -)

Our case was this: A boy of eleven, was sent to St. Thomas; who had been dismissed from a Board School as hopelessly stupid and obstinate. They "could do

"nothing with him" they said. The boy could not talk, but made all sorts of sounds. He was not however deaf or an idiot. I suppose he was taken in because of some suspicion of lesion of the brain, but there did not appear to be anything of the kind. No treatment was adopted. But a bright, patient, devoted Nurse was chosen, and lived *night and day* with the boy in a small ward, that he might not talk his gibberish to the other patients **or to any one** She took him out walking and did everything possible to amuse and call him out.

SHE TAUGHT HIM TO TALK IN

A MONTH! She would correct him 80 times if he went on gibberishing. 80 times, and teach him the correct word. You know **that** I think, that this sort of

successful effort might and ought to be made in each district or union. Could it not even be done at Buckingham, where you have nurses **in** a small Hospital. I assure you it is perfectly impossible to use the resources of a great expensive London Hospital in this way, in forming half-witted children (You know that we lost, to my infinite sorrow, our Magdalen Ward, - which, owing to the exertions of the Sisters, was the most successful reforming place I have ever known: - because the authorities said, and said truly, that they could not expend the funds of a big Hospital as a Reformatory. and that they only wanted six beds for the disease) -

I should add

that the boy who now could
talk went back with a letter
~~to the~~ from the Charity Organization
Socy. to his Board School -
The C.O.S. asking the School
master to give the boy now
special instruction - to
enable him to make up
lost time -

[end 12:412]

F.N.

9013/10 initialed notes, 2ff, pencil

8/2/90

My dear Sir Harry

So glad of your note - & about Parthe -
We are so terribly engaged till after Wednesday
- yet I am so sorry not to see you
I am more than full to-day - but believe I
could see you at 4 - for a few minutes - Only
pray do not come - At 4 is already cold -

To-morrow & Monday I could see you (so
gladly) at a reasonably early hour - but am
engaged in the afternoons -

ever yours & P.'s

F.N.

10 S. St

26/1/90

My dear Sir Harry I send you a letter
from Surgeon Major Evatt at Quateak [?], a
very good friend whom I think you
saw once here - I cannot copy it, for
you - Please return it - It is for Mr. Grey
I send it you - I should like to know how he
is.

I still think you had better not come yet -
People who have come up from the country
have taken Influenza directly - But it is
subsiding
ever your & P.'s F.N.

9013/11 initialed notes, 1f, pencil

Feb 9/90 To enquire after Parthe
My dear Sir Harry Very sorry not to see
you yesterday - but it was too cold at 4 -
You will *not* go to church this morning in
East wind? If not, pray come to me *at 12*.
If you *will* go, then at 1.30 - but I think
that will tire you - So I say
at 3 for 20 minutes
for I am much hurried this afternoon

Feb 9/90
Dearest - I should be very
sorry not to see you - if you
think it worth while to be
carried thro' an East wind!
upstairs!! for half an hour!!!
at $\frac{1}{4}$ before 3!!!
I have heavy business
later -
And I must give up Sir
Harry before

Your
F.

[1:398]

9013/12 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

13/2/90

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

My dear Sir Harry

I do not know Lady
Napier in the least, I am sorry
to say. I should think her a
good & generous woman - *not*
remarkable - I am afraid
the sons (like John Lawrence's sons)
are nothing remarkable - How
often this happens!

The elder sons are of
course not hers -

I send you a note of Miss
Yule's - too sacred I thought
to show any one - which will
throw some light on Lord Napier & her - Please
return it to me -

He was a friend & second
father to Miss Yule - She was
worthy to understand him -

She lost both him & her
own father in a fortnight

I would not mention her
of course in any letter
which you write to Lady Napier.

It does no harm to think
people capable of under-
-standing more than they
can - & may especially do
good to represent the example
of Lord Napier to his sons

So I would send your
 letter to Lady Napier
 And God bless you & them -
 I like beyond measure
 your idea of "increasing"
 his "blessedness" by our
 conduct - I entirely believe
 in it - We can increase
 God's blessedness. But it
 is not enough thought of
 ever yours
 F.N.

9013/15 initialed note, 1f, pencil

16/2/90

Burn

Dear Sir Harry

You spoke about Maude yesterday. She
 was to come to London yesterday - & to be
 housed at 92 Onslow Gns - tho' it is rather
 a 'squeedge' The Dinard children's attack
 is a mild one, thank God - I don't know whether Maude
 goes over to them at once -
 Hoping to see you
 to-day F.

9013/16 initialed note, 1f, pencil

I hope you are not worse for yesterday
 Dearest I send Valentine's Meat Juice
 recommended by all the wise men - (& often
 given by me) - Directions on bottle.
 Calves' foot Jelly, without of course an
 atom of Gelatin or Isinglass, flavoured
 with Orange or Lemon, as the Patient prefers,
 I have rarely known refused
 Eggs, I suppose he takes, beat up with
 Milk or Brandy: but they *must* be fresh
 May I send a bottle of Sandeman's very

best Brandy? Mr. Morey knows what I
mean

_____ Tomorrow I will send Bovril -
_____ Chicken Panada is seldom refused.
May I send Miss Beart word how deeply
I feel with & for her?
your F.

9013/17 initialed note, 1f, pencil

12/2/90

My dear Sir Harry You are incorrigible.
You propose 2 o'clock! after Gordon
Boys' Home!! being your hour for lunch
& mine -
I won't see you before 3.15 - & I
have an appointment later -
Perhaps better not come to-day?
F.N.

9013/18 unsigned note, 1f, pencil

Feb 12 {arch: ? 1890}

Oh you indifferent Saint who
takes no notice of this one of your
worshippers -
And I ship wrecked on the De'Ath
shore!
And what am I to say & *what am*
I to think to him tomorrow?
And the four Syllabuses fighting like
starlings for the next 24 hours together!

9013/19 initialed note, 1f, pencil

25/2 {arch: 1890}

Dearest I send Bovril - Squire's which is
better than others -

Could you give me hints about him (Beart's poor friend)
if I could do anything?

He must not take *Orange* or *Lemon Jelly*, of
course, if he has Diarrhoea (with Consumption) -
I should recommend *Chicken Jelly*, made at
home. But *his* taste must be consulted -
your F.

9013/20 unsigned note, 1f, pencil

ask Lady Verney to be so good as to
give me Harry Lloyd Verney's address at
Winchester for Mr. Shore who writes for it
& ask particularly how she is
& whether she went out yesterday
13/3/90

9013/21 signed note, 2ff, pen & pencil [5:358]

Private

{printed address:} 10, South Street,
Grosvenor Square. W. March 15/90

My dear Capt. Verney

I am always so very glad
to hear from you, as you I hope
know well - & particularly on the
subjects which are interesting
you most - I wish you all (the
highest) success both in the
L.C. Council & in the Ho: of C.
And I recognize the value of
H.M.'s Opposition, on *whichever*
side it is, provided it is not
"party".

We are in all the agonies of
indecision & anxiety about the
Army 4 Millions Bill, & the re-organizn.
of the Army Sanitary Commission,
(v. Mr. Stanhope, Feb 27) - also

of the India Legislative Councils Bill
(v. Ho: of Lords)
About your question, Navy from Army diets,
I have known nothing about
ships for long, except *ships*
on *land*, viz. Navy Hospitals
So I asked the best Director Genl.
we have ever had (*Army Medl. Dep.*)
since the first in Sidney Herbert's
time. And I send you a copy
of the "Sanitary Notes" issued
by him for the guidance of
Medl. Officers during the Suakim
Expedition, in which you will
find at p. 6 the *Field Ration*
recommended for that Expedition

He thinks the "Erbswurst", the
so-called "Pea Sausage" of the
Franco-German war very good
for an *occasional* issue on a
forced march .

But, he thinks, the Navy
should not be required to
rely on such portable food.
They fight in their usual *houses*
& can carry with them any
amount & variety of food, he
thinks.

{pencil} Pray give my love to *blessed*
Margaret - & tell her I long
to see her (when she is at
No. 4) - But we are both
always living at high pressure
- And I must take my
chance - I hope she is well
Yes: I always want to hear
what you are about, when
you are so good as to tell
me -

Aunt Florence's love to
each of the four loves -
ever yours affly
F. Nightingale

9013/22 unsigned note, 1f, pencil

Dearest Pop
I am unable to leave my
room - And I have heavy
engagements all day, & am very
ill - but if it *cannot* be put
off, (tomorrow I shall have
time) you know, dearest,
that I will see you -
I *can* only, I am sorry
to say, at 3.30 for
half an hour -
I know how ill you are.
24/3/90

9013/23 unsigned note, 1f, pencil

22/3/90

My dear Sir Harry

I could see you at any hour this morning you please to name. I am quite overdone ~~in~~ this afternoon

You did not tell me whether Mr. Calvert knew any of those names re *Wainwright* -

Please bring Hy Bonham Carter's letter with you -

I send you the address of the Hindoo (Parsee) you heard at Toynbee.

9013/24 initialed note, 1f, pencil

Dearest Would 3.15 suit you?

I have an appointment later in the afternoon -

So glad to see you again
ever your F.

March 30/90

9013/25 initialed notes, 2ff, pencil

March 30 {arch: 1890}

Dear Sir Harry

I am afraid if I see our dear P. to-day, as I have another appointment after her, I shall not be able to see you - but if you are good enough to call in "after church" just to say how you are

F.N.

April 2/90

My dear Sir Harry It is impossible to feel thankful enough that your accident was no worse It might have been so much worse - one recoils to think of it - And I am thankful that by a pure chance, that of seeing P., I ~~did~~ regretfully gave up bringing you up-stairs on Sunday: which would have done the knee harm - I trust you will be quite "good" now -

May I suggest that you should ask a

practised tricycler, Mr. Fred for instance, to-day, or bi-cycler, before sending your letter to Mr. Matthews, how *best to ensure being* carrying your point -

There *is* a bicycle "bell" which I "recognize" distinctly, when it passes in Park Lane - but perhaps this is only after dark - Any how, would it not be well to have such a point quite clear?

God bless you ever - And bless God we do,
ever your F.

It will not signify, will It? not sending your letter till tomorrow

9013/26 initialed note, 1f, pencil

April 3/90

Dear Sir Harry How are you?

Give Aunt Florence's love to dear Ralph -
I wish I had asked to see him yesterday -

I am afraid he will go too early to-day
for me to see him -

I hope Mr. Fred cast some light on
your bi-cycling letter - It struck me it
would be very difficult to make Police

Regulations - not for the holiday bi-cyclers
but - for the hard-working bicyclers -
I see carpenters &c go by with their
tools slung - I suppose living on the
outskirts, or going from one job to another.
- Sometimes men with babies slung,
I suppose for some weary chasing mother.
These artisans will say: if the ground I
can now get over in 20 minutes, I must
take an hour to get over, I must give
up my house on the out-skirts - I must
give up bicycling altogether

Is it not so?

The "bell" is the thing -
ever yours
F.

9013/27 initialed note, 1f, pencil

[3:423]

April 2/90

I thank God, my dear Sir
Harry - So do we all
sorry not to see you &
read this Passion week
day by day with you -

I venture to enclose
to-day

ever your & P.'s
F.

9013/28 signed letter, 2ff, pen

April 5/90
{printed address:} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

Dear blessed Margaret

How good you are to me -
I am so anxious to have
another of your girls that I
write at once to snatch at
"Kate Jones". And I will of
course gladly pay her journey
I believe the "end of the
month" will quite suit me
I will not write to her,
unless you wish it, but
will ask you to be so very good as to speak to
her on my account - I will
begin with "£12 a year", as
you mention ~~it~~ that large sum & raise,
I hope.

I have promised good little
Nelly Owen that she shall
go & see you & yours,
with your leave, when
you return. She has such
true fealty to you all -
And when you were at
Leipzig, she took such an
ardent interest in that time.

So sorry you had to
take Ellin & Lettice to
Liverpool - I hope the dear
souls are all prospering now.

Sir Harry's knee has
been rather a bad business.
Mr. Fred will tell you about
it.

But it is much better -
 And yesterday Morey &
 the footman carried him
 up on their crossed hands
 to see me.

But, yes, indeed! the
 split with Davidson is the
 worst business of all. And
 we don't seem to get out
 of it!

I hope you are enjoying
 lovely Rhianva, & not too
 much overworked - I am
 afraid you are always
 overworked

Great love to all
 ever your affectionate

F. Nightingale

9013/29 initialed note, 2f., pencil

{the first page appears to be pencil traced over with pen}

April 4/90

Crucifixion of our Lord - April 7

Gethsemane: midnight Matt XXVI 30 - 46

1 a.m. 47

-

56

to 6 a.m. 57

-

75

to 9.30 " John XVIII 28 -

40 XIX 1 - 17

Crucifixion 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Luke XXIII 26 -

38 - 43 - 48

(Darkness: noon) Matt XXVII 45 - 49

John XIX 25 - 30

Burial 4 p.m. Matt XXVII 51

-

61

The thing is: for self to die John XIX 31 - 37 - 42

With Christ to-day that we may

rise again with Him on Easter Day

April 9

John XX 1 - 18

Luke XXIV 13 - 35 - 48

Easter Day

Afternoon &

evening

[1]

To-day, Wednesday in Passion Week, was
 Christ's 3rd last day in the Temple -
 (see the 4 Gospels.) April 5

Some of the most remarkable: {Arch: ?1890}
 the 2 Commandments of Love Mark XII 28 - 34

then He appears to have thought
 what will be the greatest temptation
 in all time? Hypocrisy - that is, doing
 things to be seen of men, *outside* formalities,
 making a fair outside
 And

He delivers that terrible denunciation
 Matt. XXIII 1 - 39

Are we Pharisees & *scribes*?

writing what we do not act
 Then with that revulsion of feeling to His
 utmost tenderness - what an effort
 it must have been to Him to denounce !
 comes the "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem!" "And
~~do~~ ye would not!" has He tried to gather
 us a hundred times under His wings? and
 we would not?

Then He leaves the temple for ever,
 but sitting down to rest Himself in the outside
 Portico, where the Treasury was, He, with
 the same tenderness, calls ~~the~~ attention to the
 poor widow, who was in no danger of giving
 to God what cost her nothing

Mark XII 41 - 44

Then, with some disciples, He goes down
 to the Brook Kedron, & up to the Mount of
 Olives on the other side - whence there was
 a splendid view of the Temple of white marble &
 gold - ~~with~~ the setting sun on ~~part of it, perhaps~~
 was magnificent

[2]

Betrayal settled

Matt XXVI 1 - 5, 14 -16

Christ leaves for Bethany
 where He seems to have passed Thursday
 in retirement - returning to Jerusalem
 on Thursday evening for The Last Supper
 to leave it no more.

9013/30 initialed note, 2ff, pencil

Good Friday Ap 7 {arch: 1890}
 My dear Sir Harry Thank God you are so
 much better. But I really dread your
 coming up-stairs to me to-day; much as I
 should like it. Shall we not put it
 off till to-morrow?

I am afraid I shall not be able
 to leave my room to-day - And I
 have a heavy interview with Miss
 Pringle in the afternoon - If I were

down-stairs, I should not think it
 so bad for you -
 Still, if you feel quite sure you
 are right - & *Dr. Morey* does too
 - *I would say 12* -

To-day is the birth-day of the **[3:423]**
 Penitent Thief, he, tho' hanging in
 agony, had so died to self -
 have we? that he was the
 first to see the Lord of the
 Kingdom. in the criminal on
 the Cross looking like himself - **[end 3:423]**

I dread almost your
going to Church
But Dr. Morey will take
care -
If our dear P. comes here
this afternoon, I suppose
it will be about 3.15.
And I could gladly see
you any time you like
afterwards, giving me
a short rest between

April 9

John XX 1 - 18 Matt XXVIII 1 - 10 Easter Day
Luke XXIV 13 - 35 - 48 afternoon &

evening

9013/31 initialed note, 1f, pencil **[8:979]**

My dear P.

Your two maids have been in here half an hour waiting to carry off mine -

I can't let mine go till I know that you approve of yours going - They now say that they are going not to Hampton Court but to Crystal Palace -

You told me you did not approve of so small & young a party going to Crystal Pal -

please, one word -
{arch; ?10 Ap ?1890} F.N.
Easter Monday

{9013/32: Letter from Florence Nightingale Giles} bundle 184

9013/33 signed letter, 3ff, pen bundle 186

"Florence Nightingale Giles"

{printed address:} 10, South Street, April 13/90
Grosvenor Square. W. 8 a.m.

Dear Mr. Morey

Thanks for your letter. I trust Sir Harry is going on well.

In answer to Capt. Verney's **[1:818-19]** enquiry about

Mrs. Florence Nightingale Giles

What I know of her is this:
in January 1888, I think, a woman giving that name wrote to me from *Buckingham* saying that she was born in my Lying-in Ward [we had at that time a Training School for Midwifery Nurses] -that she had married a soldier, had 2 (or 3) children, & they were trying to live on a small fish shop in *Buckingham*, she, her husband

her mother & the children -
that she had worked a
piece of canvas for slippers
for me, which she enclosed.
I asked Sir Harry to enquire
at Buckingham into her
character, in which enquiry
I believe you kindly joined.
I was at Claydon in that month
And Sir Harry was going over
to Buckingham with the
carriage.

The enquiry had previously elicited
nothing but what was honest
& honourable in both
husband & wife. And I
remember that Sir Harry
was particularly pleased to
find that, at a loss to

themselves, they refused to sell
stale fish. Sir Harry saw
the soldier (retired) & was
much pleased with him.

On this day he, Sir H. with his
extreme kindness, said to
the woman: "Jump into the
carriage: & I will take
you to see Miss N." And
she jumped in, just as she
was. I had a long talk
with her, & liked her very
much. I gave her a little
temporary relief, but no
more.

The next thing I heard of
her was that - the poor little
fish shop having failed -
they had removed to London.

And she wrote to me, asking me to find them employment. I would gladly have done so, but it was totally impossible for me, busy & overworked & ill - And she pointed out no way.

The being born in a "Lying in Ward" is not usually an introduction to acquaintance - nor is it usually to the credit of the mother - But it should not operate to the discredit of the child, which certainly could not help being born.

We saw & heard nothing but what we liked about these people, the Giles'. And they appeared industrious, independent, *not* helpless people.

I should be truly glad if

[2]

Capt. Verney thought well to help them in the way indicated.

I return "Florence Nightingale Giles" ' letter: as requested

I hope to see Mrs. Morey before she leaves - My kind regards to her, & love to your little girl.

Sincerely yours

Florence Nightingale

9013/34 initialed note, 1f, pencil

[1:399]

Ap 15/90

My dearest Pop

I wish you would have Sir A. Clark again & tell him all about yourself - I think he should see what you call your bumpuses, & recommend for the dressing of them -

ever your F -

There is a curious fad among some of the best

Doctors now - which I for one believe in - NOT that I ever heard this applied to the dressing

of sore places like yours, alas! viz. that animal & not mineral unguents should be applied to the living body which immediately assimilates e.g. Lanolin which is animal - & not Vaseline which is mineral -

I know it made a great difference to me to be rubbed with Neat's foot oil, - tho' it makes one smell like a fish of not recent extraction - instead of Vaseline

2
You have not got Lecky's England in the _____ century (which Sir Harry is reading) at Claydon, have you?

9013/35 signed letter, 2ff, pencil

Private 10 South St
April 18/90

Dearest Margaret

Thank you very much for your two letters. How kind you are -

I hope you have had a good holiday: & are better & stronger yourself -

My poor sister is very bad. Sir Harry is better than he deserves 'after the pleasures 'of the season' -

I should like to see you for many reasons - not quite pertaining to myself, If some day when you are calling at No. 4, you would take the chance of my being able to see you - - - - -

I send a book which

takes my fancy for either
Lettice or Ruth from Aunt
Florence

the scimitar= bearing
snow-drops are so gallant
But I should like to
alter the title to

Our Father's Floral Feast
& "if God so clothes the
flowers of the field"

May Nelly the kitchenmaid
come & see you some day
& the children she is so
fond of? She is in
treaty for a place with
Mrs. Hunt; but nothing
yet settled -

I accept your
kitchen maid with
acclamations -

I have no cook yet

Ah how I wish you
could write a Botany
Book - without
"families", "sub- families" &

without "genera" It is
for that reason that I
send you this flora-book
without "classification"

Dear blessed Margaret
A Dieu

your loving
F. Nightingale

9013/36 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil [1:399-400]

10 South St April 19/90

My dearest Pop Blessed be
this day that brought you
into this world - Blessed be
God who has given you
such heroism as to make
even joy out of His sorrows
& His beauty - to draw
pearls from His depths: 'de
profundis'. "grace sufficient"
for you as for S. Paul -
His strength made perfect
in our weakness - It is not
when we are strong that we
are strong, nor when we are
weak that we are weak -

To a very young lady who
undertook one of the largest
Workhouse Infirmarys in
the United Kingdom, single=
handed, & has persevered
since for 7 or it may be 8 years
I had to send this morning a small subsidy, & to hope
that she would condescend
to use it as intended,
because the greatest gift
she could give her Infirmary
was her own health -

I don't say that to you,
but I think we are bound
to use all means we can,

May God bless you ! And He
does bless you !

ever dearest Pop
your loving

F.

Do you think there is any
'remission of sins' for
those who destroy the
primroses to-day to throw
them on Lord Beaconsfield?

F.N.

9013/37 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

[1:400]

My dearest Pop Thanks for the magnificent cherry
branch which has already received adulation
enough to turn a stronger head.

I wish you would have Sir A. Clark or Mrs.
Scharlieb, not that I expect miracles, but I
cannot & do not believe that *nothing* can be done
for the cough - And I am so sorry that you
should go out of London without a little ploy -

Do you know the eldest daughter of Lord
Cottesloe who married a Cartwright? What
sort of woman? She recommends strongly the
widow of one of their farmers as a good
{printed address: vertical} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

cook housekeeper to me - And that naughty
Miss Farrer who has been so good to me
says: the only objection is that they
have all such robust stomachs that
they don't know what good cooking means
What do you say ? about a recommendation
from them? ever your

F.

April 24/90

9013/38 initialed note, 1f, pencil

April 24/90

Dear Sir Harry Thanks for your last
night's note. I would gladly see you
to-day at 12, if that will suit you.

F.N.

9013/39 initialed note, 1f, pencil

Do not come to-day if it rains.
But do not send to Mr. Malabari till
you hear from me - I may save you
sending -

I will keep both the handkfs
with your leave - & enclose 5/ -

F.N.

Mrs. Hawthorn
13 Taviton Street
Gordon Square
W.C.

[The Parsee]
Behjamji M. Malabari Esq
c/o No. 3 Delamere St.
Upper Westbourne Terrace
W

Please let me
write for you
F.N.

{written vertically} 25/4/90
{printed address: vertical:} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

9013/40 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

25/4/90
{printed address:} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

Dear Sir Harry
Do you wish to send this
letter of mine to Mr. Malabari?
If so please close & post it, adding
if you wish to fix *any hour*
to what I have said about
you - And please return his
letter to me -

F.N.

Dearest at 3.30 please
if it suits you -
but I am afraid I shall be in
bed -

your
April 27. F.
{archi: 1890}

9013/41 initialed note, 1f, pencil

Sunday {arch: 1890}

Dearest I should be VERY sorry

not to see you if you can
come - I think your coming
should not be later than
3.15. for your sake -
I will try to come down
into the drawing - room -
But Sir Harry comes
after church. And I fear
I shall not be able to go
down -

ever thy

F.

Will this do for you?

9013/42 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

[1:400]

April 30/90

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

My dear Sir Harry

I have telegraphed to Mrs.
Hawthorne: *to-day*. lunch at
1.45. She will not ask to
see Parthe, or keep her in

I am so very anxious to
know how P. is - & what Sir
J. Paget said -

ever yours & hers

F.N.

9013/43 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

May 1/90

Shall I see you to-day at 12, dear Sir
Harry? How is Parthe?

F.N.

{printed address, vertical:} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

9013/44 unsigned & initialed letters, 1f, pencil & pen **[1:401]**

Sunday May 4 {arch: 1890}

My dearest Pop I have thought of you night &
day during this last week -

I have kept to-day quite free - but yet
I don't like your coming out on such a
dirty day - And I am unluckily quite
unable to leave my room -

It was quite a mistake the message
you had yesterday. I was obliged to answer
by telegraph an appointment: & wished
to know what you wished: that was all.

May 5/90

{printed address:} 10, South Street,
{arch: F.P.V. died Park Lane. W.

12 May '90}

God bless you, ever, dearest,
on your way. And He
will bless you.

with love that cannot
be spoken

ever your F.

I hope your Night Nurse is
coming directly

9013/45 initialed & signed notes, 1f, pencil

May 7/90

My dear Sir Harry

I had a letter *and* Telegram from faithful Morey yesterday ~~afternoon~~ evening. She had been down into the Library for a ~~short~~ time, but looked ill.

I was so distressed at your coming twice here yesterday, without my seeing you - I had such a heavy day -

I have kept this morning quite free, if it would be convenient to you -
My kind regards to Mr. Calvert - Yours FN

I sorrow for your suffering more than I can say, & am so sorry you have to go tomorrow
ever your
old Flo

9013/46 signed letter, 1f, pencil

[1:401-02]

10 South St. May 8/90

Dearest, ever dearest I think of you and what you suffer night & day -

Sir Harry was talking a great deal about you this morning. He had been speaking a little about the "papers" & "the book". But, he said, it is "all nothing to her health - She must not do any thing which she does not like - I shall like everything that prevents a moment's hurry to her or bother - She must not do anything to bother or fatigue her - Nothing

“will vex me but her doing that”.

And then came the few tears -
He went to see poor Turnham, as he will
have told you -

Max Müller called upon me on Monday

I never saw him before - He What a lovely
man & manner he is - We talked India.
of course - I rather doubt his being very practical
But he told me an extraordinary story about
the persecution of Christian converts in India which I
shall tell you - O why can't we be all those who
call themselves Christians of one mind?

God bless you -

ever your
old Flo

[end 1:402]

9013/47 incomplete, unsigned letter, 1f, pencil **[1:402]**

May 10/90(9 p.m.)

Telegram from Morey: Parthe *not* better
Blessed Margaret is going on from
Marsh Gibbon to-night to Claydon.
My letter did not find her at Onslow G.
They were at Marsh G. till Monday.
But clever good Lettice opened my
letter & telegraphed my request to her
mother at Marsh G. And I have a
Telegram from Marsh . that she is going on
to Claydon tonight - Blessed Margaret

9013/48 initialed letter, 2ff, pen

[1:402-03]

10 South St. May 10/90
Dearest blessed Margaret

The account of my sister
has been getting worse &
worse every day since she
went to Claydon -

I have just had a
~~Teleg~~ letter from Morey
saying she is worse than
he had ever known her
& in a "very serious" condition

The difficulty is to know
what to do -

3. It would be worse than
vain to send down Andrew
Clark. She attributes her
'worse'ness to him - She

is corresponding, I know, with
Dr. Harper, the Homoepathic
quack; I would
gladly send him down,
quack as I know him to
be, & believes it is the only
thing to do in the *Doctor* way.

2 Her only ~~idea~~ wish is to be
"quiet" - & for Sir Harry
not to be disturbed, or
to come. He will be
here in ¼ hour, but I know
not what he knows, I
believe he dines at
Ly B. Coutts to meet Stanley

Her cough is spasmodic
& I fear to excite her.

Sir J. Paget told Sir Harry

the disease was gaining
on her.

3. *nurses*. They telegraphed to
me (without her knowledge)
to send down a Night
Nurse (hers having failed)

 I did - & the Night Nurse
sate up with her last
night. Account this
morning: "not ten minutes
rest all night"

4 The only thing I can
think of is whether
blessed Margaret
would go down with
or without Sir Harry.

 You are the only person
(who has judgment) that

she would tolerate -

 Perhaps you might
even not see her, but
tell us what to do -

 I think Sir Harry far
from well. His foot is
very bad. He himself is
alarmed at it, but curiously
unalarmed about her -

 Forgive me for adding
to your anxieties.

 God bless you

 Yours ever

 F.N.

9013/49 initialed letter, 2ff, pen

May 12/90
{printed address:} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

Dearest blessed Margaret

Thank you, thank you for
all you have done. You will
never know, & no one knows
like me what good you
have done her these 18
or 19 years - what a
blessing you have been to
her - God bless you; and
He does bless you -

I hope you will take
some care of yourself.
You did look so tired -
last night Thank you
a million of times for
coming to me -

I have had to write several
things this morning, for
Shore Smith is ill in
London with Inflammation
of the kidneys - And I
want him not to know
of this news yet.

So I shall not ask
you to take anything for
me to Claydon, but I
write to Sir Harry by
post. My every thought
& prayer is his, ~~But~~ and he
will have *you* to-night -

But will you say
something to Mrs. Davidson

& Morey for me - they
 have been so devoted.
 And I will write to both
 soon
 To-day is my birthday
 but the better birthday
 is *hers*.
 My very best love to
 Maudie - & to Lettice
 & all
 ever yours gratefully
 F.N.

9013/50 initialed letter, 2ff, pen & pencil

[3:423-24]

{pencil additions in **bold**}

[1:403-04]

 May 12/90
 {printed address:} 10, South Street,
 Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir Harry

 She has "a better morn
 "than ours".

 The last day I saw her,
 yesterday week (Sunday
 afternoon) she who talked
 so little about her religious
 feelings even to me said:
 "I do know that God does
 'everything for the best,
 "tho' sometimes" (with a
 little laugh) "this last
 "London time I did think Him
 "rather hard not to let me
 "see people"

 Then she said: (after
 saying: Frederick wants you
 to put down the last week of

Christ's life) "Tell me some of
the beautiful things He
said those last days"
I am unready, you know; but I
told her some as well as I could.

Then she said: "pray, pray
"that I may have done what
"I ought in London, & now
"that I am going to Claydon
"I may do what I ought there"

It was only one week more suffering.

Then [I could not think.
but that she did not know.
whom she was talking to
But] she was looking at my
print of the Dresden Raphael
and she said: "do you
believe that that infant
[Je] sus was the Saviour of

"the *Universe?* it seems
such a long time for
those other worlds to
wait." And then "O God
send that infant Saviour to
me who need Him so much
in my pain."

And I repeated those few
lines: of the dying child " I see
"The beautiful child Jesus a coming
down to me"

"And in His hands He beareth
~~Those~~ flowers so rich & rare"
And those were love & life -

And she echoed this. & said
two lines I did not know -
the last of which
was that the mother of the

dying child gave ~~him~~ her up
 to Jesus
 "& asked ~~him~~ her not again" -
 THAT IS WHAT ~~she~~ PARTHE SAYS TO YOU
 NOW.

Then I repeated to her some
 lines of Emily Taylor
 "When summer suns their radiance
 fling" which she almost
 always asked for. And tho'
 she was coughing violently
 she echoed every line she
 particularly liked.

To-day is my birth-day -
 But the better birth day
 is *hers* -

You will have blessed
 Margaret with you
 God bless you
 ever yours & Parthe's

[end 3:424]

F.N.

9013/51 torn telegraph form & initialed note, 2ff, pencil [3:423] [1:403]

[Sou]th Audley {office at} 1-35 p.m. {received here at} 1-50 p.m.
 [Si]r Harry Verney

Steeple Claydon Bucks

[m]y thoughts and prayers are
 yours But Christ is closer
 still I write by post
 Nightingale

[2]

Her suffering was over
 sooner than she expected.

Can we grudge it her?
 tho' we shall miss her
 so till we see her again.

F.N.

9013/52 initialed letter, 1f, pen

May 15/90

My dear Sir Harry

Pray take care of your
foot this day & every day
for her sake. Walk a little
if you like, but while
you are indoors, be upon
the sofa entirely - have
her sofa into your
dressing-room, as she
would have liked, &
another in your bed-room
And stand as little as
you possibly can. and
do not get your feet in
the least damp in the grass.
I ask all this for **her** sake.

F.N.

9013/53 initialed letter, 2ff, pen

[1:602-03]

10 South St. Park Lane W.

May 20/90

Dearest Sir Harry

Your dear daily letters
are the comfort of my life -
& that your grief should
be so swallowed up in *her*
joy - & that blessed Margaret
should be with you.

I want to tell you about
a letter I had from Mrs.
Milsom, the gardener's wife,
this morning - how grateful
she felt for all Parthe's
kindness to her. The very
last time I saw Parthe
she said to me:" I am like

“the diver who goes to the
bottom of the sea, &
brings up a pearl he
scarcely knows how -
/ have been to the bottom
of the sea, & the pearl
I have brought up has
been the being able to do
a little good to that little
woman Mrs. Milsom. I didn't want
her gratitude” (with tears)
“only to be allowed to be
a little use”

Mrs. Milsom says in her
letter: “I could not think
of anything I could do in
my gratitude for her Ladyship's

“kindness, so my husband
made a wreath of a few
of her favourite flowers -
some which she so often
gave herself to the great
& poor alike wherever
they would bring brightness
freely given. He placed
it for me beside the coffin,
& if she knew of it the little
offering would give her
pleasure.”

Will you thank Mr. Calvert
for his very kind letter
to me?

Mrs. Davidson & Morey
will mourn for her longest

of those not her immediates.
How much they did for her!
I wish you could kindly
tell me, with blessed
Margaret's help, something
I could give to each of
those two they would like,
about 10 or 15 guineas each,
& something for Beart about
5. The last time I ever saw
her I was struck with
Beart's deftness about her
with that terrible cough-
And Janet too.

I will write again.
May God bless you - & He
does bless you - And thank you
ever yours & hers
F.N.

9013/54 signed letter, 7ff., pen

[1:563-66]

10 South St. Park Lane W
May 20/90
Dearest blessed Margaret
Your letters & Maude's
have been like letters
from heaven to me. How
can I thank you enough?
And Capt Verney & Fred
have been so kind. Sir
Harry says in every letter
with all his sweet humility
what comforts & supports
~~they~~ you all have been to him;
& with regard to *you* he
says (what I am sure is
quite true) that he should

not have known but for
you how the most necessary things
were to be set about -
But I am afraid it must
have been a great strain
upon you settling all
her things. But how
beautifully you have
done it.

Pray do not think for
a moment "of coming up
"to see" me, dearly as I
should love to see you.
I don't believe he could
live without you a day
at present.

And pray don't think
of "bringing up " my sister's
trinkets "to show" me, as Sir
H. proposes, either now or ever.

As far as I am concerned,
I want to think of *you*,
dearest Margaret, as her
'Residuary Legatee'

And I am sure she
would like her children
& grandchildren to have
~~had~~ her things or the best
part of them. She used
to speak to me with tears
of pleasure that you &
Maude made the dear children
think of her as their real
grandmama.

II [2]

But do you know what
occupies me most now
is this: it is Fred &
Maude's share in the/ my sister's
property: it is as if by
some indescribable intense
impression, *not* a voice,
from her who is gone, she
were always saying to
me, night & day: "Pray
'let this be set right: I
'made a sad mistake.
'but I did not mean it" -

 You know that Capt.
Verney has the generous

intention which he told
me, of getting Sir Harry
to make a deed of gift
immediately to Fred, the
income of it to be paid
to Sir H. during his life,
so that his income shall
not be lessened: (*immediately*
because otherwise the
money might be all gone.)

 I consulted her Executor,
Wm Coltman - the letters
passing thro' Hy Bonham Carter,
the her Trustee, that I might
not mis express - And
Wm Coltman replies:

 "12 Old Square: Lincoln's Inn
 "May 17/90

“It is, I think, very undesirable that Sir Harry should make a deed of gift to F. Verney till his affairs are settled. It would only complicate matters & *would not be available against creditors.*

[“I am afraid Sir H. owes a considerable amount &c &c &c]

“Of course there is no objection to Sir H. making a provision for F.V. by will, & *the sooner this is done the better*”

He then says: that this

“view” might “perhaps” “be impressed” on “Captain Verney”.

I have not written it to Capt. Verney, thinking it better to write to you, as your kind letter to me put things so plainly yesterday: I tried to write yesterday but it was impossible

I have no words to say how noble in their disinterestedness F. & M. are - As Sir H. loses his grief in *her* joy, so they lose all thought of themselves in their feeling for *her* - And Capt. Verney in his feeling for her & them. I feel as if my sister were pressing me on

to right this - to try to set things right

[3]

With regard to what you say

that "when F. married,

"it was a very clear

"understanding that Mama

"was to settle something

"upon him, but Papa seems

"to know nothing about it"!!

I think *that* is entirely

defect of memory. (It will

come back to him-) &

as he says "confusion" -

I can bring no proof

of it, but I think even as far back as when

they were still at Embley

after my father's funeral,

there was a sort of

understanding that F. was

to have Pleasley.

Sir H. has continually

told me lately that he

was losing his memory,

that his mind was all

"in confusion". And I

thought it such a test

of his angelic temper

that; instead of being

impatient with himself

or with others, he said:

"I *pray* that it may

not cause inconvenience

to others"

I cannot but feel (morally)

sure that Sir H. knew all about

it. (the proposed settlement on Fred.)

As for my sister, she told me distinctly herself about her intention. And I cannot, I believe, be mistaken in thinking that *within the last two years*, that is *since* the Will drawn up by ~~the~~ Mr. Farrer, she again mentioned it, in rather different terms.

She never talked to me about her affairs, except sometimes about the worry of them, & how anxious she was to keep up society for *him* (& all that) while he lived.

She was essentially *not* a woman of business - but I cannot the less be mistaken in remembering these intentions - And that is why I am so anxious they should be carried out *as hers* -

I doubt not that she is thanking God now for the tenderness & affection her husband's family are showing her, & hoping that Sir H. will put things straight -

Otherwise her joy in "home" would be so dashed

[4]

I cannot, indeed, I cannot,
say in words but only in
heart my feeling of intense
thankfulness, &c to God, that
he should have a family
& such a family about him
not only at such an hour
but always - cheering &
supporting him like that
Angel in Gethsemane &
with as little thought of
self & showing such great kindness
to me.

all might have been so different

You tell me what Mr.
Robertson says - & I am
afraid the Executors are
sadly aware of the debts -

I do pray as you said that you may
be supported thro' all this bad
time, worse than death

You are very good to ask
me for a list of her friends
& relations to send some
thing of hers to - I will
tomorrow & return your
List.

May I put down first the Shore
Smiths whose unfailing
goodness to my dear mother
for several years was
the comfort of *her* life -
But they will want only
very little things, *close*
remembrances of Parthe,
Shore is poorly at Embley -
Would you kindly give my
love to Mrs. Davidson & Beart
& my kindest regards to
Morey? I am going to write

to them

You know where all her
note-books are in the
Library - better perhaps
than I - if Sir Harry
wants them -

I had a charming little
letter from your Harry - before
he heard of this - but
the bats, my dear, (please
tell Mr. Calvert) - he
likes School very much
but it's the bats that
makes School delightful -

God bless you
ever yours gratefully
F. Nightingale

9013/55 unsigned letter, 2ff, pen

10 South St. Park Lane W.
May 22/90

I thank God for your
letter with all my heart
& soul, my dear Sir Harry,
& especially for the "benefits"
as you say, that He has
"conferred" upon you (&
us all) in our dear
blessed Margaret. And
I am sure you have
found the comfort, in
giving her authority with
the female household, of
her "ability, quickness &
"thoroughness", as well as
of her "goodness & kindness"

(in your true saying)

A word from you, of course,
is necessary to give her
this authority-

She will then be able
to carry out all you wish,
(& *she*, the dearest of our
hearts, who is gone home,
would have wished;)
& as you say you "could
"never have contemplated
"her-Margaret's doing all that she
"now does", you will find
that she can do yet more
Thank God a thousand
times that she is with you,
as you so wisely & tenderly say.

II “Sarah Buckley”
whose letter I return,
is, I suppose, the sister
of that Miss Buckley, for
whom you worked so
hard - the daughter of
Major Buckley - Major B.
was the man who
worked so hard in
days when Soldiers’
Institutes & Coffee-rooms
were ~~not so much~~ little
thought of in establishing
the Institute & Coffee-room
at Chatham shortly after the Crimean War which
still exists. He set it

on foot with little help,
 spent nearly all he
had upon it, & died.

 He left two daughters,
one of whom an Invalid.
For this daughter you
laboured long to get her
a pension &c. And I
laboured a little too, but
not like you

 She now only asks
to give you her sympathy -
 [I always enquire of
Mrs. Hawthorn about
Major Buckley’s Soldiers’
Institute]

9013/36 (2) {this is the numbering, jumping from 9013/55 back to 9013/36}
initialed letter, 1f, pencil

May 23/90

Dearest blessed Margaret

It is an inexpressible relief that Sir Harry has put it into Capt. Verney's hands, aided by Robertson, to look into all his affairs, instead of going on with "long confidential conversations" with Morey.

I cannot at all judge of course as to your engagements - But I know it is possible for the housekeeping & management to be in one sister's hands, relieved from time to time & she enabled

to go away by one or other of other two sisters
This was successfully done by my Aunt at Embley's 3 daughters for 14 or 15 years -

I do not think it would do for Morey to have the headship of the household - He has already complained of having this sort of thing put upon him - He could not manage the women - But you are the best judge

I am surprised at what My. says of Mrs. B - But I believe it is a rule with servants - which I never knew broken but once successfully - *not* to speak against each other.

She would do well under your management
I hope you have Capt. Verney with you now & the dear children to whom my love -

The Exors. here are clearly of opinion that my sister's will was simply influenced by the state of their affairs -
No ill-will at all -

About my coming to Claydon, as you kindly suggest, it must depend on what *you* think best for him - in haste

of that another time Yours ever, ever, F.N.

9013/37 (2) unsigned meditation, 1f, pen **[3:424-25]**

[hand printed]

Have / passed the wonderful passage
from death unto life - to believe in God and Christ
as really my Father, my Master, and *my* nearest
Friend - to be about my Father's business
as His servant and His child - to accept the
forgiveness He has brought, the salvation
He has offered so full and free *to-day* -
to-day to offer myself in return to be
trained n His ways and His business?

Do I *prove* His willingness to give me
His holy Spirit by asking Him for that
great gift many times a day?

Do / prove the greatness of His love?
and ask Him to make us love one another
as He loves us?

{written}

Sir Harry Verney

Whitsun Eve 1890

{arch: 24 May} {printed address, vertical:} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

9013/38 (2) initialed letter, 2ff, pen

10 South St. May 24/90
Whitsun Eve

My dear Sir Harry

I like to think (with joy,
if possible; for should we
not find joy in the relation
God's Infinite goodness
puts Himself in with us?)
of to-morrow, Whitsun day
when we may ask for
His Holy Spirit - & must
believe that we shall
receive it, if we believe
at all in Christ's promises
-especially where we read
about them on the very
last night of His life
in John XIV, XV, XVI, XVII.

that "our joy may be full" -
& that of our dearest one
who is gone home -

To-morrow we may have
the Holy Spirit which
gives us a "right judgment
in all things", & may rejoice
in His comfort: His strength,
as the *comfort* really
means-

we may have the Spirit
of love, joy, peace, *long*=
suffering to which the
peace is attached, goodness,
gentleness, faith, meekness
temperance -

So I give you joy -

& I believe you partake

in this Spirit already.

I will not write more to-day:
While we ask for His spirit,
we offer & present ourselves,
our souls & bodies, to Him,
for Him to make use of,
with all our hearts -
as I am sure *she* did.

With the tears streaming
down her cheeks, ~~she~~ her
dear worn face - she said
how she trusted God was
accepting her way of
bearing His dispensation
of pain.

Now God has turned
those tears into His

choicest gift -

I send what you wished
to have, the M.S. prayer
at the end of my
Thornton prayer book;

I have still your
sister, Mrs. Cunningham's
M.S. Prayer book, which I
will return.

Great love to all
those about you from
Parthe & me

ever yours & hers

F.N.

Take care of your foot
Lord Northbourne called here,
asking particularly after you -

[end 3:425]

9013/39 [?] (2) {edge of paper torn}

initialed, incomplete note, 1f, pencil
business

How could I not have
sent these Lists before you
so kindly asked for?

F.N.

27/5/90

Mrs Verney

9013/40 (2) signed letter, 4ff, pen

10 South St. May 27/90

{one page at least seems to be missing}

Dearest blessed Margaret

You must be crowded
with painful business
this week.

Still it is a great relief
that Capt. Verney with
Robertson has made out
a financial statement.

Sir Harry writes to me:

"I am so happy to have
"Edmund here x x as
"well as my dear Margaret,
"my sheet anchor," as he
well may call you.

As for me, you know

that all I can want is
to be in the same story
with you, with you all,
when I am to see Sir Harry.
You are all, I believe,
coming to London on
Monday. It will not
be convenient, probably,
to you to come & see me,
as you kindly propose,
at least on Monday
afternoon - Nor will
dear Sir Harry probably
begin upon his plans with
me on the first interview -
But if I could hear from

you what you would
wish to be said, what
you think, before I see
him the second time, then
I should have the comfort
of thinking that I was
only echoing & supporting
your ideas & wishes
with him That would
be the answer to my prayer
to "have a right judgment
"in all things". Don't I
pray that prayer?

[2]

live at Claydon Ho; & then
she would have no
influence in the household,
as I had fondly hoped.
But here too I shall of
course follow your lead -

As you say, nothing I
suppose can be done
till the accounts are
wound up.

Sir H. speaks of his
happiness in the "2 daughters" -
Dearest Margaret
au revoir, I hope - In

another Envelope I enclose
to you - well may Sir
Harry call you his
sheet anchor - a letter
received here addressed
to my sister. If Sir
H. wished it, I would
of course open any such

I hope you have Fred
there - I saw dear
Maudie yesterday - she
will do everything that
can be needed
"as a gentle rain from
"heaven"

My love to all -
& please to Davidson &
Beart.

Goodbye lovely daughter
of God.
ever your loving

F. Nightingale

9013/41 (2) initialed letter, 3ff, pen

May 29/90
{printed address:} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

Thank you again for
another letter from your
dear hand & heart which
I always take as coming
from hers too, my
dear Sir Harry.

If you are coming to
London - but I hope you
will not do too much - I shall
keep all the time free
that you can give me.

And thank you for
pressing me to come to
Claydon You know that

it will be dear to me -

I am sure that it will
be a great satisfaction to
her that the business which
you kindly speak of as *not*
"wishing to delay", with Wm
Coltman, is accomplished.

Yes, indeed: there is
much to be done; but I
trust that you delegate
much to Capt. Verney &
blessed Margaret.

It was said of Richelieu
(by Sir James Stephen, the
Evangelical historian)
that the great art by which

Richelieu did so much was
that he knew how to
"multiply himself" (by
delegating to others.)

And you must not
wear yourself out.

I don't think that
"Time" diminishes grief -
on the contrary. It opens
out fresh springs of
grief - but of joy too,
divine joy - It brings
heaven down to earth,
like Jacob's ladder.

I had a long, very
long letter from the
Grand Duchess, written

before she knew of our
grief & our joy - she
speaks of her own losses,
father, brother, son & mother,
as if they had but just
happened. She is
heavenly minded. I
reserve it for you -

Thanks for yours from
her - which I will return -
Auf Wiedersehen, I hope -
Pray remember *she* tells
you not to fatigue yourself
too much.

The very last day I
saw her I had had a
letter with a seal =

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

"*Domine, dirige nos*" -
& showed it to her -

So you say now, & so
I say -
ever yours & hers
F.N.

Thanks so much for the lovely
May & lilac -
I have had a letter from
Henry Cunningham, depicting
her to the life. He judges
her truly -

9013/42 (2) initialed letter, 2ff, pen

[1:666]

May 29/90
{printed address:} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

Dearest blessed Margaret

I cannot thank God
enough that this settlement
of the Derbyshire property
is effected. It is an
unspeakable relief - not
only for the sakes of
Fred & Maude - but for
the sake of her who is
gone who I am sure
demanded as well as
meant this settlement -
She could not have been
happy without it -

I am sure too that it

is a relief to Sir Harry -
He writes rather in low
spirits that his retirement
is coming to an end (I
hope it is not) but he
says with his sweet
candour that there
was this important
business to be done -
which it was his "duty" to
do at once - & that he
is sure he should have
gone on delaying &
delaying, - unless Wm
Coltman had come, whose
visit was therefore

“peculiarly acceptable” to
him.

Fred is evidently very much
relieved. I think those
two, F. & M., have behaved
like two angels - & I hope
their wings will grow -
Thank you a thousand
times for your dear letter -
I do wish Sir Harry indeed
would delegate more to
you. But it will come -
He

Would you be so very good
as to add *Lady Ashburton's*

name to the *List* of those
who would be so pleased
to have something of
Parthe's. We have known
her since we three were
in our teens- & after
ourselves, I don't think
there was a greater
lover of Parthe's - I ought
to have remembered it before.

Loving love to all of
yours - from yours ever

F.N.

I “kissed”, as the children say,
your scrap telling the good
news.

I didn't like to look at her laburnum
out of the window before -

9013/43 (3) initialed letter, 2ff, pen

May 31/90
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir Harry

God speed you in
London. I am glad
that you are not going
to the Guards' dinner -
I shall send to Mr.
Calvert's on Monday
afternoon to know whether,
if you are not tired,
you will come here
to see me. How much
these little weeks have
contained. We have
much to talk over-
not altogether, thank

God, melancholy -

This was the week of
the Holy Spirit - May
we have received it in
the full measure which
God has promised to
them that only ask it - to
comfort & to bless.

We have felt so much
for poor Morfy - It was
so terrible when she was
expecting her child home -
May God comfort her

forlorn heart & fill it.
God bless us all -
ever yours
F.N.

Thanks for the enclosure
in your letter -
You do not say what
train you come by
on Monday

9013/44 (2) initialed letter, 2ff, pen

May 31/90
{printed address:} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

Dearest blessed Margaret
The hardest work
always comes upon you:
because you have the secret
of God - But I think
it is less hard to stand
at the cannon's mouth
than to see poor Morfy's
terrible grief - I pray
God for her & that you
may not be much the
worse - I suppose when
God said to S. Paul: I
will shew him what
great things he will have

to suffer for my sake; He
 meant it as a great
 gift of His love -
 Sir Harry seems rather
 to dread coming to
 London: he says what
 an efficient help, what a
 comfort & advantage
 Edmund ~~has been~~ is to him -
 & how very precious
 your presence & his are
 to him -

I am afraid we
 shall all tear you to
 pieces.

God bless you
 ever with great love
 for you & yours

F.N.

The grand - daughter has
 followed the grandmama
 in little more than a
 fortnight - But I question
 whether the younger couple
 loved so well as the elder -
 or were more like bride
 & bridegroom - or so much
 to one another -

But for Parthe I often

think of your words about
 Emily: you said -
 "how much she must know
 now: how much she
 must have enjoyed"

9013/45 (2) initialed letter, 4ff, pen

May 31/90
{printed address:} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

Dearest blessed Margaret

I am so sorry about
Ruth & your anxiety.

I was in hopes when the
drains were put right
that every body would be
well. We shall not
expect you on Monday.
But I hope that there
is no further cause for
anxiety.

Poor Morfy - how terrible
is her sorrow - You deserve
to be made much more
than a V.C. But I believe

God has His little choice
diadems, & C.s of His
own for those who lead
a forlorn hope as you
do in comforting His
poor creatures -

As for my coming to
Claydon, I only answered
Sir Harry in the vague,
because it seemed like
a brute to take no notice
of his invitations - But if
I came, you don't think I

meant to turn you out of
the Blue Room.

I shall see him now, & I
don't think I could come
"soon" to Claydon.

My feeling is this: I don't
think when you & yours are
there, he wants me so much.
And dearly as I should like
to be there with you, I think

it would be better for me
to come when you must
be "in the House", meaning
the Ho: of C.

possibly when poor Morfy
is there, *if* she comes to
Claydon after a bit.

We shall see: it will
all shape itself.

I hope to see Maude
a bit.

This awful month of May
I have not done my duty
to St. Thomas', which, as
you know, has a new
Matron - & must try to
do it next month -

[2]

The things which puzzle
one most are not
these private griefs -
but when God takes away
an Emperor Frederick,
or allows a Miss Pringle
to turn Roman Catholic -
What could He do better
in any of His worlds than
leave them where they
were, to work for Him?
Yet the Grand Duchess
of Baden has faith that
God was right in taking
away almost all her family?

I think most of Sir
Harry, for I have been
used to roughing it:
he has not - and but
for you I believe he
must have sunk -
He has been so happy
with you & Edmund -
- I hope we have not
killed you amongst us -
I look forward to seeing
you -

I do not say: God bless
you: for He *is* doing it
every day - ever yours F.N.

I wish I might hear
what news of Morfy
& what of dear little
Ruth

F.N.

9013/47 (2) initialed letter, 2ff, pen, black-edged paper, bundle 185

June 7/90

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

Dearest blessed Margaret

I long to know how your
home anxieties are: Capt.
Verney, Ruth, Lettice.

You were so good as
to say that you would
come to me again anent
Sir Harry, who comes to
London again early on
Tuesday, as you know -
Possibly you may be
going to Claydon today
till Monday. But could

you see me again before
Tuesday. It would be
a great guide & comfort
to me - as you always
are to everybody.

I would make any
hour of any afternoon
before Tuesday that
suited you suit me -
except I am afraid
this afternoon - tho'
even this I could at
say 6.30.

How is poor Morfy?
How much there is that is
pitiful now - on all sides

But

I remember that to-day
is the 7th, the day of the
month of the Crucifixion
- & so of the Resurrection
& the Life

ever yours
F.N.

9013/48 (2) initialed letter, 1f, pen, black-edged paper

June 10/90
{printed address:} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

Dear Sir Harry

You kindly say you
will come & see me,
Will you not say what
time this afternoon?
But do have a little
rest & sleep first -

Auf Wiedersehen
yours & hers

F.N.

9013/49 (2) initialed letter, 1f, pen, black-edged paper

June 11/90
{printed address:} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir Harry

You played me false
yesterday -

But shall I not see
you to-day? And if
so what time?

ever yours & hers
F.N.

I have no Morey to
ask of how you are
- and the foot?

9013/50 (2) initialed letter, 1f, pen & pencil, black-edged paper

12/6/90

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

My dear Sir Harry

I hope as you said
you will see a Surgeon
before you leave London

I shall expect you
at 3.15 as you
kindly said

ever yours & hers
F.N.

9013/51 (2) initialed letter, 3ff, pen, black-edged paper

June 12/90

{printed address:} 10, South Street,
Most Private Park Lane. W.

Dearest blessed Margaret

I feel as if I were
always adding to your
anxieties, instead of,
as I so gladly would,
doing anything to help -

Sir Harry consulted Mr.
Croft, the Surgeon, this
morning about his foot.
& expressed himself to me
as "very glad he had
gone".

This afternoon Mr. Croft
writes to me - He begins
by saying that Sir Harry
himself *must* "not be

alarmed"

He goes on: "His feet
are both rather swollen:
the right one seriously
swollen

"He is quite unfit to
"take any exercise. he
"should rest & not walk
"or ride.

"I have persuaded
him to forego his
"gymnastics(!) and riding
for a few days until the
swelling has subsided.

"I have instructed a
"footman (!) how to apply
the lotion which I have
prescribed.

"I feel so strongly that his
friends ought to be
warned that I write
to you.

"At his age the present
state of things may be
aggravated into a very
serious state by want
of rest & care -

"I have carefully
avoided frightening him

He then asks me what
he ought to do - but
in fact desires me
to "warn his family"

"He ought to have some
one to *mother* him! and

“doctor him!”

[This note crossed one
from me asking Mr.
Croft to put down on
paper full particulars
which could be sent
viâ me to Morey for
him to act on.]

I shall tell Mr. Croft
in the morning that I
have told you.

Of course I leave it to
your spirit of wisdom
& goodness whom you
will tell - only remarking
how often Mr. Croft
repeats to me (indirectly)

[2]

Not to tell any one who will
alarm Sir Harry.

I have given Fred a
hint of the state of the
case, but will write
to him more fully.

I am sorry that Sir H.
has written to poor
Morfy to come to
Claydon.

and Mr. Calvert is going
there tomorrow -

God guide us -
ever yours, dearest
Margt., F.N.

9013/52 (2) signed letter, 1f, pen, black-edged paper [1:603]

June 13/90

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

My dear Sir Harry

You were so good as
to speak to me yesterday
about the Pleasley Coal-pit

The dates are these:

The Colliery started 1872

My father died Jany 1874

Parthe's Will 1875

The Colliery was then
in full operation.

Property including
Pleasley and Coal-pit
&c left to you for life
remainder to Fred

absolutely: ever yours & hers

F. Nightingale

9013/53 (2) signed letter, 1f, pen

[2]
June 13/90
{printed address:} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

Dearest Sir Harry

We were talking yesterday
of whether *she* could see
us - of what *she* would
have liked.

If she could speak
to you now, nay she
does speak & says:

"Harry, keep quite
quiet, do not walk,
do not exert yourself
- for *my* sake, Harry,
don't."

ever yours & hers
F. Nightingale

9013/54 (2) initialed letter, 2ff, pencil, black-edged paper

June 14/90
{printed address:} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

[13:99]

My dear Sir Harry

Thanks for your kind
note about Mrs. Turnham
which I received last night.
But as soon as you went,
I wrote for a Nurse, &
sent your sovereign - But
when the Nurse arrived,
the sister entirely declined
allowing the Nurse to stay
- saying 'she would not
'have a stranger about her
'now' - I confess I entirely
share in this feeling - and

you know dear Davidson
& Beart did -

4.45 p.m.

I have heard this moment
that the poor Patient is
still alive, but quite
unconscious.

There is a friend who
sate up last night, &
helps the sister by day.

The sister was very
grateful for your money.

The Patient is quite
dying.

[end]

I will not write more
now, but only say - how
grateful we are to you
for condescending to *rest*.
Pray go on doing so. It
would be Parthe's wish,
you know -

ever yours & hers
& with best love to
blessed Margaret & the
children

ever your affectionate
F.N.

9013/55 (2) initialed letter, 2ff, pencil, black-edged paper

June 14/90

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

Dearest blessed Margaret

God reward you for going
down with the dear Patient -
- I am afraid It was very
inconvenient.

You see you are doing
miracles already. Instead of
going out "in a Bath chair",
I thought he would rush out
before tea, & rush out after
tea, & perhaps walk to
East Claydon to see some poor
person -

I too have much more faith
in you & Morey than in Dr.
Benson, & if you like to "try"
what you say

& "report progress", I will
willingly be the intermediary
between you & Mr. Croft
who is extremely interested in
the case. He has twice written
to me to express his "immense
"relief" that Sir H. is now
under your care. He
repeats what he said before
that 'without *absolute rest*
& *the best care* "gangrene
"of the toes is to be feared"
[I believe Sir W. Savory
said much the same thing
to Morey - adding that it
would prove "fatal", which
is what Mr Croft wishes

us to understand]

I never felt a greater
relief than when your kind
Telegram came - that
you were going with him
God bless you - & yours -
ever yours gratefully
& lovingly

F.N.

I hope Capt. Verney is
with you now.

9013/56 initialed letter, 1f, pencil, black-edged paper

15/6 {arch: 1890}

Sunday

{printed address:} 10, South Street, [13:99]
Park Lane. W.

{the rest is written at right angles}

My dear Sir Harry

Now, *are* you keeping quiet?

Yes, you *are*, for Parthe's sake -

The Nurse has just been up here -
Poor Mrs. Turnham is still alive
& partly conscious

They accepted the Nurse to
arrange & make her comfortable
this morning - And she is going

to sit up with her to-night -

I have provided what was asked
for

She takes nothing but Brandy
& water now -

The Dr says she may still
last 2 or 3 days -

God bless you all
ever yours & Parthe's

F.N.

9013/57 initialed letter, 1f, pencil, black-edged paper

16/6 {arch: 1890}
{printed address:} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W. [13:100]

My dear Sir Harry

Poor Mrs. Turnham is at
rest: rich Mrs. Turnham -
She had a terribly restless
night - the Nurse sitting up
with her at their own request
& the others going to bed -
She fell asleep at 9 this
morning as peacefully as a
child:

Nothing could exceed the
kindness of Miss Pyne of
Westm Hospl. in sending & watching
for the moment of being of
use with Everything was provided
the Nurse

I will write tomorrow

ever yours F.N.

9013/58 initialed letter, 2ff, pen, black-edged paper

18/6/90

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

My dear Sir Harry

Could you spare St.
Thomas' some flowers
for Monday? not all your
small beautiful flowers
but big showy flowers.

Because we are sad -
& yet I don't think we are
sad - we don't want St.
Thomas' to enjoy himself
less -

The flowers should be
at St. Thomas' by
Saturday afternoon,

addressed to
Miss Gordon
St. Thomas' Hospital
&c &c

I will write again
about other things
God bless you
ever yours & hers
F.N.

{on the bottom of a smaller piece of paper, line cut off}
instead of 35 -

Thanks; I don't take anything
in shawls between black
& the gorgeousest rainbow.

9013/59 initialed letter, 1f, pen, black-edged paper

18 June/90
{printed address:} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

Dearest blessed Margaret

Could you spare me
half an hour any time
this afternoon or this
morning least
inconvenient to you
to talk about Sir Harry
& what is to be done
for him with Mr. Croft?

I am so sorry about
your linen exertions
with all your troubles -

Ever with great love
yours F.N.

9013/60 initialed letter, 2ff, pen, black-edged

June 19/90
{printed address:} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

My very dear Sir Harry

You know you promised
to be good when I
ventured to say that
you "held your *foot* in
your own hands."

I am so disappointed
to have to tell you
that Mr. Croft says
quite peremptorily
that Sir Harry has not
yet sufficiently recovered
to run the risks & the
fatigues of the journey

to London on Monday
& the Meeting. The risks
are too many & too great,
he says.

And I concur -
Now you will concur too,
will you not?

I have seen Parthe so
terribly distressed when
she feared something
of this sort. You and
I often think that
she sees us now -
You would not distress
her now, I am sure -

The Nurses will miss
you, but they all would
be so anxious if you
were to come -

Now will you not
write a line to Hy
Bonham Carter saying
that you are advised
& you feel that you
ought not to come on
Monday. We should
be all so grateful to
you & *she* would too -

God be with you
always yours & hers
F.N.

9013/61 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil, black-edged paper

June 20/90

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

Dearest blessed Margaret

I had a Telegram from
Claydon early this afternoon
that Sir Harry *will not*
come to London -

This is an immeasurable
relief -

Mr. Croft's opinion ~~was~~
founded on the report
from Morey which I had
asked for; was quite
positive & full - the gist
being that there are
already elements/symptoms of danger
in the foot - that the
journey & the meeting

might aggravate the
condition so as to
precipitate a fatal illness

I had followed your
advice & asked Mr.
Croft to point out the
symptoms of danger which
Morey was to look out for
These I transmitted to
Morey, but Morey's report
(which preceded this)
showed that these
already existed.

Sir Harry wrote to me
that he was coming - & to
Mr. Croft that he would

see him. Mr. Croft replied
that unless the feet were
free from these symptoms
- which they are not -
he must *not* come -
putting it in positive
terms -

I wrote, as I mentioned, to
Maude, to Morey, & to
Sir Harry himself yesterday

I hear from you that
Sir H. has seen Dr. Benson
- I am rather glad
because Mr. Croft has
reiterated so often that

he ought to see some
professional man - And
I shall now tell Mr.
Croft that he may
write to Benson as he
offered - if he wishes it -
It was impossible for me
to neglect Mr. Croft's
positive opinion - which
was not more alarming
than Sir Wm. Savory's
- only Savory did not
follow *his* up - as Mr.
Croft has done -

God bless you & EDMUND
my love to him
ever yours F.N.

9013/62 initialed letter, 1f, pencil, black-edged paper

June 21/90
{printed address:} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

Thanks, thanks, dear
Sir Harry - you are
very good - We shall
miss you more than
we can say at this time

But you know *her last*
wish would be that you
should not run any risk -
She would say: "get well,
"my Harry, first - & then
"go & see them all" -
ever yours & hers
F.N.

I shall think of Gwendolen
saying hymns to you on
the lawn to-morrow -

9013/63 signed letter, 2ff, pen, black-edged paper

June 27/90
{printed address:} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir Harry
Very many thanks for
your note.

With regard to your
going to Quarter Sessions,
on your own showing
my poor foot is quite
unequal to that or any
sort of lark of the kind:
You are not yet a lark.
Do pray take care of
my poor foot. As long
as that numbness or
:deadness in some parts"

continues, with *any* pain
in standing on it
you must not really
tempt Providence, for all
our sakes.

Think how it would
distress our Parthe -
It's her foot & my foot -
Now, be good, and a
little longer

I will write again,
but if you don't do this,
I fear I shall have
to cut your acquaintance.
God bless you

ever yours & hers
F. Nightingale

9013/64 initialed letter, 2ff, pen, black-edged paper

July 5/90

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

My dear Sir Harry

I think this Inscription
on Gordon is admirable,
bringing out the lessons
of his life, glorious lessons
& almost unique but for
his Great Master & St.
Paul - in simple & beautiful
language - and not
breaking in upon those lessons by
hits at any Government
or any man - "In perplexity
"He endured as seeing Him
who is invisible". What a
lesson to all of *us* !

I hope they will adopt
this Inscription for the Gordon Boys' Home
intact without alteration -
It is *saturated* with Gordon's
spirit.

We had an almost
uninterrupted rain
with shifty N. wind all
to-day - And I kept
thinking of you & the Nurses
But Maudie was so good
as to assure me that
tho' cold it was *dry* with
you. And I have no
doubt they enjoyed
themselves hugely -

But it was whispered

to me that Sir Harry celebrated
the occasion by standing
about as much as possible.
I fear this was not
figurative. Mr. Croft
only promised future
liberty conditionally on
good behaviour.

I have had a beautiful
letter from him - He says
he is as anxious about
you as a man in charge
"of a most valuable jewel."

This it is which makes
his attendance so different
from any one's else - his
intense sympathy with his
Patients -

Aunt Florence's love to
all your dear & precious
family.

God bless you all.

F.N.

9013/65 initialed note, 1f, pencil, black-edged paper

8/7/90

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

Margaret the beloved, dearest

Thanks for your dear letter -

Could you appoint a half hour
to see me, not very inconvenient
to you? ever yours

F.N.

9013/66 initialed notes, 2ff, pen & pencil

July 16/90

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

My dear Sir Harry

I shall expect you
as you kindly propose
"at 6" today.

& shall then hope to
take any time convenient
to you for to-morrow, besides,
as you say

God bless you

ever yours

F.N.

9013/66 July 19/90
{printed address:} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir Harry

I hasten to send you
those two lovely books -
- Lettice Lisle
- Llanaly Reefs

Her very best, Stone Edge
is, I am sorry to say,
quite out of print. But
I know you have a copy
at Claydon -

My kindest regards,
please, to Mr. Calvert -

I am writing to you at
more length
ever yours & hers F.N.

9013/67 initialed notes, 2ff, pen, black-edged paper

July 25/90
{printed address:} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

Dearest blessed Margaret

I only refrain from
asking to see you, because
I know how busy you are.

Is any one going to
Claydon to-morrow, by
whom I might send
a parcel

ever yours
F.N.

I return your sister's book of
prayers with many, many
thanks - dear Sir Harry -
Thanks too for the D. of
Westminster's letter.

& for the photograph
I will write by post.
19/7/90 F.N.

except *between 4 3.30 and 5.30*
or 6 on Monday?

And oh Margaret the
beloved - what am I
to give *Morey* - And
who will order it?
Yes - the "muddles" are
sometimes "wonderful"
He was very variable
when I saw him in
London - One day he
had made his foot so
much worse with

wagging about all day
that he voluntarily had
Mr. Croft in a
second time -

God bless you & yours
ever yours
F.N.

9013/69 initialed letter, 2ff, pen, black-edged paper

Claydon August 13/90
{printed address:} ~~10, South Street,~~
~~————— Park Lane. W.~~

My dear Capt. Verney,
my dear Edmund,
I am told by Margaret the
beloved, & by Maudie that
I may trouble you with the
following: it is if you
would be so very good
as to buy a clock for
Morey - a mantle-piece
clock - (but NOT a carriage
- clock in a case) - something
rather pretty, but above all,
of course a *good* clock -
something from 10 to 15
guineas - or more, if you
think proper. It is my
present to him in remembrance
of my sister for whom he did

so much - [Things have
delayed my present]
And if I may I will send
you an inscription for it -
They are longing for you at
Rhoscolyn - I hope Margaret
will stay there as long as
she can - She wanted rest
very much, as you will
tell me -
Sir Harry is wonderfully
better - but restless - (& much rather
~~troubled~~ miserable about Madagascar).
Am I troubling you too much?
ever believe me your
affectionate

F. Nightingale
(Aunt Florence)

In loving remembrance of Parthe Lady Verney - **[1:404]**
To William J. Morey
with Florence Nightingale's grateful regards
on behalf of her for whom
he did so much
as servant & friend
to the last
Claydon House - May 12 1890

9013/70 initialed letter, 4ff, pen, black-edged paper

Claydon August 13/90
{printed address:} ~~10, South Street,~~
~~————— Park Lane. W.~~

Dearest blessed Margaret

Thank you so much for
your letter.

I must invent a new
language to bear it in upon
you that you *must* stay
& rest in God's name at
Rhoscolyn at least a month.
And I pray *Him* to tell you
so. Yesterday Sir Harry
talked about you, & I took
occasion to hold forth a
little - He said, in ~~the~~ his
strongest & sweetest manner,
"she must rest - she must
not come here till she is
quite rested - she wants
rest more than I can say."
"I shall not expect her to come

“here till she is quite able”
& he went on that for several
minutes - I said: “ I shall
tell her you say so” - & he
said: “O yes - tell her from me.”
He will write to you many
times to ask when you
can come - But *THIS* is his
settled serene conviction
& desire - that you should get
strong

I think his foot is very first
satisfactory - But nothing
can exceed his restlessness.
I don't know that I ever saw
anything like it. Because he
used always to be quiet
with me. Now he is not.
And Madagascar drives us
mad. As Miss Pringle said:
“God must take a good deal
of care of Sir Harry for he

“takes none of himself”

He has had no faintness
lately. [Of course I consult
Morey before giving these opinions]
He rides - & is not the worse.

Poor Morfy, I am sorry to say,
is coming on the 20th (with
Harry, Morforwyn & a governess)
- sorry on Sir Harry's account.
Her letters to him are as if
she were 'off her head',
poor, poor soul! And Mrs.
Daniel goes on the 20th
It would be very desirable
if we could have a lady he
likes here - But we search
in vain. And at the same
time he is always trying
to ask gentlemen, gentlemen
whom it is quite out of the
question he should ask to
such a party. And we are always
on tenterhooks.

Now you will see there is
 nothing to make you uneasy,
 because I put the picture
 before you all in raw colours
 And all we want is: Mrs.
 Hawthorn being abroad,
 somebody like her - & not a
 gentleman, unless somebody
 who will take care of him.

As you said: his is the
 étiquette of heaven, but
 not of earth .

Gwendolen who is, as you know, **[1:729]**
 very sensible, (when one can keep
 her off poor death beds, & Kathleen's
 salvation) talks to me about
 your Harry -how patient an
 observer he is of bees & flowers
 & insects & birds - And, she says,
 he writes stories - You have no
 time for your singular vocation
 - instructing in plants &c - to my

[2] [on smaller piece of paper]

eternal sorrow. how much
 I hope that Harry may
 turn out an observer,
 writer & teacher on the
 habits & customs of
 plants & flowers
 insects & birds -

[end 1:729]

I must stop -

God bless you. God
 speed you

Aunt Florence's love to
 all four. & most of all
 to yourself

ever yours

F.N.

Tho' I speak of Sir Harry's
 restlessness, yet I constantly

recognize something you
have said to him which
he has laid to heart &
made his own
And he has just sat
1 ½ hours quite still
talking to Mr. Higham
& me - Mr. H. having
just given him & me
the Sacrament.

F.N.

Sir H. is going to try if
Mrs. Daniel can
stay after the 20th.

Lettice has twice sent
Miss Crossland flowers
who was so pleased.

Our Nurses at Buenos
Ayres safe - by Telegram

Thanks many, many
about the remembrance
of Parthe.

9013/71 signed letter, 1f, pen, black-edged paper

Claydon August 17/90
{printed address:} ~~10, South Street,~~
~~————— Park Lane. W.~~

My dear Capt. Verney

Thank you very, very much
for your great kindness in
sending me four clocks from
Mr. White, of Cockspur Street,
to choose amongst, for Morey

I have chosen one
which stands thus in the Invoice
"Louis XIV in tortoiseshell case,
"brass mounts, striking on gong
"(Foreign) £9. 15. 0"

And I have written to Mr. White
telling him this - also that you
will be kind enough to give
him the inscription to put on
it - on the front under the dial.
His four clocks will all go back
to him tomorrow (Monday)

Sir Harry tells me that there

are hopes of seeing you here
this week. I think
he is wonderfully well -

I hope you are too -

Thanks again

Ever believe me

Your very affecte.

F. Nightingale

I suppose Mr. White guarantees
this clock to be a good go-er?

F.N.

9013/72 signed letter with envelope, 3ff, pen black-edged paper [5:358-59]

Claydon August 19 20/90
{printed address:} ~~10, South Street,~~
~~Private Park Lane. W.~~

My dear Edmund
I am so glad that you are
here -

Thank you very much for
your very, very kind note.

But be those C. Hundreds
far, far from you! The
general but *not* recorded experience is that
men who achieve an early
brilliant success in the
Ho: of C. do not become
useful ministers to their
country - & that those, who
do so become, have often
been failures *at first*, or
thought themselves so, in
the House.

E.g. I knew a man who was offered the Chancellorship of the Exchequer in his twenties, in consequence of his immense success in the Ho: He wisely declined, saying: 'he had weighed himself in the balance & found himself wanting'. He was never of much use.

One would say that one element of success is: - failure - But another is: not to do things for success. A hero is one who does not aim at success. [Gordon was a hero: Parnell is not.]

To know how many of the best Cabinet Ministers have been failures at first in the Ho: would surprise any one.

[I have lived a long life & been much behind the (political) scenes - tho' *extremely not* political)

I would say: if I might - go on & prosper on what you call failure, i.e. experience *Know* the Ho: It has what is called a "queer temper" - has it not?

I don't want to rob Sir Harry or Claydon or Robertson

of your time to-day -
But if you have five
minutes to spare between
3 & your departure,
give them to me, please.
ever your affecte.

Aunt Florence

I feel like a crab who
has taken possession
of a beautiful shell
& turned out the
rightful inmate
in this charming Blue
Room full of sunsets.

F.N.

[envelope] black-edged
not immediate
But have you 5 min. to spare
this afternoon?

Capt. Verney M.P.

20/8/90

9013/73 handwritten copy of signed letter, 4ff, pen, black-edged paper

Copy August 28/90

Manchester Gordon
Boys Home
Sir,

I trust to your kindness to forgive an overworked Invalid for not having answered you sooner.

The work you are doing at Manchester in rescuing boys "had up" for their first offence from gaol is one of overwhelming importance. And yours is, as far as I know, the first or the only one of its kind.

Forty years ago, Sir John Herschel in his review of Quetelet on Probabilities, propounded to us that the *results* of punishments

was a subject we ought to study with careful statistics before legislating.

It is astounding that a practical nation like the English should have done this so little.

We have a vague idea that 75 p.c. of the boys committed to reformatories for a first offence is it? *are* reformed.

We have a vague idea that 75 p.c.? (say) of those committed to gaol return there again & again, some ending by being hung.

But as far as I know yours is the only machinery in England which, profiting by the First Offenders' Act, attends at the Police Courts, the fountain head,

& offers the magistrate the means of carrying out the Act successfully. May every blessing attend your work!

I pointed out, in a P.S., I think, to an Article of mine in Fraser, I forget how many years ago - that it was a complete *non-system* that, because a boy your watch, {word omitted} he should be supported on your rates in gaol perhaps for life, & suggested that he might be made to work out the price of what he stole.

This was answered, not by pointing out the too obvious practical difficulties, but by saying that the "punishment" would bear so unevenly on different cases.

That the punishment of gaol is not deterrent, experience too sadly proves. But "punishment" is, perhaps, not a word in God's vocabulary at all, & if so ought not to be in ours.

It would be of immense importance if you would again & yet again, keep placing before the Public the Statistics, well worked out (not the ordinary superficial ones) of the influence of punishments on crime, of that of Gaols v Reformatories on Juvenile offenders.

It has been truly said that *Crimeology* is much less studied than *Insectology* - that the age, the charge, the

[2]

sentence of all our convicts at their *first* conviction were no where known, or at least not easy of access.

Criminal Statistics could only be of use if supplemented by what might be called Criminal 'Social Physics' & their practical application.

Might I ask if these data are now known or easily procured?

Might I ask what sort of proportion of Magistrates make use of the First Offenders' Act - or of the Reformatories where the case to be tried comes within that scope?

You do not perhaps find that your boys come from the

Workhouse?

It is another subject of research: do paupers & the children of paupers return again & again to the Workhouse? in what proportion do the *same* names appear generation after generation on the books - even from the separate excellent Union Schools?

Is it to be feared that the girls especially are so little prepared for good domestic service, that they do not keep their places but fall into sin, return to the Workhouse - & there they are, - ruined by a first fall?

[2a]

Do you know a little (not new)
unpretending book, called "The
Gaol Cradle"?

Would you kindly send a copy
of your "*Brief for the Boys* (Police
Court Mission) to Capt. Verney RN
MP (if you like it, putting a mention of my
name in the corner)
and two or three copies to me?

There is, I think, a Congress
in Belgium next month on
Reformatories, is there not?

I could write much more
but I must cry for mercy. I have
no power of following up this subject
tho' that of Social Physics has

interested me all my life. But
for the last (nearly) 40 years I have
been immersed in two objects &
have undertaken what might well
occupy 20 vigorous young people.
And I am an old & overworked
Invalid. I beg your acceptance
of a mite of a sum. Asking
you kindly not to give my
address.

God bless you & your work
& multiply it 1000-fold
your faithful servant
"Florence Nightingale"

Alex Devine Esqu
Gordon Boys Home
Chester St.
Manchester

9013/74 initialed note, 1f, pen & pencil, part not FN's hand, most is

[pencil, not FN] Sept. 2. 90

I should like to invite
Mr. Devine of the
"Manchester Gordon Boys
Home" to come and
spend a day here, to
talk over with you the
subjects of your Letter.

Would you like this,
or not?

H.V.

[FN's reply begins here, ink]

There is
nothing I
should like

so much as to talk

over with Mr. Devine
all that great subject
or rather to hear his
experience.

The "First Offenders'
"Act" was passed thro'
the Ho: with great
difficulty by Mr. Howard
Vincent 2 or 3 years
ago *after* 2 or 3 years'
struggles in Parl.

I do not know Mr.
Devine at all. But I
believe he is the first
or the only one who

has as yet worked
a successful experiment
on that Noble Act.
- soul-saver.

He must not come of
course while you are
away.

The address he gives,
as you know, is

Alex. Devine Esq
Gordon Boys' Home -
Cornbrook Abbey
Chester Road
Manchester

I don't know whether he

lives there -

How are you?
And *what time shall*
I see you to-day?

F.N.

I will study M's
letters & yours
{pencil} I have now read them
through twice & will
when you come
talk them over with
you F.N.

9013/75 initialed note, 1f, pen, black-edged paper

Sept 8/90

My dear Sir Harry

Will you give my
kindest regards to Mr.
Calvert, & my earnest
hopes that he is better
& will further benefit.

F.N.

9013/76 initialed note, 1f, pencil,

10/9 1890

My dear Sir Harry

Mr. Devine has felt the
rest of this green & beautiful
place (from the Police Courts
& boy Office work of Manchester)
independent of the pleasure
of knowing you

Does he stay to-day?
or till the afternoon?

Will you have the
Church open for him?

F.N.

9013/77 initialed note, 1f, pen, black-edged paper

Is Morfy going to stay the night? or when
does she return? {arch: Sept. 16. 1890}

Dearest Margaret

The year before last I *think* Mr. **[1:819]**
Battersby took a deaf Claydon boy
to an Aurist in London - [The Aurist
sent him back - said 'nothing could
be done for him']

Would you think well to ask
Mr. Battersby? He took the boy to
the Aurist's own house. And the Aurist
was a man of note - F.N.

I am telegraphing

9013/78 initialed note, 2ff, pencil, black-edged paper

16/9 {arch: 1890}

Dearest Margaret the beloved

I am so distressed that I
cannot recommend an
aurist at once - The man
I knew is dead.

The chief Dr. of the
"Throat & *Ear* Hospl." was
recommended to me - But
I have not his name here.
Perhaps I may come at it
before post time -

You see all the *chief*
London doctors are away
now holiday-ing - there
are only seconds left - But
I think I will telegraph

to some one x, the best I
can think of, & ask for the
"best Aurist *in London*".
It is so important -

Sir Harry went to an
Aurist - last year, I think.

Morey would probably
know *who*, & his address.

x The worst of asking
Doctors is that they always
try to push juniors -

No, dearest Margaret, my
best "comfort" which
you are so good as to
think of would be:
you - there is so much to
talk about - It is I who
am afraid of tiring *you* -
Anytime before dinner,
unless you are engaged
with Morfy, I should
be so glad to see you, if
you would fix a time
& be so kind
ever yours

FN

9013/79 initialed note, 1f, pencil, black-edged paper

18/9 {arch:?1890}

Dear Sir Harry

If you like to send me
your letter to the Times
now to read, unless you
are reading it to dear
Margaret, I think I
should be of more use
if I had read it
first to myself

FN

{arch note: see 6.10.90}

9013/80 initialed letter, 2ff, pen, black-edged paper

Sept/90
20 7 a.m.

{printed address: Claydon House,
Bucks.}

Dearest blessed Margaret

What a trial for you,
but not a sad trial, not
sad. There is always joy
for *you* in every thing -

I trust that you have
not been up all night with
dear Harry. To you of
that wonderful experience
with Lettice in Germany
I feel it impertinent to say
a word: only I know that
God is with you always -
I wish I had a servant
at South St. who could be
of use to you -

I told Sir Harry last

night about your having
 Dr. Pritchard - but not
 about the operation. [He
 was fidgetty -] I don't yet
 know what it is - I have
 not yet said a word to Ruth.
 She told me about her
 longings to be a Nurse - but
 I talk about birds & not
 Nurses.

[1:725]

I went into the Library
 & saw your 4 writing tables,
 blinds up - & Mrs. Broadhurst
 at work on the sofa-cover.
 - all so cheerful - but no
 roses. [That is my fault]
 Yet I thought of *her*.
 The Spring Rices are come.

I told Ruth about your
 teaching me botany - She
 says Harry knows more
 Botany than she does. But
 she knows about leaves &
 pollen & bees. And we asked
 one another: do wasps
 carry pollen?

[end 1:725]

We hope to see you &
 Harry on Monday so much
 Postman here -
 Miss Walker not poorly but
 has tooth-ache.

God bless you & Harry
 And He does bless you
 ever your loving
 F.N.

9013/81 unsigned letter, 2ff, pen, black-edged paper [1:819-20]

Sept 23/90

My dear Sir Harry I am happy to say
that I have a very long letter from
Mr. Devine, & grieved that the cause of his
silence is that he has 5 lads in Scarlet
Fever. His housekeeper was away on holiday
His mother & sister away. He had no
money for a Nurse. so nursed them
himself night & day. The money (the
£10.10) came just in the nick of time.
For he was actually hard up. And he

thanks you gratefully -

His love for his "lads" is really
like that of a mother. He never
thinks them de trop but is really
"in love & charity" with them each & all x

On Thursday there is a meeting of
the City Justices - to consider the
money question for the Home -

x one of the sick boys was a prostitute's
child

He cannot get away till after all is
settled. but he is very anxious to
get away

I should think in his present state of health, he
might fall an easy prey to any disease

Sir Harry Verney

9013/82 initialed note, 1f, pencil

25/9 {arch: ?1890}
Dear Sir Harry If not too busy,
will you not read this to dear
Margaret this morning? & tell
me what she says

F.N.
I have included Dean Fremantle's
beautiful letter

9013/83 initialed note, 1f, pencil, black-edged paper

Sept. 25/90
Dearest Margaret
You are going to have the Q. of Roumanie
Of course she must have these rooms -
But I suppose she will bring 2 ladies
& a gentleman at least - & maids & men
And you will be very full - And you
will want to ask people from London
to meet her besides.

Honestly, don't you think I had better
clear out to South St., whither I *must*

go very shortly -
I should be miserable if I were
in Sir Harry's way - & yours
ever your
F.N.

heavy day tomorrow
before you.

I always think on
Michaelmas Day
of the great bronze
statue of the
Archangel Michael
on the top of
Castel Sant'Angelo
at Rome beyond
the Bridge -

[3:426]

It is such a grand
manifestation of the
protecting power of

God - There should
be no anxiety or
care -

F.N.

Encourage a little
perspiration. And
don't put your arms
out of bed, please.

9013/86 initialed note, 1f, pencil

2/10 {arch: 1890}

Dearest Margaret Sir Harry has been
drinking tea with me - he had, he says, a
very considerable bleeding of the nose when
he was out riding - I made him lie down -
but when he sate up again, it began
again. He is now gone downstairs into
his sitting-room. Morey is out - & George is
out.

I believe what is wanted is quiet.
You will know best whether somebody ought
not to go & see after him? Fred is come - F.N.

9013/87 initialed note, 1f, pencil

3/10 {arch: 1890}

Dearest Margaret Young Arthur Clough, (the idea of whose coming Sir Harry most kindly welcomed), will send his *bag* from Oxford by a train 3.8 at *Claydon* to-day - & he will joyfully arrive on his bicycle not later than 4 to-day -

Perhaps somebody will be good enough to go for the BAG It won't be a ton weight

You will settle when you like him to come up to me - P. Turn over

I had a most instructive hour ~~with~~ from Capt Verney yesterday which I hope may be repeated - I trust he is *very much* better to-day - But he ought not to have come up yesterday -

And you are going to the lecture this evening!!

ever your

F.N.

9013/88 initialed note, 1f, pencil

4/10 {arch: 1890}

Dearest Margt.

Do you think Sir H. is very poorly? He has had nothing, I believe, but a little warm milk - says he does "not want his breakfast" - but will be "down in ½ hour" - He is, I believe, not up - Don't trouble to answer this to me -

I shall know you ever yours

are doing all -

F.N.

He lost "a good deal of blood from the nose" in the night -

9013/89 initialed note on pale blue envelope, 1f, pencil

Capt. Verney

Do you like just to look at p. 1 of enclosed letter, one of the many Sir H. has had in answer to his in the "Times", & return it to *me*, please? F.N.

6/10 {arch; 1890}

9013/90 initialed note, 1f, pencil

Thank you for lending me this pamphlet so interesting - especially bottom of p. 10 & 2nd half of p. 16

F.N.

Capt. Verney R.N.

9013/91 signed letter, 2ff, pencil **[5:230-31]**

Claydon Oct 6/90

My dear Capt. Verney

Very many thanks for your yesterday's talk & this morning's note -

I should like to know Mr. Trevarthen, of Red Hill, of all things -

I hark back to a most interesting subject -

Mr. Barwick Baker - a great authority if ever there were one, - thought a *first* imprisonment a good *deterrent* - the suffering of plank beds, &c &c I suppose

Mr. *Devine* of Manchester who knows his boys (as Sir John Lubbock knows ants), says that the deterrent character of prisons is taken away *by being there* - They are grateful to him for *saving* them from prison, which is terrible *on the horizon*; but when they have once been there, they no longer wish to be *saved*.

[Plank beds, &c are more comfortable than railway arches & starvation]

He has sons of solicitors &c who take a railway journey without a ticket to be put in prison

Where are our Statistics?
Where are those of criminal careers?

Sir John Lubbock knows the moral characters of ants & wasps so intimately that one is doubtful whether he is talking of insects or of men & women - he knows even when "she" (the ant) likes her afternoon tea -

Cannot we know a little more of criminals' careers? instead of ants'?

You kindly told me

some of the difficulties.

Mr. Devine has agents
all over England, by
whom he sifts the truth
of criminal boys' stories -

What a subject of national
interest - Crime-ology -

God bless you
ever your loving
Aunt Florence
(If I may say so)

9013/92 initialed letter, 2ff, pen, black-edged paper [3:426]

Claydon Oct 7/90
{printed address:} ~~10, South Street,~~
~~Park Lane. W.~~

My dear Sir Harry

Will you give my
kind regards to Mr. Calvert
& thank him for his visit
yesterday. I hope he is
pretty well this morning

I never forget what
he said about: 'Except
the Lord keep the city,
the watchman waketh
but in vain.' x x 'And
so He giveth His beloved
sleep' - If we really
'commit our way unto
'the Lord', we are sure

that we are in the
hands of Infinite Love,
- that His care of us is
bounded not by our
littleness but only by
that Goodness which *is*
Infinite & that we
may trust that whatever
He does ~~with~~/in us is the
best - & whatever we
do in Him He has
directed for the best.

We do often ask
ourselves: Is He pleased
with us? But we
must also ask ourselves

Are we pleased with
Him?
F.N.

9013/93 initialed letter, 2ff, pen, black-edged paper

Claydon Oct 7/90
{printed address:} ~~10, South Street,~~
~~Park Lane, W.~~

Dearest blessed Margaret
Good speed, tho' the
day is bad. God speed
Bangor.

1. I am afraid the
Monumental designs
are still here. They
came before you did.

2. My cook completes her
3 weeks' learning at
Travellers' on Saturday

The Chef tells Fred:
Elle n'est pas paresseuse
mais elle n'a pas
l'intelligence très

'développée; - and
'je ferai mon possible'.

I hope she is not one
of those of whom the
Secretary says: 'there are
'some women who would
'not learn in a whole life-time
tho' under the Chef.'

3. The letter you brought me
yesterday from "Edmund"
was one of the many Sir
H. has received on his
letter (rather yours) in the
"Times". I wanted to show
it you - but shall do so
when you come back -

I am so bursting with questions
to ask you - that I have to
make a selection each time.

Ever yours	I have the
	happiness
F.N.	of seeing
	you -
	God bless you.

9013/94 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

46 17/10 {arch; 1890}

Dearest blessed Margaret

You always bring a bit of heaven to me -
Could you write that letter you proposed to the
Birmingham people, saying about Sir Harry's
cold & weather, & that they *must* have some-
body else in readiness, in case he cannot come
to their Bazaar, which is, I imagine, not a "case"
but is or ought to be a certainty.

2. The book I sent you (Derrick Vaughan) Ellin
confided to me she had begun to read some=
=where, & with your knowledge, & had never seen

the book to finish it - I remember in my own girlhood the same thing - the agony I was in to finish a little life of "Madame" (Henriette d'Angleterre - sister of Charles II) by a contemporary French lady, & never saw again till I was 50 when it had no charm -

I don't know if you would approve it-D.V. for Ellin - It is, I believe, Edna Lyall's idea of a *hero at home*, like your little girl of 12 - [How I should have liked to tell that story to Parthe] However, here is D. Vaughan.

3. I know you would have told me if you had heard of Vortigern -

4. I have written down what you told me last night of the lessons we should put to Sch. Board children & shall gradually ask for more -

You are going after Learning tonight - (I hope not in a storm) - *May I see you before you go?* your loving

F.

9013/95 initialed note, 1f, pencil

46 17/10 {arch; 1890}

Dearest Margaret

I hope you will remember my education & let me see your Shaksperian Essay - & also Lettice's this morning -

If dear Ellin's virtue prevents her going to Winslow to-night, will she let me pay her a visit in her room? "A virtuous woman" &c.

Sir Harry was very hoarse when he came in from Church yesterday morning -

I hear the Bell tolling for poor old King - old man' & 'poor King" no more -

your F.N.

9013/96 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

46 18/10 {arch; 1890}

Dearest blessed Margaret

I am afraid that I must go so soon that it is hardly worth putting your kindness to such an expence of trouble -

About last night, I am sure Sir Harry did get very cold - And I was quite unhappy about it. It was entirely my fault - If I had put his chair at the corner of the fire with the lamp behind it, as when he is taking tea - what with your splendid screen, I don't think he would

have been cold. And the fire was low - And I ought to have had seen to a *coal* fire - & shut some of the shutters.

And the Cedar room with all your labour about *her* papers, I *could not* disturb that - nor *your* room or *his*.

I am afraid I must leave this now blessed place in 3 or 4 days -

I am a very meek "Lion" - not a "roar"er now. Accept my unworthiness, my love & gratitude

Your F.

I hope your Lecture was successful
God for ever bless you -
Did *you* give Digby's "Nepal & India" to Grandpapa? It is most interesting. Is it quite correct?

Shall I see Capt. Verney this afternoon? or tomorrow?

And what time may I see you?

9013/97 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

21/10 {arch; 1890}

Dearest Margaret

I had 1003 questions to ask you
yesterday & only asked you 3 - So I go
on: A. have you had a "nice answer" from
Mr. Smith of Birmingham?

B.

What is your Prescription for camphorated
spirits to the chest for a cough? I practice
in that line but not successfully - Lizzie
would take your orders, to save your
writing -

C. My god-daughter

[1:725]

is to practice whistling intervals - It is
not "vulgar". she does not whistle: My
wife's at the Marquis of Granby" - Perhaps
she is a great whistling genius. I never
heard any body do it before - like a great
singer practising difficult
not intervals ever your loving

F.N.

9013/98 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

23/10 {arch; 1890}

Dearest blessed Margaret

I am so very grieved for both your troubles - God grieves for our troubles like a heavenly Mother as well as Father, & sees us all safe through as earthly fathers & mothers cannot do as they would

I hope the Dentist will set you free -
As to dear Ellin, if it would be the least satisfaction to you to have me here

while you are at Lpool, I can see my way to staying. Sir H. must be paramount for my sister's sake -
And I am sure Maude will come for a little - tho' perhaps not next week.

But we can talk all that over tomorrow, please God.

I am so sorry, so sorry - But I know you cultivate joy.

Thank you so much for all you have done. It is beyond thanks - in the midst of all you have to do -

I do not say God bless you,
for he does bless you & goes with you always -

Au revoir
ever your loving

F.N.

I am afraid Sir Harry *will* go

9013/99 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

25/10 {arch; 1890}

Dearest blessed Margaret

You know the spirit of wisdom and of
pure joy depart with you -

After having been in the highest spirits,
Sir Harry was so low & looked so ghastly
last night - & said he "wanted no dinner" -
but did have some

1 and 2 were the great troubles - and I
could do so little to "advise" him

I trust you & Capt Verney will advise him

before you go on the K. of Belgians'
letter -

& also if you can on No. 2 -

I assure you I know no more than a

sucking pig how to give good counsel.

ever your F.N.

Good speed for Monday

Sir Harry's troubles last night 25/10/90

1. The King of Belgium (African Slave-trade)
wants him to bring "English public opinion"
to make Holland *not* object to the "Congo
"State levying "a few" "import duties" to pay "a
"police force" - see King Leopold's letter to
Sir H.V.
2. Mr. Calvert writes: "Mr Western says that
you & your wife have lived upon your
capital" -
3. What has Sir H.V. done about Bot: Claydon School

extension & grant?

9013/100 initialed note, 1f, pencil

28/10/90

O dear Sir Harry - you gave me the slip
when you were so very good as to come
up here (with grapes), I jumped up &
opened the doors, but could not catch you
May God bless your coming out &
going in - & all you do

is the fervent prayer of

ever yours & hers F.N.

You will promise to have Mr. Croft at Mr.
Calvert's - It is better -

9013/101 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil, black-edged paper

Oct 31/90

{printed address:} Telegraph Claydon House,
Steeple Claydon. Bucks. Winslow,
Bucks.

My dear Sir Harry
You were feloniously
intending to go to Stowe
to-day. But you see
what a day it has
turned out. And even
if it clears up, it will
be *jungle-y* damp -
You know Parthe
would not like you to
go -It would make her
quite uneasy - And no

one would expect you
such a day as this -
Please be good - And we
will love you, if possible,
more & more -
Mr. Croft has written to
me about you - And you
know how "satisfactory"
you think him.
ever yours & Parthe's
F.N.

I "rest in the Lord"
that He will not let
you go to-day -
but that you will go
some finer day -

9013/102 initialed note, 1f, pencil

Inkermann Day /90
My dear Sir Harry
I am so sorry to trouble you.
You were so good as to give me
Margaret's letter & say you wished to
speak to me about it at 5 - If you
wish to send the Telegram she suggests,
it should *not* go later than 3, should
it? Could you come up to me at 3?
If not, shall I come down to you? & when?
F.N.

9013/103 unsigned note, 1f, pencil

Sir

I beg to acknowledge your further
communication, with its enclosures, regarding your daughter at
S. Thomas' Hospital

& to say ~~that~~, as you wish your "appeal" to go
to the "Chairman of the Committee" ~~but~~ if
you "knew where to send it", that I am
the "Chairman of the Committee"

Mr. Francis Cunningham
36 High St.
Redcar

9013/104 initialed note, 1f, pencil, black-edged paper

Inkermann Day

Nov 5/90 {printed address:} Telegraph Claydon House,
Steeple Claydon, Bucks. Winslow,
Bucks.

Dearest Margaret & Maude

Sir Harry telegraphed to
Maude to-day to send Gwendolen
& Kathleen & "Mazelle" & maid
to here tomorrow (Thursday)

I write this only because
I do not know what he may
be writing now - He sometimes
gets confused when Mr. Calvert
is here - But this is
his true desire -

He showed me Margt's
letter but only rather late.

I cannot help thinking
the news about Ellin is very
good - in greatest haste

ever your loving, my heroes of
Inkermann & greater heroes than Inkermann

F.N.

9013/105 initialed notes, 2ff, pencil

9/11

My dear Sir Harry How are you? I
jumped up to see you, but you were
gone Did you not wish me to see
your letters *from* Bylandt & *to* Fergusson
now in the early morning? I could
read them now. And may God guide
them to destroy the Slave-Trade!

FN

13/11

My dear Sir Harry *Pray*
don't expose yourself
going to Aylesbury to-day.
It is quite cold. And
you were quite poorly
last evening - I am sure
Parthe would not like it.
Please be good -

F.N.

There is a jack-daw
squabbling outside. The
little birds kill themselves
against the windows
escaping from him. The jackdaw
is the cold to you -

9013/106 signed letter, 3ff, pen, black-edged paper

Claydon Nov 14/90

Dearest blessed Margaret

 Your Telegram of to-day

is such an immeasurable

relief. God grant it may

continue ever better & better

And you - how are you?

 Please tell Ellin that a

love comes to her in every

rose - & not from Aunt

Florence only but from

all.

 The Miss Spring Rices are
gone & we miss them.

But Sir Harry reads aloud

two Cantos of Sir W. Scott

every evening after dinner -

- now to Miss Walker alone,

as Mr. Calvert goes to sleep -
Sir H. is well, but suffers
from cramp. He has been
very busy about Congo
& other things. The two
brothers are gone to day
to Stowe.

My little Whistler Ruth
says she is never dull, but
adds confidentially to me:
'When I am dull, I begin
to whistle.' Don't you
see her mother's child
there? far more promising
than if she were always
unthinkingly merry. She is
always busy - interstices are
filled up with the "Hospital".
O the power of children's

[1:727]

imagination! In that hideous
thing, a Doll, they find an
object to love & nurse & care
for!

[end 1:727]

A thousand thanks for
that delicious "Drudgery" &
"Friend" book.

Miss Walker's tooth-ache is
much better. The ring-leader
is no longer so aggressive -
& the others have returned
in consequence to a better
behaviour

They are going tonight to
Winslow. And I have sent
for a fly. You have
feloniously absconded with
your Essays, which Lettice
meant for me to read. [I have read
your notes with the greatest
interest. Now I appeal

to Ellin: Ellin, is it not
 very wrong of Mother,
 when a young person is
 desirous (that's me!) to
 improve herself, and ~~Mother~~
 takes away the best means
 of education & improvement
 she is likely to have?

Yes, says Ellin, I do
 think it *is*.

I am going to inspect
 Harry. I live in fear that,
 without Mama Ellin, she
 will find when she comes back
 Harry, with half a shirt, one
 stocking, a pocketdkf, *no*
 Sunday hat or gloves -

Grandpapa is decidedly naughty -
 But I will not tell tales upon
 him.

[5]

I am so ashamed of this long
 scribble & have no time
 to make it any shorter
 Fred has good news of
 Capt. Verney. I hope you
 have better -

Sir Harry mischievously went
 to the Lecture last night
 & was none the worse -

ever yours & dear Ellin's
 overflowingly Aunt Florence

Since I wrote this,
 I have received your
 sad Telegram -
 May God be with us all -
 I shall hope for a Telegram
 on Sunday morning. You
 are so kind about telegraphing

9013/107 incomplete unsigned letter, 2ff, pen, on back of black-edged paper

Not Immediate [3] {arch: Nov. 22. 1890}

How good it is of you still
to be so keen about publishing
the books - That is a very
large ~~number~~ instalment of "baskets of
fragments" which most
people would find no time/power
to think about.

And as I am talking &
chatting with you, I may
as well say that I have
had no power even to undo
the packet of my Roman
letters which you so
kindly gave me with your
last letter - But I consider
all these your property. And
I should never think of
"burning" these without your
leave any more than any of
the rest of your property.
But I do think that most
if not all of my dear Father's

letters, & Aunt Mai's, as we
 called her, & my Grandfather's
 letters, must be burnt -
 I cannot conceive any thing
 like their horror if they
 knew that those letters
 have been kept; my Mother's
 & Sister's horror too. Again
 & again I have opened the
 packets & closed them again.
 They It seemed to me like
 opening a grave &
 plundering the dead
 My 'Aunt Mai' as we used
 to call her was the very
 first in after life to say
 to me how unfair she
 was to her mother - a woman
 whose curious habits only
 "*amused*" her "father" - as she
 told me - a woman into
 whose mind no meanness
 ever entered - nor any gossip

[1:409]

[end 1:409]

[1:409-10]

or ill-natured pettiness ever
 passed out of her mouth.
 Of how few great town ladies
 could one say that?

My father & sister were,
 as perhaps you know,
 singularly subject to the
 'caprice des yeux' - If St. Paul
 himself had been ungraceful,
 he would have found no
 favour in their sight -
 But he & I have often talked
 in after life of a certain
 greatness there was
 about his mother. My dear sister
 never really knew her.

9013/108 unsigned note, 1f, pencil, black-edged paper

{printed address:} Telegraph Claydon House,
Steeple Claydon, Bucks. Winslow,
Bucks.

Excellent night - dressing painful but less
swollen & inflamed - appetite poor
but spirits & fun reviving - Joy
cometh in the morning
Mrs. Verney's Telegram to-day 11.25 a.m.
28/11/90

9013/109 Initialed note, 1f, pencil, black-edged paper

{printed address:} Telegraph Claydon House,
Steeple Claydon, Bucks. Winslow,
Bucks.

"a much better day - appetite & spirits
good - very cheerful and thankful
hearts to-night - thanks for all
loving sympathy - great love" -
last night 9 p.m. Liverpool
just received here - Claydon 29 Nov
29/11/90 - 9.20 am -
Dear Sir Harry - Please pass on
the good news

F.N.

9013/110 initialed notes, 2ff, pencil, black-edged paper

Nov 29/90

{printed address:} Telegraph Claydon House,
Steeple Claydon, Bucks. Winslow,
Bucks.

My dear Sir Harry

You must let me pay

with this little sum a
share of what I cost you
in material life - in the
spiritual I can never

repay anything for all

your goodness -May

the Heavenly Love & Wisdom

pay our debts -

ever yours & Parthe's

F.N.

[black-edged paper]

Nov 29/90

{printed address:} Telegraph Claydon House,
Steeple Claydon, Bucks. Winslow,
Bucks.

My dear Sir Harry

I hope Mr. Calvert will

do me the favour of

paying me a little visit

(in a warm room) &

fix the afternoon & hour most

convenient to him -

I shall be so glad to

see him.

F.N.

I am now writing to

Margt. for the 4 o'cl-

postman -

9013/111 signed letter, 6ff., pen, black-edged paper bundle 185 [7:758]

Nov 29/90

{printed address:} Telegraph Claydon House,
Steeple Claydon, Bucks. Winslow,
Bucks.

Dearest blessed Margaret, I
mean, blessed Mrs. "Greatheart",
as dear old Bunyan would
have delighted to call you,
& dearest Ellin, (not Miss
Much afraid, but Ellin the
Valiant - the two paladins
"Roland brave & Olivere"

how shall we express our
joy & thankfulness?

last night's glad Telegram
arrived here this morning

Don't think us wild - we
know, alas! that you won't
walk in here next week -
but we know that the Love
which has given "a much

“better day” & such brave -
cheerfulness will carry on
the work - the Love that
never changes

‘Nor knows the shadow of a turn’ -

 But we shall still go as
beggars on the knees of our hearts
to you for your dear

Telegrams - nay more -

 Ruth who sends her particular
love had a very nice letter
from Lettice at Cette yesterday
enjoying the sun & warmth
& blue Mediterranean - &
saying that ‘father’ feels his
throat much better already.
Lovely Cette - I remember the
same feeling of emerging upon
the sunny deep blue sea;
but she talks of a very nice
French hotel - & there was
nothing of the kind when we were there
{bottom line cut off}

[end 7:758]

We are here in sharp frost &
deepish snow - and are all
feeding birds - But a dear
Missel thrush whom I had
been feeding up with animal
food - he can't eat bread -
for your next spring here;
I am afraid is dead, he tried
to get in to my room yesterday
for warmth - the worst of it
is you know that the sparrows
come & eat up every thing -
And Grandpapa has cut
down the 3 large bushes
on the East slope of the
lawn nearest the house,
where the blackbirds &
other delicate birds used
to roost - And I have not
seen my own particular robin
who used to fly straight to me

from the East Side, then
take a tour round the church
& again to my window, since -
And I saw a wretched black
bird digging his grave in the
snow yesterday. These are
too shy to come to my balcony.
The frost is very hard indeed.
Yesterday Genl. Ruth & H.M.'s
Rifle Brigade (Miss Walker)
& Nip had a snow-ball
match - very spirited - but
Nip's a coward & ran away
to shelter out of reach of gun =shot.

The Miss Spring Rices are
here - as charming as usual -
& relieved my anxious heart
by thinking Grandpapa & Ruth
both "looked so much better" -
I hope you took no trouble about
Ruth's spectacles - she had lost
them above a week - And as she

[2]

was always scrimping up her eyes, I thought it better to trouble you.

But, as so often happens, she found them that very same night. Perhaps she would not have found them otherwise!?

I don't know what to say about the Gladstone & Parnell

[5:327-28]

crisis - I should think it was the most curious & fatal political crisis of our day. [*You* know,

I dare say, more than I do]

Sir Harry, for my special improvement: he thinks I

want a great deal which no doubt is quite true -

reads me the leading article of the Times (tho' he says he "*never* reads the first leading "Article") which produces

temporary frenzy or delirium
tremens in my otherwise
idiotic brain

The Times used to be a gentleman
Now it is a black-guard -
But even black guards have
a rule: 'Don't kick a man
when he's down. The Times
professes to think Mr. Gladstone
is smashed - yet kicks him
all the more.

I used to think we were
hard upon Morality when
we thought Mr. Parnell a hero,
because he was not a forger -
Now I think Morality is
hard upon us - to break up
the Irish cause because Mr..
Parnell has been *found out* to
be (not because he *is*) a man
unmentionable - this man

who can command 70 or 80 votes -

It is true that the right & common sense do not depend upon Parnell, or even upon Mr. Gladstone - but I have never know a time in my long life which began at 12 when party & politics so ruled the right & the wrong - & sense & nonsense -

But it makes one trust more to the moral government of God - which as Bishop Stubbs would say worked the Reformation out of an indifferent set of reformers, & the fall of the Cavaliers out of unattractive Puritans. God *must* wish well to Ireland - [You know Shore

Smith married an Irish lady,
& a dear old pedlar woman
at Lea Hurst, a particular
friend of his & mine - (the
same who said when her
only son was killed on Sunday on the
railway: "The Lord always
takes us *at our best*")
said *confidentially* "Ma'am,
I knew it all along - that she was Irish - but I
never breathed a word of it,
You know, M'm, *the Lord died
for the Irish* as well as for
we, M'm" -

So I say still - to *you* -
WE DON'T believe it here -
You know "the Lord" did/does live
for the Irish too -

I leave Fred's news to Maudie
to tell you. Ruth says to

[1:727]

[3]

me confidentially - that she
'hopes father won't resign -
'she wishes him to be in the
Ho: of C. - it is so much more
'interesting - & she thinks he had
'better not come home directly'
(- in which I cordially join
the General. She & I sometimes
talk "constituents"!! & she, for a
little, wd talk politics!!

But I rather act extinguisher.)

I suppose we shall know on
Tuesday what is to happen.
But oh what a crash it is!
& so much unholy exaltation!
on the Unionist side -
Ha-has's! says Sir Harry
Heigh-ho! says I
Parnell's Manifesto in this day's
"Times" *is* impudent - & so clever
forcing Mr.. Gladstone into a corner

I have come out in grand style
with Mr. Calvert, because
of your kind present: Genl.
Booth's book - He had read
about it in the newspapers
& could not get the book,
because It was out of print -
So I offered mine (to *lend* him)
Sir H. who does not approve
of Booth's scheme because
Mr.. C. wishes to give to it,
thinks it all my fault -
But if Mr. C. says: "The woman
gave it me & I did eat.'
he is wrong. He asked for it -
The Auld Serpian tempted,
me (or him)

Excuse scraps & haste
& interruptions

Since I wrote this, I have
your 11.23 a.m. Telegram.
It is so very, very trying to
have these draw-backs -
But I trust this will not
be a serious one -

I hope we may have one
more Telegram tonight (Saturday)

You are so very good -

Great love from us all
to you both -

May we send flowers again
now?

Could you tell me of an
acceptable present for
Ruth's birth-day? Really
when she sits by me, I feel
ashamed of talking of trivial
dolls & childish things - to a
middle aged lady like that,
I should talk philosophy -

ever your/ Ruth's loving Aunt Florence.

[end 1:727]

9013/112 initialed note, 1f, pencil, black-edged paper

{printed address:} Telegraph Claydon House,
Steeple Claydon, Bucks. Winslow,
Bucks.

Dear Sir Harry

It is *not* the "day" but he [yes]
"hour" that does not suit.
I could never take it "at 12 " without
much difficulty - But on the other hand
I could at any hour that suits
him even on Sunday *afternoon*

F.N.

9013/113 unsigned note, 1f, pencil, black-edged paper

answers over page

{printed address:} Telegraph Claydon House,
Steeple Claydon, Bucks. Winslow,
Bucks.

The 3 4 questions we wish to ask

Margaret are:

1. whether Sir Henry Cunningham thinks
its being published at *Liverpool* a drawback
2. what was the arrangement as to *profits*
which Howell suggested in his own plan
of printing 1000 copies of Vol I, and
250 of Vol II.
3. how much *extra* would the "illustrations"
cost? or does the limit of £300 include the
cost of the "illustrations"? P.T.O.
4. As you Margaret says, it would be
better for her to enquire whether Howell
is considered "a sound & a safe man"

{Margaret's answers follow}

9013/115 unsigned & initialed notes, 2ff, pencil

{printed address:} Telegraph Steeple Claydon, Bucks.	Claydon House, Winslow, Bucks.
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a. Is it well to take for granted that the European Govts do *not* entertain such a possibility? Is not your reason rather that as they are negotiating you have no right to ask them to advise you?

B Are there any countries besides the 5 you mention? £100 000 a year would not "put down" the Slave Trade - would it? It is not more than what the King gives himself - It would "*tend* to" "putting it down & would "*tend* to" "complete" the King's work - Then should follow a little compliment of your pleasure in following upon the King's track - Should it not?

[black-edged paper]

{printed address:} Telegraph Steeple Claydon, Bucks.	Claydon House, Winslow, Bucks.
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I should like to take the Sacrament on the day & hour that *you* like - I could not be up "at 12": & it would be impossible to get the room ready - But one might manage somehow -

Only if he "offers any day & hour" would he kindly give us a choice?

FN

9013/116 signed note, 1f, very light pencil

{arch: Nov. 1890} {printed address:} Telegraph Claydon House,
Steeple Claydon, Bucks. Winslow,
Bucks.

So, dearest Lettice, you are
promoted to the place of Mother,
the pearl of great price, to take
care of father;
I know how sad you are & how glad
you are -
I shall not ask you to come,
knowing how busy you are
But ANY moment you can spare
yourself to me Aunt Florence will be so

glad.
Shall the flowers in the Blue Room
go to Ellin to-day?
And does she want *us* to send
"Brothers of Pity"? Shall I send it?
You must give me something
to do for Ellin -
Your letter from Aunt Maudie
[too faint] good. I expect Telegram
ever your loving
Aunt Florence

Telegram just come
"Better night - very cheery -
"both send much love -
"progress satisfactory"

9013/117 unsigned note, 1f, pencil, black-edged paper

{printed address:} Telegraph Claydon House,
Steeple Claydon, Bucks. Winslow,
Bucks.

Felt as nervous as cats over
day's dressing - Doctor infinitely
gentle - and considerate - safely
accomplished without much pain
Unbroken sleep all last night.
Mrs. Verney's Telegram to-day Dec. 1
11.40 a.m.

9013/118 unsigned note, 1f, pencil

{printed address:} Telegraph Claydon House,
 Steeple Claydon, Bucks. Winslow,
 Bucks.

Liverpool 12.30 noon Dec 2/90
excellent night - spine in some discomfort
from new splint - moved into sitting room
- looks pale and tired - but progress
good Temperature normal

9013/119 signed letter, 2ff, pen, black-edged paper

Claydon Dec 2/90

My dear Sir Harry

As you are so good
as to ask my opinion, may
I say unhesitatingly that
I should write to Margaret
to-day, begging her *at once*
to close with Howell's offer
& with her own most
kind proposal to settle
all details with him?

May I point out that
there is NO OCCASION to
"*wait for Sir H. Cunningham's*"
answer NOW, since you
have Margaret's answer
that Simpkin & Marshall,
one of the best firms in
London, is or may be of the Co.?

Margaret proposed to make

enquiries about Howell's soundness - & probably has done so by this time - therefore I should suggest that you write to-day that, if *SHE* has discovered no objection, you authorize her to proceed at once. as it is of the greatest consequence not to delay, & to secure, as she is unhappily detained at Lpool, her indispensable help in starting the matter -

As you said yourself, "I think more of Margt's 'opinion & judgment than 'of all ours' to which I gave so tremendous an assent that she may have heard it at Lpool.

You will kindly remember that I write those 4 questions (to speak jokingly) "under "compulsion" as I understood that, some pressure having been put upon you to employ a London publisher &c, you wished to have answers at hand - But my opinion was then as it is now: to ask Margaret to be so good as to *proceed at once* in her own *efficient way*

F. Nightingale

9013/120 unsigned letter, 3ff, pen, black-edged paper, bundle 185

Claydon

Confidential

Dec 3/90

Dearest dearest

Sir Hy Acland came here to see Sir Harry professionally on Monday. [Not that there is anything to cause anxiety about *him*] Sir Hy Acland announced his intention of going to Liverpool to stay with some friends - & of going to see you. Very likely he has written to you to say so. But if not [he is coming of course only as a friend] to see you] I thought it possible you might like to know beforehand. Pray don't think I am interfering

or indeed that I have
any judgment at all
in the matter. Yours is so
good, & mine so defective
But I thought it just possible
that, as Sir Hy A. is coming
to Liverpool, you might like
to ask Mr.. Bickersteth
whether he would like a
Physician's opinion - or
to meet Sir H.A. in consulta-
-tion. It would be unnatural
for you not to mention
dear Ellin's case at all
to such an old friend as Dr.
Acland, if he came.

I did not of course breathe
anything of the kind to
Dr. Acland - Nor perhaps
should I to you, it if had

Confidential [2]

not been for the rather
sad Telegram I received
to-day ~~at noon~~ soon after one from your
dear hand. I was so
anxious for news - And
it seemed as if Dr. Acland
~~had~~ might have been led to Liverpool
by the Invisible Father.

I cannot tell you his
address at Lpool - or
what day he leaves Oxford.

He said that, as his
friends at Lpool had
children, he would call
upon you, in case you
were still infectious, *after*
leaving them: & laughed
heartily ~~that~~ at the base
supposition that Scarlatina
could hurt *him!!*

I have heard the contents
of Ellin's wonderful letter
but shall not I fear see
it before this letter must
go at 4.

Lord Cottesloe died this
morning about 11.
Sir Harry went with his
young ladies to dine there a
week ago (without of course
seeing *him*) & to go to a
Missionary Meeting afterwards
at the Swanbourne School room
on a wintry night - I wish
I could have administered
a wholesome correction -
But an unwholesome one
came in the shape of
cramp.

The two Spring Rices have
just departed to our
great sorrow. And Morfy &
Vortigern have just arrived
How he will miss Ellin!

Excuse this long rigmarole
I should say to *any one*
else: This is a melancholy
birth-day for you - but
to *you* nothing is really
sad -

9013/121 unsigned note, 1f, pencil, black-edged paper

{printed address:} Telegraph Claydon House,
Steeple Claydon, Bucks. Winslow,
Bucks.

From Margaret Verney. Liverpool 6/12/90
5.47 p.m.

Appetite and spirits good: just moved back to
bed-room - tired but not the worse -
Love & sympathy to Dean Fremantle
Good night.

9013/122 initialed letter, 3ff, pen, black-edged paper
Claydon Dec 8/90

Dearest blessed Margaret
I feel with you more than
I can possibly express. It does
not 'distress' me at all your
writing to me "in this way",
as you kindly say; for I
think I figure to myself
your anxieties, pains &
perplexities & their probable
results on your health as
even more poignant than
they are, (IF that be possible,)
when I am thinking them over
by myself -

I can only say: 1. I will
stay here till "after Christmas",
if Maudie cannot come till
"after Christmas". It is absolutely

impossible for him to be left alone, I mean without one of us especially with Mr. Calvert in the house. I was quite thankful that Dean Fremantle came to set at rest at least *Sir Harry's* mind about one perpetual "raw" Mr.. C. is keeping up. And yet I have/one has so much sympathy with Mr. Calvert. . .

2. You mention just the possibility of taking Sir Harry with you to Hyères - Do you think he *could* take the journey? Do you think he would not some fine day say he would go back, & you could not prevent him? Or if he staid, do you not think he might have a last long illness there *away from home* - And what could you do? you could not leave him - you could not bring him away.

I know what your answers may be to all these questions, I will try to depict his present state, [only premising that since you want, I see him generally 3 times a day, & never allow any one to interfere with him, If he keeps me waiting (from 20 min. to 2 hours) I see the others, but they kindly clear out the moment he comes - I have therefore exceptional opportunities of hearing his confessions]

There is nothing to worry you in it. But I feel that there are two enemies always looming round the corner. We could do nothing *without* Morey. But there are things Morey cannot do.

He has been worse each time he has gone in the evening to Swanbourne or Winslow. But he glories in his iniquities - And the

others tell me that they

never hear from him what
 he tells me of his sensations
 And twice there has been in
 my room that *red* giddiness
 & wandering & almost falling
 off his chair which is more
 alarming than the white faintness.

~~He~~ I see no additional
 loss of memory or of mind or deafness
 But his *consecutiveness*, always
 feeble, is almost gone. x He is
 at the mercy of the last speaker

-I must not go on - I cannot
 tell you how dear & how delightful
 he is. You know it. I always
 think of your words: 'he knows the
 'etiquette of heaven': especially *to-day*.
 He was so full of grace -

The 'Times' torments him bad - what a Parnell!
 Morfy is so kind & good -
 x I think I ought not to have said
 this. Men half his age are often so -
 the debating power of mind is very rare -
 They used to say Mr. Gladstone & Mr. Bright
 were the only debaters in the Ho: of Commons

[2]

I mean the power of hearing or reading each side, summing up & coming to a conclusion is a rare power.

Best of loves to dear, dear
Ellin.

I feel so much your anxiety about Edmund: & your longing to get to him. All I can say is that one has known people who have had that "pain in the heart" for 2 or 3 scores of years. It does not invalid them. It always makes them feel depressed. We don't approve at all of cargo-boat voyages in the cold for them, or of any chill, or OF TOO MUCH cycling, or violent exercise -

Dearest Margaret - I must stop. I have been so interrupted
Perhaps I am foolish to send this at all. forgive
ever your loving F.N.

9013/123 initialed note, 1f, pencil, black-edged paper

Dec 9/90 Telegraph Claydon House,
Steeple Claydon, Bucks. Winslow, {printed address:}
Bucks.

My dear Sir Harry
Could you kindly tell me
whether the business of Parthe's
book was concluded - by last
night's post with *Howell at*
Liverpool & Margaret?
2. I beg you for Christ's sake
& Parthe's not to go to
Swanbourne to-day, either
to Church or Funeral - Will
you not kindly yield?
What time may I see you
to-day?

ever yours & hers & I hope
Christ's FN

9013/124 initialed letter, 4ff, pen, black-edged paper

Claydon Dec 10/90

Dearest, dearest

You know how I feel with **[12:437-38]**
you all. So I will rush at
once into your questions,
premising that most of it
you know already, & that I
do not pretend to judge, of what can be done in such a case for
I feel inclined to say:
what is new is not true
what is true is not new.

I shall therefore put my
answers in the form of
questions

1. Is it possible to say "how
many days should elapse
before Ellin can safely come
to Claydon" or you "safely to
see the little ones?" Is it
entirely a question of time?

2. Are not great Surgeons proverbially careless about infection?

3. Would you not see, as the Nurse says, the "last hard skin under the bad foot entirely "come off" before ~~doing anything~~ leaving infected room, because infectious skin has been known to harbour *under* that hard skin.

May not this process be accelerated by lint dipped in Carbolic Lotion on the heel, with oiled silk over?

4. Between leaving the infected rooms (to be put into the hands of Medl Officer of Health, hermetically sealed & disinfected) & all the infected *clothes &c* (to be baked in hot chambers under Med. Off. of H.)

Between this leaving these & going into fresh rooms & clothes &c - would you not make two applications with an interval of a day or two ~~or three~~ to wit

1st application: Strong Medical Carbolic Soap ~~to heel~~ 10 p.c. - do you not prefer 20 p.c.?
to heel

sponging all over the body with warm water & Carbolic Soap

2nd application the same after an interval of day or days

5 Do you intend to go back into the infected rooms *when disinfected?*

At all events do you not intend to stay a few days

somewhere
after leaving the infected
rooms &c & after performing
your two applications,
(it sounds like a Hindoo pooja)

thus:

A Not to leave the
dis infected rooms till
skin entirely separated

B between changing
infected rooms & clothes &c for
disinfected or fresh rooms &c
interval of day or days
for your applications

*Can this be performed
in fresh rooms in your present
house?*

C go into fresh or disinfected rooms for 2, 3 or 4 days

6. Do you not think that
the hair & head must
have peculiar inf attention?
If dangerous to wash head
sponge not too wet with Carbolic
Perhaps Carbolic pommade afterwards.

2

I feel I am writing to the best

Nurse I know: you are a
much better Nurse than I
so you must take all I say
as questions.

Do not you think that if all
this is done, you may, knee
permitting, strength permitting,
safely come here & see Ruth & Harry
that it is less a question of time
than of precaution AND of the
Patient x & what she can bear
that some precautions probably
cannot be taken on account of
her state -

x A Patient is not a piece of
furniture. E.g. You could give to
the furniture 2 "applications"
in 2 hours - to the Patient not
probably in two days -

Possibly Carbolic Soap 20 p.c. may
be too strong for her.

&c &c &c &c

[end 12:438]

As PRIVATE as you please
I only write this because you
may hear it exaggerated -
I was going to write Ellin [1:715]
such a cheerful letter about
Harry *Lloyd V*; as they call him
But He had a little accident yesterday
afternoon with gunpowder in
his own room at Mr. Higham's
The face is burnt & the wrists
& the *upper* (only) part of the
neck. One eye is certainly
safe & *they believe the other*.
But the eyelid is of course too
swollen ~~that~~ at present to see.
He had a good night, & is
quite cheerful. Grandpapa
& Miss Walker have seen him.
Poor Morfy who only left here
yesterday morning, is come
down by 2.10 train & drove
straight to Mr. Higham's.

This morning he has scarcely
any pain. But the face is
all covered up of course - [end 1:715]

What can I say more?

I am afraid I have
said nothing to the purpose
But I am so interrupted
All God's blessings upon
you.
ever yours & Ellin's
F.N.

I do not see that your
own Programme for
coming here need be
materially prolonged delayed in time
if only the intermediate steps
can be taken
Delightful letters from Edmund
& Lettice -

9013/125 initialed letter, 4ff, pencil, black-edged paper

Dec 11/90

{printed address:} Telegraph Claydon House,
Steeple Claydon, Bucks. Winslow,
Bucks

Dearest Margaret
Thanks for your Telegram.
Harry *Lloyd* can see out
of *both* eyes! There is rather
more swelling & pain today
But he is going on perfectly
well. And you may depend
upon this being the case,
unless I write or telegraph
any change -

Morfy has behaved with
more than fortitude & with
exceeding kindness. She
stays at Mr. Higham's -
I thought Vortigern looking

well & cheerful, tho' rather delicate - & doing good turns to every one, taking Miss Walker out on a double Tricycle &c. He was very anxious to hear about Ellin. And you may be sure I gratified him - He is not here now -

I was rather bothered that day, for ~~after the~~ on His ~~funeral~~ birth night Sir Harry all but fainted in my room, just as he did after the Addington funeral - So I did not see as much of Vortigern as I could wish -

About Stage B, "application" -

I need not say that a *warm bath* is better than sponging -

that the *roots* of the hair must be well disinfected.

Stage C. that a *good blow at New Brighton* would be the best disinfectant *after* the mechanical things are done - of Stage B.

But I conclude these things are impossible for dear Ellin.

We are very anxious to hear how *you* are & what

plans are possible
I do feel so much *with*
your anxieties - I have
tried to answer your questions
Time is of less importance
than thoroughness - And
I doubt whether *thorough-*
ness can be obtained under
dear Ellin's circumstances.
so as that you can be quite
without anxiety about her
seeing Ruth & Harry.

But there is another thing
[I am like "your undecided man"]
Could you be easy about
Ellin here?

[black-edged paper] pencil

2

{printed address:} Telegraph Claydon House,
Steeple Claydon, Bucks. Winslow,
Private Bucks.

I don't think I ever felt
anything like the cold
clinging fog here now,
tho' it is a thaw It
reminds me of the time
when I was a seal in
a thaw at the N. Pole
in Pythagoras' time which
I can scarcely remember

I know how anxious
you are to be off to
Edmund &

Could you be easy to
leave Ellin here, out of
reach of proper advice?

I am writing in the
most audacious manner.
Also: Must not Miss Walker
stay with her?

Sir Harry is certainly
more impulsive than ever.
& would send for Benson?

What should you
think of you & Ellin going
straight by quick train
(when you leave Lpool) to
Maudie's? Her children

would be *here*. You
would settle on a Doctor
for Ellin - & leave her
to Maudie - & start off
with Ruth & Harry .

If we could but find
out what is least anxious
for you.

I would stay here with
Sir Harry & Maudie's
children -

Or with Sir Harry & Ellin - for in
that case I believe Maudie
would not send her
children - I am at your

disposal - I suppose
Sir H. will, if well,
go to London (sometimes
he says January - sometimes
February)

God will settle -
What a happiness
Ellin is so well -
in greatest haste
wolf }
fox F.N.
cabbage

9013/126 unsigned letter, 1f, pen, black-edged paper

Claydon Dec 12/90

Dearest blessed Margaret

How good you are - I
often fear I make "confusion
"worse confounded" Miss
Walker says. of course without
my leading to the subject:
"do tell Mrs. Verney that I
don't want to go home at
Christmas (except for Xmas Day
& not even that) if I can be
with Ellin & any use"
"do not let her think that I say
this to make a kind offer & be refused": I say it
in real good earnest"

And so she does. She will
be a sterling woman.

About disinfection, I believe
it is generally supposed that
the "two applications" had

better take place stage B
when you come *within*
measurable distance, in
Doctor's opinion, of the
great move. This delay also
enables Patient generally
to take one or two warm
baths. After the 2nd
application Patient to put
on *fresh* clothes & go to a
fresh house Stage C
before final move, if possible

But I don't mean to go on
worrying you every day
in this way

[That *would* be "infectious"
& I ought to be burnt]

9013/127 unsigned memorandum, 2ff, pen, black-edged paper

Sir Harry's letter. Wm Coltman's

F. Verney: {arch: Nov 1890} Pleasley: Will

Pleasley left to Fred: Verney

as was intended "free of
"incumbrances"

& Pleasley left with £20000!!

raised upon it - are they not
are two totally different things?

Stanbridge & Longdon: will
they not "*sell*" for so little now
that lawyers will recommend
mortgage in preference

If Sir Harry did not mean to leave
"landed property" to F.V., does
he leave him money?

== Did not Parthe Verney engage
to leave some not inconsiderable fortune to Fred:
to enable him to marry? And was it not on this ground & this
ground alone that Lady Sarah
& her advisers allowed Maude
to marry?

Dates can be furnished for this
cannot they?

== Mr. Western says that a
mortgage should be effected
on Sir Harry's Derbyshire
property for as large a sum
as they can

to what degree does this
alter F.V.'s future?

by £20,000?? possibly?

In his short letter he says
that an alteration has been
made in Sir H.'s will
but does not say what.

It seems very wise to
communicate them to
Wm Coltman

— Would it not be well to leave
 out that part about the
 repeal of the Cornlaws
 in Sir Harry's letter?
 has it not been proved that
 "the migration to the Towns
 is dependent on quite
 other causes - has taken
 place under Protection &
 free trade? under
 Monarchy & democracy?
 This is however of little
 consequence

9013/128 incomplete, signed letter, 1f,

[2]

A delightful letter I have from
 Lettice. But I am afraid
 the weather has not cleared
 yet.

I must not write any
 more -

Ellin, Mother is like a fine
 rose-tree, which is grafted
 with five or six sorts of
 roses, & grows them all.
 & finds life for them all
 as for the mother tree
 in great haste

ever yours devotedly
 Aunt Florence

9013/130 unsigned notes, 2ff, pen

Telegram from Fred: 9.35
 Capital night. Ellin merry
 flourishing

{printed address:} Telegraph Claydon House,
 Steeple Claydon, Bucks. Winslow,
 Bucks

List of poor people
 recipients
 from Lady Verney

Telegram from Fred 9.35 a.m. 4/1/91
 Capital night. Ellin merry Margaret flourishing.

9013/131 unsigned memorandum, 1f, pen

List of poor & aged people to whom Lady Verney
carried soup & little dinners

Sand Hill	-	old Mrs. King	
Botolph Claydon		Kitty Jennings	
		Mrs. White	dying
		Mrs. Brinkler	
		Mrs. Cooper -	
East Claydon		Mrs. Bennet	
Steeple Claydon		Mrs. Braggans	
			Invalid husband & brother
		John Webb	injured
		Mrs. Lear	Parker's Yard
		Mrs. Mark Stevens	
			mother of Mrs. White

If any one was ill, Lady Verney took them
- nice food

9013/132 unsigned note, 1f, faint pencil

Jan 4/91

{printed address:} Telegraph Claydon House,
Steeple Claydon, Bucks. Winslow,
Bucks

Letter from Maudie quite
radiant [?] with Ellin's
[illeg too faint] arrival & happiness
Margt goes early tomorrow
morning

Please tell "dear everybody",
as Margt sometimes says]

9013/133 initialed note, 1f, pencil

Jan /91

{printed address:} Telegraph Claydon House,
Steeple Claydon, Bucks. Winslow,
Bucks

My dear Sir Harry
Please give Mr. Calvert
my kind regards, &
tell him I have obeyed
his behests.

And may God bless you
& him - & the Steeple
Claydon Reading - room.
ever yours
F.N.

9013/134 initialed & signed letter, 4ff, pen [1:715]

Claydon Jan 10/91

Dearest Margaret
None but good accounts of
Ellin. So glad of your safe,
tho' slow arrival at Marseilles
& then at Hyères -

Sir Harry read me a letter of
yours dated 7th last night -
I am afraid of saying a word,
because you will justly say,
do you not think that we have
considered all this, & that we
are much better judges than
you? But still I know your
kindness will not be disturbed
if I say: do you not think that
London & the Ho: of C. (and
without you) is a very bad place
in Feby & March? It seems
losing the little gain, & not

topping up with the great
gain of Africa?

It seems hardly an argument
that "Lettice wants to be with
"Ellin does it? Lettice wants to do what
is best with her father, does
she not? And is Ellin going
to run away & settle in N. York?
With regard to *Sir Harry*, I may
perhaps speak more positively
if it is between your going to
Claydon * or Rhianva - [There
is *no* chance, I believe, of his
staying in London "2 months"
and perhaps it is hardly
to be desired, because he
must not go out to dinner
or at night - Morey thinks &
I think.] * I say/ choose for *HIM*:

Claydon certainly ~~for~~ as regards for *you*.
Instead I believe it essential
to his life - [I think he
will go backwards & forwards
to London]. He is going next
Tuesday to Mr. Calvert for a week till ~~for a~~
~~few days~~ the 20th" he says. [I go on Monday

next (tomorrow)]

He has frequent colds -

Jan 11/91

He said to me last night: "I
am going to write a most
important letter to Margaret
- to ask her to undertake to
be *the head* of the household" -

Indeed I echo to you & to
him: Most important" -

Even you can scarcely tell
how important - But I am
emboldened to say so, by knowing
that you are hesitating between

Rhianva & Claydon -
Pray God for your kind
decision -

{Morey said to me *before*:

"I trust Mrs. Verney is going
to make this her pied a terre/ home"
something to that effect.
He says this out of pure
love & knowledge of his
Master, as you know - Else
I should not have ventured
to mention it.]

When Sir Harry wrote to you,
"I put Claydon at your
disposal," he said to me:
"because I shall not be there" -
He forgot that he is returning
here on the 20th, & that
you cannot be home till later

[2]

He means that he puts
Claydon "at your disposal"
as the lady head of the
household - & begs you to
be such -

I have not a minute
Will you give Aunt
Florence's best love to
Lettice & Ruth - & say
that the bird (canary) now
in my maid's room under
our charge is to be under
the upper housemaid Margaret who
is very fond of it - that its
education progresses. It could
only say Pf: pf. Now it
whistles for 5 min. Ruth
must teach it its notes
& then it will sing a song

X Sir H. Acland goes to
Liverpool on 19th; this
day week.

All the grandchildren have
the recuperative power of
the dear Grandpapa, it seems
I say it is quite improper
& 'contrairy to Scriptur, which
'says: 70 is the proper age
of man.' There's that boy
Harry Lloyd! he's reading
the newspaper to-day!!
wanting to get up, but
forbidden!!! can't chew
yet, or open his mouth or
swallow anything but soup
or bread & milk - but isn't
to have the honours of a
bulletin any more!!

contraction the real danger,
hardly to be feared now - [end 1:715]

Will you give Aunt
Florence's very dearest love
to Edmund & *pray* him
to be careful - & thank *him*
& Lettice for their most
delightful letters & Ruth
for her Telegram -

And to *you* what can
I say - God's blessings
ever yours
F.N.

Ellin speaks much of Aunt Maudie's
& Fred's kindness - she need
not say so to us - need she?
{written vertically in the margin} Rosa Sear died yesterday - sent
grateful message to the "Miss Verneys

A Dieu, blessed Margaret
I won't repeat what I
said before: How good you are.
A Dieu, dear Ellin.
ever your loving
Aunt Florence

9013/135 signed letter, 1f, pen

Jan 21/91

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

My dear Sir

I sincerely hope that the
great inconvenience
which you justly complain
of will be put to rights;
and I sincerely regret
that illness & business
have caused my delay in
Your letter did not reach
me till I had left Claydon

With hopes for the
Coffee & Reading room

Yours faithfully

F. Nightingale

9013/136 initialed notes, 2ff, pen & pencil

26/1/91

My dear Sir Harry Eleven o'clock which
you were so good as to fix is rather
early for me, as I have a heavy morning
writing.

Would 3.15 suit you, as you kindly
say your day is "free"? or what time?

ever yours

F.N.

Jan 12/91

{printed address:} Telegraph Claydon House,
Steeple Claydon, Bucks. Winslow,
 Bucks

Lady Verney
Letters from abroad
left in F. Nightingale's
charge by

 Mrs. Verney
 & returned to her
January 1891
To Mrs. Verney

9013/137 signed letter, 2ff, pen

 March 3/91
{printed address:} 10, South Street,
 Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir Harry
 Thank you for your
kind note. I shall
hope to see you on
Friday afternoon, & as
many times afterwards
as you can -

 I feel very sorry to
think of you without
blessed Margaret.

 With regard to what
you kindly wrote to me
about: viz. how to resist the application
of Princess Christian & Co.
to the Board of Trade

for licence (to take over
the whole Registration
of Nurses - for that is
what it really means) -
it is understood that
what Sir Michael Hicks
Beach wants: is more
MEDICAL & TECHNICAL
opinion (notwithstanding
the quantity that has
been sent in to him)
on our side- not
more *lay* opinion -

And it has been
suggested to me that
you should get a good

~~opinion~~ letter from
Sir W. Bowman
against the Registration
- & add words of your
own God bless you
 Ever yours
 F. Nightingale

I hope you are very
careful not to leave
off your flannels (or
any of them) for a
fine day.

9013/138 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

March 178/91

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

Dear Sir Harry

You were speaking of
Mr. Devine finding
employment *among*
"lads" in or near London

You see this is what
he wants himself -

Had you anything
in view? (without
compromising yourself)

It is a pity that such a
talent *for "lads"* should
be wasted F.N.

9013/139 initialed letter, 2ff, pen

March 26/91

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

My dear Sir Harry

I am so very thankful
that you are getting rid
of this painful ailment,
in which however there is
no danger, so long as there
is no feverishness - But
only you must be very
careful not to bring it on
again - I applaud all that
has been done, as far as I
know it: & thank those
who have so efficiently
nursed you & doctored you

I hope you will have
your children on Saturday -

I shall send down by them

9013/140 signed memorandum, 1 f., pen

In loving remembrance
of my dear sister

Frances Parthenope Verney

this first Easter after she went home -

And in the arms of the Eternal Father

we bid her not farewell but meet her there,

Let *us* be raised from the death of sin

that is of self

to the life of righteousness, that is of God,

now in the time of this mortal life

this very Easter Day 1891

Let *us* love one another as Christ loves us

& let *us* love Him as He loves God -

So shall we raised from the death of selfishness

So would our departed Sister say.

Florence Nightingale

London

Easter 1891

9013/141 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

April 16/91

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

Dearest Sir Harry

Good morrow: & let it be
good morrow: 'the Lord
'graciously shares the whole
'burden with us' -

To-morrow you will have
your four grandchildren - you
said you were going to
prepare a home for Edmund
& his -

I say: take care of yourself -
You never were more wanted
by your family.

Mr. Jowett tells me to give
you his kindest regards & tell
you that he hopes for the sake
of your family (who will need
you more than ever now) that
you will bear up under this
last & worst affliction -

I am sure you will with
Christ dwelling in you -
My best love to the dear
Miss Spring Rices - They
will help you with the
four grandchildren & with
Parthe's papers -
Kindest regards to Mr.
Calvert.

Sir William Evans was here
to-day (deputation from
Derby). He sprang to look
at your picture - He says he
was 23 years in the House
with you -
ever your F.

9013/142 signed letter, 1f, pencil

April 17/91
{printed address:} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir Harry
Please give my very
best love to the Miss
Spring Rices -
& to our dear four
from
Aunt Florence

9013/143 signed letter, 1f, pen

Registration of Nurses

April 23/91

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

My dear Sir Harry

I telegraphed to you to-day
to be so kind as to authorize
Hy Bonham Carter to sign
your name to a Letter to
the "Times" which a Meeting
of Nurse-training authorities
at St. Thomas' unanimously desired to be
written contradicting unfair
statements by Princess Christian's
Association against our side.

I now write to say that
Hy Bonham Carter will
send you by Post to-day
the Copy of our Petition
to the Board of Trade

~~by Post to-day~~ for your signature, & requesting
that it may be returned
according to the directions
it will contain, to *St.*
Thomas' Hospital.

[Perhaps it may be
addressed to Maude
in order to save you
trouble]

The enemy is very
rampant against us.

ever your affectionate
F. Nightingale

9013/144 incomplete, initialed letter, 1f, pen

[2] 23/4/91

I have had such kind letters of tender sympathy from Mrs. Hawthorn & Miss Crossland - And I have thanked both for you & for myself - but observing entire silence besides

Mrs. Hawthorn adds: "I know that "God gives you both His peace". She has been very ill & has left town for change of air.

May the peace of God be indeed with you, as it was with Christ in yet more terrible circumstances, dear Sir Harry F.N.

9013/145 initialed letter, 2ff, pen

My dear Sir Harry: I am sure that I may give you joy, in the sense you most care for, of your son E; How could he show his deep repentance before God & man more clearly than by coming home, at the risk of his life - no doctor would have let him come - to stand his trial - & go into prison & to death with Christ? Is it not for such that Christ lived & died? And you say so truly about dear Fred & blessed Margaret - {arch: 25 Ap 1891}

You said like yourself you went back to Claydon to

make a home there for them E & F. - And I am
so glad that the dear innocent children
are with you, as you said - How
good you are to them - God bless them
And He *will* bless them, & you too

The blessings of Matthew V. are not
exactly the same as earthly blessings -
Now there is joy in heaven over E. and
Margaret -

Shall we be ~~hard~~ joyless & faithless amid the
joy of heaven?

Don't let us be Serjeants Hew=Agag=in=
=pieces=before=the=Lord-
Above all, let us be silent, as you agree
like yourself.

Let us not put our foot in the Lord's
dealings - It's a dirty foot we put, after
all. And the Lord's dealings are all Love,
all Light.

So let us thank God & take courage
ever your

April 25/91 F.N.

Ruth has sent me a little violet with a
root. I planted the root, & it has put forth
another violet under a green leaf - That's the
way God's violets grow.

Thank you for your signatures, re
Registration of Nurses

9013/146 initialed letter, 3ff, pen

[3:427]

Sunday May 3/91 {printed address:} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

My dearest Sir Harry

Thank you a thousand
times for your letter about
yourself. But you do
not tell me about the
things which after yourself
interest me most, the
dear innocent grand=
=daughters who are
now in the only place
where they ought to be
under your sheltering
roof & in your kind
bosom's heart.

II

"Christ our Lord has risen
'to-day" - this Sunday
some waking voice says
to me constantly - *This*
has been the terrible
Crucifixion of this family
- but this too its rising
again.

History might have
said: Christ our Lord
was "ruined" to-day -
for there was no triumph
for his followers - but
it said: Christ our Lord

is RISEN to-day: tho'
little but Shame, little
satisfaction or success
or sympathy awaited his
followers.

So let *us* rise again
this blessed day, become
new creatures - To the
"contrite & broken heart" all the
highest promises are
made: E.'s is the
"contrite" heart - Margt's
is the "broken" heart -
In such Christ shows
Himself particularly -

But let us all have
our share of the blessings
Christ in *us* has risen
to-day. Let us no
longer stay in the tomb
= no longer bathe in the
shallow waters, but -
we *must* feel the
waters deep, whether
we will or no, almost
over our heads - Let
us then launch out
into the deep, with
Him for our pilot & guide

[2]

It is quite remarkable
how Fred has shaken
himself loose of all
consideration of the
world - even those as it
were inseparable from
his position - & has put
himself in good earnest,
heart & mind, to think
only of God's cause,
which *is* I suppose having
~~God's~~ the Holy Spirit; & of what
he can do for E. & Margt. **[end 3:427]**
And as for Margt, she is
blessed indeed

I will send you back
the lovely letter of the
Grand Duchess. & ~~write~~ answer
on the two things you have kindly
written to me about Ly Dufferin's Fund
Princess Xtian -

God bless you
 ever yours
F.N.

9013/147 initialed letter, 1f, pen [3:427]

May 6/91

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

Dearest Sir Harry

By the time you receive
this, you will have blessed
Margaret. She needs *rest*
so much -

You *have* Dean
Fremantle - and Mr. Calvert
is better than God -

Fred has won his
spurs of Chivalry. How
chivalrous was Christ
- with the miserable, the
weak, the sinful.

God bless you
ever yours
F.N.

9013/148 initialed letter, 2ff, pen [3:428]

May 12/91

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

My dear Sir Harry

All these days I
have been thinking of
to-day when she left
all pain & sin & care
a year ago, when her
Sun rose in the morning
never to set - when in
joy & fresh activity
she would set to work
for the Father -
Father & *Winner* of our souls,
I say -
And if she could I hear

her say, as you & I
know she would, to you:
"God Almighty has laid a
heavy hand on you all;
why should you make
it worse to yourselves?
Take your Margaret
to your home & heart -
as I know you will" -

To-day is my birth-day
- I am 71. But what a
much better birth-day
hers than mine -

Thank all three dear
girls for their lovely
flowers - which their
mother brought me -
My room is like a
fairy palace with
your flowers & their
wild ones -

Thank Morey on this
day for all he did
for *her* - I always
think of him too.

And take the love
for yourself of yours
& hers ever

F.N.

9013/149 signed telegram, 1f, pencil, not FN hand

{postmarked Steeple Claydon Ma 12 91}

South Audley St 4.9 p 4.30 p

Sir Harry Verney Steeple Claydon
Bucks

on this day when we go up with her
to her home in Heaven where she is beyond
care and sorrow and with joy does
God's Higher work let us rejoice with her.
that her joy may be full Nightingale

9013/150 unsigned, incomplete note, 1f, faint pencil, not FN

{illeg too faint That illeg is only I ask ?}to

us now may be the means, in
the counsels of the Most High
of saving an immortal soul
I look on it thus on this
anniversary

9013/151 initialed letter, 2ff, pen

Lady Dufferin's May 26/91

Society

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

My dear Sir Harry

You wrote to me
about the Meeting on
the 29th at Oxford.

It has my greatest
"good-will", to use your
word. God speed
Lady Dufferin & all
her good works for
India - For He speeds
such work as hers -
work so thorough,
knowledge so complete,
affection so wise, as
she gives to the women
of India

You say: will I not
join it? You
will remember that,
during her time in India,
I did everything I
could to help & further
that wise work of hers,
which I so admire

She pressed me to join
it when she returned
to England. But it is
quite impossible to me
to *keep up* that
knowledge of it now
requisite for co-operation
And so I most reluctantly

declined. And the
more I see how
people give their
names, & remain
'irresponsible dummies,"
the less I feel inclined
to do so myself.

If you like to say
anything for me as I
have put on the first
page, pray do.

I have several letters
on the stocks to you,
but no time to send
them to-day -

May God bless you -
& all yours.

I return your invitation
from Sir W. Hunter. I
trust you mean to go.

Thank dearest Ellin
for her letter - Tell our
blessed Margaret she is
always in our thoughts
Love to all - Harry
included - & thanks
& everything to the Miss
Spring Rices

ever yours affly
F.N.

9013/152 initialed letter, 3ff, pen

[1:605-06]

28 May/91

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

My dear Sir Harry

I hear with such great
distress, from you that your
“day is quite filled with
“letter-writing on Edmund’s
“subject” - that you answer
every letter, even ‘anonymous’
ones. I do not wonder
that the more you do so, “the
“less” you are “comforted”,
because it turns away
your thoughts from the
great reality, the wonderful
miracle that God’s mercy
is working before our eyes -
Christ & the blessed Margaret
bringing back the Lost
Sheep - the only real comfort,

his deep repentance - Christ's
 love to sinners - Christ's
 & the wife's victory -

Is it a tribute to God or to
 morality (which is the same)
 to write & even to telegraph
 as if you had just some
 faint hope, & no more, that
 the sinner *might* repent
 & God might *just* save him?
 Is that faith?

Your telegram on Parthe's
 great birth-day was very distressing
 to me. We must not fall
 into that desponding way
 as if we had to uphold
 morality against repentance.

[N.B. Parthe always impressed upon
 me: tho' I did not need the warning,
 whatever you telegraph to or from
 here Claydon is known all over Steeple
 Claydon

I think the Persian's prayer is
 better than many Christian's
 "Four things, O Lord, I have to offer

Thee

"Which thou hast not in all Thy
 treasury,

"My nothingness, my sad necessity
 " *My fatal Sin* & earnest penitence

Accept these gifts, & take the
 giver hence" - i.e. to a better
 life in this world. [not FN added, his son]

Do you know that Edmund
 sent a message to me:

"Tell her *that I prayed* to
 God to stop me: to release
 me from this slavery" (to
 vice)

God has answered his prayer.

Faith is saying 'yes' to God.

The trial is terrible - But
let us say 'yes' to God - &
never, never doubt that God
HAS given to Edmund
salvation thro' repentance -
never, never, - It seems so
churlish to God if we do
not believe [illeg] in what He is about:

And while there is such
an outcry against Edmund,
as there is, let us express
not our faint hope but
our fervent faith that he is
at this moment the repentant
& *changed* sinner - that
he will come out of prison
purified, as there is no
doubt.

Unless Margaret had thrown
all *earthly* feeling [illeg] aside,
her position would be intolerable.

[2]

But she has nothing left in her
but the "indwelling God"
and to do what he has
charged her with.

But oh her sorrow! [illeg]
You who are so kind & so
chivalrous towards her -
her main comfort is being
with you -

If you think that you must
uphold morality by your
letters, I assure you there
is no danger of people
thinking that you do not
feel this bitter sin enough.
Let people not think that
his *father* doubts his
repentance.

Thanks for your great
kindness to me which
allows me to write this -

ever yours, my dear brother,
praying for you hourly

F.N.

9013/153 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

June 2/91

5 p.m.

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

Dear Sir Harry

You will know how
we are thinking of you
& Mr. Calvert's illness -

He is ordered perfect
quiet - but the accounts
to-day are not bad -

He is not worse -

You will hear by

Telegram -

Thanks for Mr. Gladstone's

nice letter which I will
return -

You are always kind, so kind
always, inviting me your
anxious sister to say
what she thinks -

This encourages me to
send you the enclosed
which I wrote when I
received yours of May
27.

May all blessings attend
you And they *will*

ever yours

F.N.

9013/154 initialed letter, 1f, pen

June 3/91

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

My dear Sir Harry

Mr. Calvert is no worse.

And Fred is so helpful
getting Night Nurse &

Day Nurse for him -

And the butler seems

very attentive to him,

tho' not like Morey; no.

You know we are so
near that I can send

4 times a day to enquire,
including the first thing
& the last at night.

And the butler good=na=
turedly comes over in the

evening besides to tell

me. Mr. Calvert has

quiet nights - And he
sees Maudie

I am keeping this open
to give you the last

news before post -

which is that he takes
plenty of nourishment.

I shall write tomorrow

more at length, because

the blessed Margaret

will have left you

for a day

I am afraid you are
not very well -

dear Sir Harry

ever yours & hers

F.N.

9013/155 initialed note, 1f, pen

June 4/91

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

{at right angles to printing}

Yes, please, dearest blessed Margaret,
to-day at 5 -

I should, rather than miss seeing you,
walk to Onslow Gardens
on my knees - F.N.

9013/156 signed memorandum, 1f, pen

In affectionate remembrance
of the only brother of our beloved Sir Harry Verney
Mr. Frederick Calvert
who, being dead, yet speaketh: -
I tried to do the will of our Father who is in
heaven. And now, Lord, come I home
to Thee -

to *us* he saith:

O come to Jesus now
Jesus is here

June 6 1891
Florence Nightingale

9013/157 unsigned note, 1f, pencil, original in scrapbook

(arch: June 6}

June 6 1891

Dearest Lettice Mr. Calvert, quieter night
but weaker this morning -

We shall hear from Aunt Maudie whether
Grandpapa stays - & from Mr. Power
whether he keeps you. I hope if he does
you will be *here*, dear soul -

I shall see you when you come back
And, I hope, Aunt Maudie, unless she is
too much pressed - She will be here at 9.30

9013/158 initialed letter, 2ff, pen

June 7/91

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

I was so very grateful to you,
dear Sir Harry, for your
note. Yes, I do feel that
you two brothers had a
rare affection for each other
- you were like two lovers.

But it is better for *him*
that he should go first -
he was so lonely - & you
have blessed Margaret
& Maude & Fred - & many
others, & grand children so
fond of Grandpapa -

God hears our prayers of
this last night, I am sure;
& *he* is now in the Immediate
Presence - & he is telling
you not to fret.

And this morning we are
 praying that He will
 raise *us* up now to-day
 "from the death of sin
 "unto the life of righteousness".
 & *dwell in us* - & then
 we shall be *even to-day*
 the "blessed of the Father"

Will you not come & see
 me *this afternoon?* &
 we will "return thanks"
 together - & believe what
 we say we believe -

Will you say what time
 you will come, unless it
 is better for you to stay *in*
 in that haven of rest
 Onslow Gardens

ever your & Parthe's
 F.

9013/159 incomplete, unsigned letter, 2ff, pen

Could you say to Edmund what
 you said to me so sorrowfully?
 viz. "I *must* be on my own side
 "I cannot help it" - x x x
 "There will be none but Liberal
 Unionists at the Meeting: no
 Conservatives" - x x x
 "Lord Lawrence is the Chairman -
 he manages it all -
 "He has asked me to take the
 Chair for an hour at the
 beginning. And I have ~~consented~~ refused.
 & & &
 "There will be no Resolution passed
 at the Meeting of GENERAL
 agreement with the Conservative
 policy"

Will this Meeting ~~take~~ *transfer* many votes *from* Capt. Verney?

Will all the Liberals who are at this Meeting vote for

EGERTON HUBBARD, *against* Capt. Verney?

thus opposing his return - & ~~p~~ in consequence of your powerfully, if indirectly, contributing to Hubbard's success?

Will any Resolution be passed at the Meeting of

GENERAL *agreement* with the Conservative

policy? If ~~you~~ not, please tell

Edmund so -

Could something be said of this sort-

“My son says he is for maintaining the union - so am I -

His method is not mine. And I cannot agree with it. But, as I

as I have entire belief in his honesty, & agree with him in

many important political questions, on which I can look

for no agreement from the other side, (I do not feel

myself called on to take any personal part with those who,

would oppose his return).

Or (I can take no step to

oppose his return)

{big question mark in the margin}

9013/160 initialed letter, 2ff, pen [3:428-29]

June 13/91

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

My dear Sir Harry

Though I shall see you
so soon (on Monday, please
God) I cannot help
writing one line to
thank you for yours -
written after such a
hard day the day before,
- hard for you & for the
blessed Margaret.

But - you say - "long
"life xx long continuance of
"Sins perpetrated daily " -
& "say no more".

Now we are expressly told
by Christ himself - & even

by heathens, as Epictetus,
that we are not to
rummage about among
our sins - that not *feeling*
but looking to God's love
is to save us - not
muck=ing about among
the shame & "disgrace"
but coming to Him
FROM the shame &
"disgrace", is the only way
to *expel* our sins -
Let God have His joy -
in welcoming us!
ever yours

F.N.

"Come home! come home!
 From the sorrow & blame,
 From the sin & the shame,
 And the tempter that smiled,
 O prodigal child!
 Come home, oh come home!
 "Come home! come home!
 There is bread & to spare,
 And a *warm welcome* there,
 Then, to friends reconciled,
 O prodigal child!
 Come home, oh come home!

Could you kindly tell me
 when you arrive at
 Grosvenor St., *what time*
 you would wish to see
 me? F.N. **[end 3:429]**

9013/161 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

June 18/91
 {printed address:} 10, South Street,
 Park Lane. W.

Dearest Margaret
 I think of your night
 & of your painful
 business this morning
 And I don't like
 to add to it by one
 thread - Do you
 wish to find a
 situation for that
 cook (an old servant
 of yours) whom you
 mentioned as having

engaged for a few weeks
for Rhianva? I believe
I must part with my
Cook-housekeeper -
An excellent woman,
but so devoid of
intelligence.

If there is a moment
you can spare to
come to me to day,
& this would save your
writing, it would be
a blessing to me to see

you - And I would
not detain you.

God bless you
ever yours
F.N.

9013/162 initialed letter, 2ff, pen

June 28 30/91
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir Harry

Thanks for your
Cheque for Hygiene
congress. It will be
greatly appreciated.

I think of you &
pray for you hourly,
as you know full well.
I send you a little
book of Miss March's
which I think you
will like - particularly
"Friends" p.p. 138-158
At the end. There

are some beautiful
bits (which I have
ventured to mark)
about God as it were
suing for our friendship.

Wonderful thought!
and with this I leave
you for to-day - or
rather I meet you there
in the Infinite Love -
ever your

F.

Kind regards to
Morey

Lady Dufferin has
been here to-day -
so very interesting

She said how kind
you had been in coming
to Oxford

Of her more anon.

F.

9013/163 initialed letter, 2ff, pen

10 South St. July 1/91

My dear Sir Harry

I have one thing to
say: *Rest, rest, rest*,
which I repeat over &
over again. No, I have
two things: (2) keep to
warm under-clothing.

Mr. Croft desires me
to say from him: to
"impress" upon you
from him that you
"*must*" give nature
"*Rests*, or the consequences
"will be very serious" -
Do you hear?

I do not condescend to
notice your letter that
'you have had two objects,
'& !!! shall SCOLD! you
'for their altogether
'*selfishness*!!

'to keep warm,
'and to rest.

That is my schoolboy's
affectation - when the
one thing we are
imploring you to do
is to REST: & when
it *is* so '*selfish*' to give
~~such~~ such anxiety to
people -

I send you that little
Memoir which the
daughters of your old
friend Andrew Johnston
(Priscilla Johnston &
Mrs. McInnes) left
for you of her son
young McInnes, who
was killed in the Alps.
I think there is hardly
any Memoir of a boy
so full of holy &
inspiring & sensible
thought. I have
ventured to mark
some things you would
like best.

Now, don't you aggravate
me again by saying
that I shall "scold" you for
doing what we begged &
besought. If you do, I
shall tell Dean Fremantle
of you. and he will send
Maudie a stick!

If you read Miss March's
little book, "A Hero in the
Battle of Life", please
remember that each little
narrative is exactly as it
really happened -

May God bless you
ever yours & Parthe's
F.

9013/164 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

July 2/91

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

My dear Sir Harry

In reply to yours, is it not more to the purpose to "consider" God's *longing* love to each & every one of us sinners than to "consider" "the condition of His enemies "after death"?

But I am "considering" the condition of the *most aggravating-est* of mortals during *life* here - And I hope you will consider it too & speak to him forcibly, saying: that it is a duty and a necessity and an 'unselfish' =ness to *take rest*

When we "offer & present" "to "Thee, O Lord, ourselves, "our souls & *bodies* - our "*bodies too*, I don't think we consider enough what this means - it certainly does not mean, does it?, any kind of want of *moderation* or squandering to We give them as a "holy & living sacrifice", that does not mean a "victim" but a *consecration*

Now, be good
ever your & her F.

9013/165 signed note, 1f, pencil

7/7/91

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

Yes, dearest blessed
Margaret, if you
are not too tired,
& will rejoice my eyes
by coming here "at
"five", as you so kindly
propose, please do.
Dearest love to Lettice
ever yours
F. Nightingale

9013/166 signed letter, 2ff, pencil

8/7/91

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

Dearest Margaret
Thank you so much
for your note of this
morning - I shall
think of you every hour.
Please tell dear
Lettice how immensely
her roses are admirable -
I am afraid you had
a stormy Wixenford -
but I hope a happy
one-

I do not know whether
you saw the Beaumaris
Doctor after Pentonville -

This is only to wish
you & my dear Lettice
a blessed good night
"For so He giveth His
beloved sleep" -

After much consideration
I think I would have

Dr. Ord
37 Upper Brook St.
for dear Ellin -
I will tell you more
if you like
ever with great love
your

F. Nightingale
I want to hear ~~more~~
& shall send tomorrow

9013/167 initialed notes, 2ff, pencil

9/7/91

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

To enquire after

Mrs. Verney and
Miss Lettice

38 Upper Grosvenor St.
with F. Nightingale's
great love

[black-edged paper]

July 10/91

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

Dearest Margaret

Is it well with the child?

Is it well with you?

O rest in the Lord,

He has been saying to
me all night.

Is dear Ellin come?

Only a verbal answer,
please.

ever your

F.N.

Those beautiful roses,
tell dear Lettice,

9013/168 initialed notes, 2ff, pencil

July 11/91

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

Dearest Margaret

How are the three -
you & Ellin & Lettice?

I know how engrossed you
must be -

Should you however
or dear Ellin have a
short time this afternoon,
I should be so glad
to see either - or both
ever your loving

F.N.

Fred has given me a good
account of this morning

Dearest Margaret

I *am* very full to-day - but cannot
forego the pleasure of seeing you
Would 6.30 suit you?

ever yours

F.N.

14/7/91

{printed address: upside down} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

9013/169 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

14/7/91

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

Dearest Margaret

How is dear Lettice & dear
Ellin & you blessed one?
If you go to Westgate on
Thursday, may I see you,
as you kindly offered,
tomorrow?

I wrote to Miss Crossland,
as you desired, about the
Probationers' visit to Claydon
-She writes full of gratitude
to you & Sir Harry - Will
TUESDAY 21 suit you both?
She will make arrangements
to bring them on that day,
(if it does) by train reaching

Claydon Station about 11 am

They will be about
29 or 30 in number.

She hopes that
nobody will be the worse
for their coming. And
so do I - But do
put them off if you think
otherwise -

God bless you
ever your loving

F.N.

9013/170 initialed letter, 1f, pen & pencil

July 15/91

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

Dearest Margaret

I do trust you will
rest your dear self
somewhat now at the sea.

[Here comes Memorial of
C.]

How is Lettice?

How is Ellin? If Ellin is
quite disengaged after
you are gone, will she
come & have a cup of
milk here *about 5*, &
tell me about herself &
you?

Morey writes to me to ask
for prizes for Athletic
Sports on Bank Holiday -
Should not country books
- books about Natural History

go to country men?

1. *Darwinism*
2. *Lubbock's Insects & Flowers*
3. " *Scientific Lectures*
4. *S.P.C.K. Native Songsters*
5. *Stanton's History of British Birds*

But I feel so cruelly that,
except the two last, these are
so much above them

O if *you* could write!

Please tell Ellin, if you have
a moment what you recommend.,

6. *Darwin's "Worms"* is most curious -

God's choicest blessing

on your head & heart

HE feels your every pang

as *you* do - But I pray

Him to bless your body

too. You *must* let him. {pencil} He

does - Else you could not be so brave {pencil ends}

ever & ever yours

F.N.

9013/171 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

16/7/91

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

My dear Sir Harry

Here is the receipt for
the money you so kindly
gave to the Hygiene Congress.

The Probationers are
looking forward with delight
to Tuesday 21, the day
which you have, I understand,
most kindly appointed/accepted
for them to come to you
(by the train arriving at
Claydon Station about 11)

I hope it is really
convenient to you.

Pray don't overfatigue
yourself. ever yours

F.N.

9013/172 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

July 20/91

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

Dearest blessed Margaret

Only to bid *good*

morning to you to you & dear

Lettice - I don't so

much as ask to see

you, you will be so

hurried - But I hope

to hear of you from

Maudie & Fred -

God speed -

Have you been resting?

I will send, with your

{line drawn diagonally through this paragraph} leave, two books for

Morey by you .

No, I won't - Your

luggage will all be

packed -

With love to dear

Lettice, ever your

F.N.

9013/173 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

277/91

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

My dear Sir Harry

Your Probationers

& Miss Crossland delighted

in their day - I send you

one of their effusions - They

were so gratefully happy

with all that was done

for them - as well they

might be -

Thanks for your most

kind letter about my coming

& the Hygienists coming -

I am afraid my coming so

soon is impossible - And

one only of the native

Indian delegates is arrived

And others I know have
serious engagements here
in London before the
Congress -

But I will write you
more fully, dear Sir Harry,
to-morrow -

I hope Philip Tomes did
very well here; but I expect
he will have to come up
again.

ever yours
F.N.

9013/174 initialed letter, 2ff, pen

July 28/91
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W

My dear Sir Harry

You were so good as to
ask me to come to you
before the Congress, & to meet
congress delegates (at Claydon)

First: I: my Doctor tells
me that it behooves me to
have common sense, & that
if I have I must not
imbibe the Congress.

If I *can* get away on
Saturday, I am very
anxious to go to the
Shore Smiths. They have
asked me so often. The
house is let for the latter
Embley

part
end of August till February -
and even if I can get
off on Saturday, I shall
not be there much more
than a fortnight - And I
know you wish me to go -
I have not been at Embley
for 17 years

2. Delegates: Only one native
Indian Delegate has
arrived. And I am to
see him this week here.

Several Delegates I know
of have important
engagements - And I
believe there will be
meetings to settle about
the reading of papers
here in London &c &c

3. I am sorry to give
up so much; but I hope
you will not come up to
the Congress. I pass on
maliciously my Doctor's
dictum to you: Common
sense -

4. I hope you will
have the men you kindly
wish to have to Claydon
after the Congress.
If you will still have *me*, I
shall certainly come to you after
Embley, please God.
Dr. Sutherland is dead
So is Miss Irby's
brother-in-law, Mr.
Lewis Loyd -
I send you one of the
effusions of our

grateful Probationers
about the delightful
day at Claydon -

Dearest blessed Margaret
was so good as to
come here - brave as
usual but full of
sorrows.

ever yours
F.N.

9013/175 initialed letter, 2ff, pen

Congress August 3/91
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W

My dear Sir Harry

In reply to yours:

I ~~believe~~ am sure your name was put
down on the Honorary
Council some time ago. But
I immediately wrote to Sir
Douglas Galton. He says too
it was: but he will
enquire to-day at their
office whether it is not
there still.

I have myself seen
Mr. Bhownaggree, (native)
Delegate of that native Indian
State,) who is in charge of
the others; who are not yet
come. And he will see that
your kind invitation to the
native Indian delegates is

properly carried out

He is very much gratified

He will write to me -

I go tomorrow to Embley

for two or three weeks -

How beautiful, true &

touching is "M.M.V.'s"

little sketch of Mr. Calvert

Now pray, pray take

care of yourself -

I told Sir D. Galton how

much interested you were

in the Naval & Military

& in the School Hygiene

Sections

God speed -

To-day is your Bank holiday

I hope in the weather

ever yours

F.N.

9013/176 signed letter, 1f, pencil & pen

Embley Romsey Aug 11/91

{printed address, a line drawn through it} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W

My dear Sir Harry

You kindly say: "I wish

"to know which of the Indian

"Delegates I shall invite".

I enclose a note to Mr.

Bhownagree (of that

native State) who is in a

kind of charge of the others

- a Parsi, {pen begins} whom I saw

before I left London on

behalf of your kindness

about inviting, as you will

see. ever yours

F. Nightingale

9013/177 initialed letter, 1f, pen

Embley

Romsey

Hampshire

Aug 11/91 {printed address, a line drawn through it} 10, South Street,

Park Lane. W

Dearest blessed Margaret

Thanks, thanks, thanks

for your dear note -

I had thought a great deal of the inscription on Parthe's cross - But I like yours so much better than anything I have done - indeed I think it is perfect, & so I am sure will others - that I return it; only putting the correct dates - & hoping to see it some day just so.

I will write again in answer to your loving letter

Love to all yours

ever yours

F.N.

9013/178 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

Aug 13 1891

My dear Sir Harry

How are you?

Do you mean to have the Sacrament to-day? & at what time?

And what time will you come to me?

Could you say a few words with me *after* the Sacrament before you go down stairs?

F.N.

9013/179 signed letter, 2ff, pen

Embley, Romsey, Hampshire

Aug 13/91

Dearest blessed Margaret

Thanks for your loving note.

I leave this on ~~Monday~~

Tuesday 25 for a very

good reason - the house is let -

& Inventories & other demoniacal

arrangements have to begin -

Now, please, my Saint,

'speak truth & shame the

'devil' - *It is convenient* to

all concerned that I come

to Claydon *on that day?*

I can dispose of myself

in various ways - Now

pray 'tell truth' - I am one

who pray to the Saints - at

least to one - And I shan't

pray any more if she

deceives me.

I purposely enclose my
letter to Sir Harry to you
that you may not give it
him if it is better not -

I should bring only one
maid, & *no* cats. Last year I had
two *at Sir Harry's* desire,
(i.e. Mrs. Broadhurst's). And
I could send for one more a
little later if you wish it -
I don't mean two cats -

2

But really the most
important thing is this:
you *must not* turn out
of the Blue suite which
is yours by rules & regulations
& love & common sense. It is
distinctly yours - And it is

ludicrous to put my maid too
into the bow-room - I should
be worse than the two-headed
eagle. I should be a four
headed eagle.

How are you?
I must stop if I am to get
this off by the morning post.
So you must write the rest
for me - dearest blessed
Margaret -

Or I shall get into
I won't - I shan't - I shall I will.

God for ever bless you -
ever your loving

F. Nightingale

9013/180 initialed letter, 3ff, pencil

Embley Romsey Aug 19/91
{printed address, a line drawn through it} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W

My dear Sir Harry

How kind you are to our
Indians - I scarcely know "which"
of them" I should "advise" you to
"invite" - knowing but few of
them.

Mr. Bhownaggee promised me
that he would only put on his List
the *best people*, because English are
so taken in. Therefore we are
sure that *all* these are good
men: "respectable & intelligent"

But I think the main thing is
that *you* should not be fatigued.
And I would ask Margaret how
she advises

I understood that you meant
to have "3 or 4" "at a time"

The first mentioned you should certainly have:

1. *Dr. K.N. Bahdurjee*

He occupies a chair at Bombay founded by a native state.

2. *Mr. Dadabhai Narrajee*

He is a Parsi - was on the [Naraoji] Governor's Council at Bombay - is 'head & shoulders' greater than any other man, except those few (Mr. Ranadè &c &c) who will not leave India - I introduced him to you at South St. And you liked him.

3. *Mr Bhownagree* who writes you should certainly have - *He* is Prime Minister (so to speak) of a native State - knows & will tell you all about the other men he

proposes

4. *Dr & 5 Mrs. Roy* I think you should have. Dr. Roy is said to

be a distinguished man. The Calcutta Univ. sends him - It does almost as much good having the *ladies* as the men. The neatness & order of an English home strikes them (the ladies) so much - And it is thro' the women - the cultivated women of India - that we must save India

Of the remaining 6

Digby

Fernandos

I suppose

6. *Dr. Fernando* and 7 *Mrs. F.* should be asked as *Delegates* - [I know nothing about them]

And

8. *Mr. S. Digby* should be asked

He is a barrister who without a penny of remuneration has really dragged thro' the whole *Indian* business of the Congress for us - & he can tell you everything about every man of them, if you invite him.

I have only reduced the 12 to 8

But Margt. will be the best adviser - The seeing an English home is the great thing for these Indians

You *could* invite Dadabhai Nowrojee & Bhownaggee later, because both will be in England for some time at least -

But then you will not have their Cicerones with them Indians, except

[2]

Mr. Digby {printed address, a line drawn through it} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W

And this reminds me *Bhownaggee* who is himself a Parsi, ought to tell you who are *Parsis* & who *Hindoos*. *I think you ought to ask him this, in order to know how to treat them*

[I have some idea that the *Tarachands* are distinguished people - but one must cut off somebody]

I do not understand exactly *how* you mean to ask them - not all 8 at once for *several* days -

When I saw Mr. Bhow-naggee, he asked if they might come down *for the day*,

(as you said, "3 or 4" at a time) or for a night; & you mentioned their seeing Oxford from Claydon.

Only don't fatigue yourself -

I confide you to Margaret's terrible arm
ever your

F.N.

Sir W. Wedderburn was so very much pleased with his visit to Claydon. I wished he had had his Indians with him.

9013/181 signed letter, 2ff, pen & pencil

Embley Romsey ug 19/91
{printed address, a line drawn through it 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W

Dearest Margaret

Sir Harry writes to me about the Indians he is so good as to wish to receive And you will say ~~he~~ I am seducing him into "prausing".

I have answered him & returned Mr. Bhownaggee's letter.

And I only hope you will hold the curb.

I have cut them down only to 8 - & possibly to 6. And I feel it so possible that he ought to see *none* & quite impossible but for you that he should

see *any*.

And I know that he
thinks I can do so much
more for him than I can - He wants
me to go & see Stanbridge
~~And~~ for him - And I have
only been out 5 or 6 times
for 5 or 6 minutes since
I have been here -

{pencil starts}

My good cousin Ben Smith
who went to the N. Pole &
lost his ship but not one
man, nor his dog nor his
cat, (but unluckily afterwards
the cat was eaten) has offered
me the loan of his place in
Sussex. And I'd almost a
mind to take it - I thought it
wd be better even for Sir Harry

if I could get stronger before I came to him - But
I haven't accepted it, you
see -

If you have these Indians,
you must have the Blue suite

Welfare be yours

ever your loving

F.N.

9013/182 unsigned memorandum, 1f, pen

Notes on List of Indian possible invitations

Mr. Bhownagree's

Mr. Dadabhai Narrajee men more

Mr. Bhownagree of the

rank &
intelligence

of Cabinet

Ministers here
mutatis mutandis

{with necessary
changes}

(Ed.20.,8.91)

Dr. Bahdurjee

“ Roy two last with

“ Fernando their wives

as delegates these three

& the two wives come more

into the category of those

who should have an invitation

but are of the rank of Doctors.

[Is Fernando a Spanish Cinghalese?

Mr. Digby is your guide to India

in England

[Mr. Bhownagree ditto]

to India in India

Who are the Parsis?

& who the Hindoos?

9013/183 initialed note, 1f, pen

I believe I shall come
if you allow
on *Tuesday*
via Reading & Oxford
about 5.22 at Claydon
(6 hours) in time for
Sir Harry's afternoon tea,
but will write to him

Don't think that the
great thing is not always
before my heart, as it
is before yours.

your
F.

20/8/91

9013/184 initialed letter, 1f, pencil & pen

Embley

Aug 25/91 {printed address, a line drawn through it} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W

My dear Sir Harry

I expect to be at
Claydon Station
5.22

to-morrow (Tuesday)
via Oxford
in time for your afternoon
tea

if you have not got the
French fleet aboard you

Auf Wiedersehen -

God bless you
ever your
F.N.

9013/185 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

Aug 25/91

{printed address, a line drawn through} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W

Dearest Margaret

Professor Ellin is
pursuing Mr. James'
education with zeal &
effectiveness -

Mr. Bhownagree is
writing to me that he
rather wishes Sir Harry
could fix the days for
those of the 12 Indians
whom he wishes to invite.
I take it that he thought
Sir H. would invite 2 or

3 or 4 to come for one
night - each choosing
that time most easy
for himself - *out of any*
3 days Sir H. would kindly
fix - next "Friday, Saturday
& Sunday - or any other
"days more convenient to
"Sir H." I believe Mr. Bhownagree is going to Scotland

Excuse me for bothering
you who have so many -
May God bless you
ever yours
F.N.

shortly, when he will not
be to the fore to guide
the rather helpless Indians
But, I am so afraid of
hurrying or overdoing
Sir H.

9013/186 initialed note, 1f, pencil

Aug 28 {arch: 1891}

Dearest Margaret (arch: ?1891)

I trust you are somewhat less tired
this morning -

How can I see your "Injuns" so as to take
them a little off your hands? I could
see *two each* afternoon - to-day, tomorrow, Sunday

{ - Dadabhai Narraji

come to day ?4.57

- Dr. Badhurji from Manchester

" " "

- Mr. Doctor

to-day ? 4.57

on Sunday afternoon Mr. & Mrs. Tarachand

I ought to see the *lady* your F.N.

9013/188 initialed note, 1f, pencil

Sept 1 1891

My dear Sir Harry

You surely will
not go to the Aylesbury
Public Luncheon. And there
is every prospect of
heavy rain. Surely
you have a reason
for taking care of
yourself. God grant
you do give it up.

yours & Parthe's

F.N.

I am sure Dr. Morey

does not approve of it.

9013/189 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

Sept 11 {arch: ?91}

Dearest Margt. I am at your orders, as far
as I can, about Miss Calder & Princess Damrong -
[Fred says I must see Mr. Morant *with* Prince]
I would see Miss Calder in my bed at 12.15 if
you like & Prince & Co at 5.15 or 5.30
or Miss Calder at 3 & Prince & Co. at 5.15
or vice versa.

But it really is such a shame to make
your appointments subservient to mine
Tell me what *you* think best.

I am so shocked at your
cramming yourselves up last
night. Could not maids Lizzie
& Co sleep in my dressing-room?
setting that their room free

ever your loving & reverent
F.N.

9013/190 initialed letter, 1f, pen

Sept 16/91

Dearest Margaret You know if you would undertake that "leaflet" for the teaching to Mothers matters of health (to put into people's hands for the Lectures) no one would do it like you - It would not take long. Perhaps we might get it copied by Friday morning - & then I wd have it printed -

I would help all I could - give {printed address: line through it} 10, South Street, you headings & questions - but no one could do Park Lane. W. it like you. You kindly say it is not Claydon

taxing you too much to ask you.

I am writing two long letters to ask people about Prof. Corfield - And then I would telegraph tomorrow to ask if he is at home.

I do not know him personally
May I see you this afternoon, light of everybody?

F.N.

To all this only say Yes -
How are you?

9013/191 [192 on microfilm] initialed letter, 1f, pen

17/9/91

Dearest Margaret

What hopes of my seeing you to-day?

I am so ashamed of leaving the thick of
the work to you - I think your 'leaflet'
will probably supply the questions (other
than business questions) for you to
ask "the Professor" - Can we get it
copied to-day by Mr. Ager or - ? for
ultimately
printing -

May I see it this morning & see you
in the afternoon? I hear with terror you
go by first train tomorrow -

ever your grateful F.N.

9013/192 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

Sept 23/91

Dearest Margaret - Afraid dear Grandpapa was oblivious of what he wished to ask Professor yesterday - viz. Fred's letter about extending usefulness of museum to embrace Technical work about the Province. C.C grant dependent on it. I had no idea you had not seen letter: Lettice was so good as to run down after you had gone down to dinner, catch Grandpapa, find {printed address: vertical} Claydon House, the letter for him, & ask him to give it to you. Winslow, Bucks.

I was so sorry I had not asked to see you for a minute, but did not like to worrit you - My feeble

remonstrance about bird-killing & Professor was intended to hang on to Fred's letter - surely Agriculture is "Technical" - & the ignorance about it & birds a national loss - & comes within Fred 's sphere - & request.

We are all turning into allotments. Lettice will be an allotment next year - I shall be an allotment next year. And I will make a volcano under all the allotments if they kill my birds - Professor mind that -

[My Robin, the first I have seen, has just come to my window & made me two curtseys, x saying:

'I know you are trying to save us -] I showed Lettice last night what I believe to be a true account by first-rate Naturalists of "what birds eat".

O save my birds -

x

I made my curtsey to Queen Ellin in her lovely fairy appearance last night

F.N.

9013/193 [93 on microfilm] initialed letters, 2ff, pencil

Sept 27/91

Dearest Margaret

I am so thankful the book is off -
Mr. Higham (this does not belong to the "period")
has asked to see me thro' Sir Harry who
urges me - I am afraid it must be about
the Embley (Wellow) living - a very poor one
now - Do you wish him to stay here E. Claydon
[I had not mentioned it to him]

Mr. Jowett who I am afraid is quite knocked
up, wishes to come here from Thursday till Saturday.
So short a time will do him no good?

ever your F.N.

Sept 28/91

Dearest Margaret

You were so good as to say that you
wished to see me before I saw Mr. Higham
And indeed I shd. not know what to say
without you -

Could you come at 20 or 15 min. before
4? But that will be cutting into your going
out.

The F.N. "period" has also arrived -
And I have all sorts of questions to ask you

F.N.

9013/194 [94 on microfilm] initialed letters, 2ff, pencil

Sept 30 {arch: ?91}

Dearest Margaret

I am sorry to say I have a very bad account
of Mr. Jowett - Written not by himself nor with
his knowledge - I should think it impossible
that he can come tomorrow - And the only
comfort is that it will be one care the less
for you - if he does not -

I have not heard from him - Possibly Sir
Harry has?? - I don't know whether Mr. Jowett has given

up coming.

When will you let me see your blessed
face to-day? - if you can at all -
There *are* a good many things to say your F.

St. Michael's Day

Dearest Margt (arch: ?29 Sept 1891}

I think that "the Master *would* rather
"find you alone", but I don't think it really
signifies - He is such a social animal -
He would like what you liked best -
But I am afraid he is really ill -

your
F.

9013/195 [Sept. 1891?] initialed letter, 2ff, pencil [1:405-06]

[Sept 1891?]

INSCRIPTION - Thank you for sending me this,
dearest blessed Margaret. It does one
good, I think - It makes one look
forward to the unchanging Love of God -

Don't attend to what I am going to say

It is really hypercriticism - And I like {printed address: vertical, with a line through it} 10, South
Street, everything you do - I only put because Park Lane. W.

you invite

Does it not look as if she were
"laid to rest" (slept) " *until* the day
"break"?

whereas is not death merely
a 'shuffling off of the mortal
'coil' - the reality, the soul living
on without a moment's cessation?

On the other hand, *time* itself
ceases -

I like so much the bringing in "Ascension
Day" - but "*laid to rest*" on
"Ascension Day" seems at first
sight rather a paradox?

On the other hand - the New
Testament is full of such beautiful
paradoxes - & it may even
seem as if it were "laying to rest"
the controversy which afflicts so
many.

I shall be quite satisfied with
it. We are going to put something
up to her on my father & mother's
monument -

ever dearest yours

F.N.

I am afraid *you* are very tired.

9013/196 initialed letter, 2ff, pen

Oct 2/91

Dearest Margt I would by all means ask

Dr. De'ath for TOMORROW, as you kindly ask.

2. *What time* would you like me to see Mr.

Jowett? I think it *must* be better for him
to be in the Cedar-room - & I don't think
he would like even old me to come into
his bed room, (tho' at home I have been

called up to see him when he was staying with
me - & was ill.)

Shall I come & see him in the Cedar-room
BEFORE lunch? PERHAPS *I might get out of*
him what is right for himself - And I could

see him again before dinner if he likes
it in the Cedar-room -

How kind of you to write to me
I had another letter last night brought by the
servant. The Doctor says almost anything
is better than thwarting him. It seems
he is occasionally nervous & irritable.
a cup of beeftea & toast he should have
if he will, between breakfast & lunch
walk as little as possible - go out in
the carriage , - open, if fine - Music
soothes him. An arm-chair & leg rest
in his bed-room to sit up in at night
if necessary - Servant to administer
Medicine & brandy. Mr. J. always forgets
Brandy to be always at hand - He is better
not left alone too much. [But how is one
to provide any one to sit up at night to
entertain him till the small hours?]

I believe your kindness has provided
everything except the last. Which is impossible

Shall I come down to him in the *Cedar-room*
say at 12.45?

3. Do have Miss Parker every day for a few
days. Maude says it is quite impossible to

read some of those letters without her.

I assure you your time is worth not
2/ an hour but £20 an hour. You will
not put me to that expence, if you don't
have Miss P. many days.

ever your loving & anxious
F.N.

9013/197 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

Oct 3 {arch: ?91}

Dearest Margt If you don't have
Miss Parker next week, I shall write
& appoint her myself - Maudie says
it's impossible to read those letters
without her - Don't answer - I have
a great deal for Miss Parker to do

2. Fred never sees me without saying:
about Domestic Sanitation: "Don't make any
"ENGAGEMENT" with any body - tho' you must
"be ready - I have no authority from Co- Co.

"yet". I bear this in mind with Dr. De'ath
3. Why does not dear Ellin have
"supper" in Blue Room & not "in her own?"
when she does not go down-stairs. I have
no traps about. ever your

F.

9013/198 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

Oct 3

{printed address, stroked out:}10, South Street,
[?91] Park Lane. W.

Dearest Margaret

1. If you must stay in
London ~~with~~ and dear Lettice
please make all the use of
10 South St you can -

The workmen are all out -
the maids (3) are all in -
& they will be so delighted
to see you - I shall write to
them a few days before -

2 Dear *Sir Harry* has had
cramp now 3 nights - And
two nights he has taken our
hot remedy without effect -
What shall we do? Dr. Benson
is coming -

I believe it is all that
taking "a snack by way of

"a damper" instead of a
meal on the tea night.

3. I am so thankful the
master is pretty well. He was
so ill in my room last night.

4. You must *please* settle
what I shall do with the day.

What time shall I see
the Master?

If I see *Dr. De'ath* I
must see *you* first, please -
And *he* will ~~hav~~ see *you*
first at afternoon tea.

And you will give me ideas -
Then if *Fred* is to be here,
I think I ~~had better~~ need say
nothing about the *fee* - But

would you please give
me that pencil *paper of
questions?* Did you send
Dr. De'ath a copy of our
Syllabus, so that he might
look it over first, & see
how humble it is?

I think I must have a
little interval to rest between
each of my "interviews" - Or I
shall be more idiotic than
usual -

ever your F.N.
You know that 10 South St
is quite near *Mr. Power*

9013/199 initialed letter, 1f, pen

Claydon Oct 8 91
{printed address, stroked out:} 10. South Street,
Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir Harry

Please come home
to dinner. *Please* not
to stay for the Evening
Service. You were so
good as to promise
you would not stay.
You said you felt
you were not up to
it. Think how
unhappy it would
make Parthe. Pray
don't make her unhappy

F.N.

I shall go away if you do

9013/199A unsigned note, 2ff, pencil

Have you looked at the books on the
two Tables in Blue Room?

You can have the choice of any of them
except 2 on the S.W. corner of the square
table which are yours.

And you will yourselves know which
are yours on the long table - You can
have your choice of the others -

But if you are not going to Johnny
Co-op till afternoon, I could come out

& show you -

I am so anxious to save *your*
singing birds of which you have left 1 ½
Please look in What is a bird?
if there is not a full account of ~~wh~~
the destruction of insects)

I saving up strength by
{the rest is too faint to read}

9013/201 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

Oct 9/91

{printed address:} Claydon House,
Winslow,

Dearest Margt. Bucks.

Telegram this morning:
no sleep, very, very restless, -
not able to lie down -
mind as keen as ever

But I had a letter this
morning from my cousin
Mrs. Albert Dicey (written
of course yesterday) saying
that Mrs. T.H. Green was
installed in the house at
his own desire - & that Sir
Henry Acland returned on
Wednesday night & saw him
at once - This is an
unutterable relief - for now

he will be cared for -
Actually on *Wednesday* !!
people were coming in &
out & at least 4 or 5 went
in to him - And all sorts
of different things suggested!
Dr. Gray without authority
& Miss Knight nearly
distracted - Now at least,
tho' I believe his life is
only a question of days,
perhaps hours. Mrs. Green
& Sir H. Acland will have
authority - & the influx of
people is stopped -

I think I told you they
have a very good Night
Nurse - whom he told me he liked.

Perhaps a more valuable
life was never sacrificed
to want of common sense.
*A good man nursing himself
is the worst Nurse -*
Still we know that *it is
well* with him -

Thanks for the Quainton
Article - I should be so
glad to pay for that being
printed as a *long leaflet*
in good print - because
people DON'T believe in
Sanitation, they *must* be
made to believe in *want*

of Sanitation

Is Mrs. Milsom
confined? Her nurse
was to come in tomorrow.
And Mrs. Milm spoke so
much of your kindness to
her -

Do you think Sir W.
Hunter will come in time
before dinner for me to
see him on the 15th?

I hope to see you a little
more to-day & a little more
by daylight if possible, dearest
ever dearest ever your F.N.

9013/202 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

{printed address:} Telegraph, Oct 11 {arch: ?91}
Steeple Claydon. Bucks. Claydon House,
Winslow,
Bucks.

Dearest Margt.

Two Telegrams & a letter.

The end seems very near -
Even the mind a *little*
failing - God is very near -
County Council

I have written a sketch
of a letter such as Fred
wished - It requires
a deal of your revision
Would you kindly write
it between the lines?
I have been so interrupted.

There is no hurry about
it. The hurry is in
your revising it some time before you go. *I* can
write it again & again
The ~~end~~ last part particularly is tangled.
If Mr. Airy has really
time, & it would
not take his history
from *you*, I would gladly
see him directly after
your afternoon tea.

I should like to see my
friend James, if he is
going away tomorrow
morning? I could see him

for ½ an hour, say a
 little before 4, when the
 post is gone - But perhaps
 he will be occupied then.

ever your
 F.

who won't throw balls any
 more -

Could I see you just for a
 minute, perhaps quite
 late, to tell you about the
 Telegrams & letter & show you a
 letter from Fred.

9013/203 unsigned note, 1f, pencil

F. Nightingale
 begs the favour of
 Sir Harry Verney's
 company
 in the Blue Banqueting-room
 to-day at 6 o'clock
 13/10/91

Cocoa at 6

9013/204 initialed note, 1f, pencil

Dearest Margt. Oct 12 {arch:: ? 91}

I *must* see you & dear Lettice to-day,
 please. What time do you go tomorrow?
 I have invited Sir Harry to a banquet at
 6. ~~And~~ He has graciously accepted.

I hope Ellin is not very poorly

Shall I see *Mr. Airy* at 4.30 ? Or
 will this interfere with you? He will go down
 to afternoon tea at 5, I suppose, with you
 Sir H. said he was going to ride with him

Telegrams very sad

F.N.

9013/205 signed letter, 1f, pen

Oct 13/91 7 a.m.

Dearest blessed Margaret I hope
you have slept. I do so feel with you
in these worse than worries which
great sorrows make one feel, I think,
more instead of less. I hope you
will stick if it is possible to what
wears you *least*, works you *least*
in all this great labyrinth of anxieties
& griefs. I cannot tell you how I
felt with you last night - But it is
our Father God & our brother Christ

[2]

who feel with you - In the most terrible
moment of His life, Christ gave us peace,
His peace. His peace be with you,
blessed Margaret.

It is God's will, I am sure, that
you should avoid all but necessary
calls upon your strength, so much
tried.

I will not ask to see you this morning,
for it would hurry you too much
ever yours with great love

Aunt Florence

You said yourself how dreaded worries God makes melt away

9013/206 signed letter, 1f, pencil

Oct 15 {arch: 91}

Dearest Margt.

I am thankful you are alive & that the
Milsom baby is "shouting lustily" -

Could I see you this afternoon?

Sir W. Hunter is coming, I believe, at 4 —something

He says he wishes to see me - Might I see
him, if convenient, directly after afternoon tea?

And Fred wishes me to say goodbye to the
Prince which I suppose must be after dinner.

Is Fred going to India? I have a Budget

ever your F.N. from him anent

Co Co

9013/207 signed letter, 1f, pencil

Oct 16/91

Dearest blessed Margaret

Best blessings & great love to both - you
& dear Ellin. May we have a Telegram by
& bye before you come back? But if not
we shall wait patiently till you come back

I do not ask to see either of you - You have
Maudie & Lettice & so many people -

I am to see Fred -

Trains full & heavy - or light - with loves
accompany you - Aunt Florence

9013/208 incomplete, unsigned letter, 1f, pencil

Oct 17/91

Claydon House Winslow,
Bucks.

Dearest Lettice

Don't you think, as
Aunt Maudie is not to
be at home, you &
Mother had better go
to 10 South St -

It was got completely
ready for you last
week & the maids
were quite disappointed
you did not come.

I could telegraph to
Mother tomorrow (Sunday)

9013/209 printed copy of a signed letter, 3ff, printed [typeset], bundle 452

[6:587-89]

Confidential

Claydon House,
Winslow,
Bucks.

October 17, 1891

My dear Mr. Frederick Verney,

It is scarcely needful to say to intelligent people that Health at the Home is one of the most important questions for any one charged with the duties of Local Government. But, while Sanitation has actually become fashionable, while we are choked with the flood of Sanitary books, pamphlets, publications, and lectures of all sorts, good bad, and indifferent, we have remained a book and a pen.

We have not become a voice and a hand.

What is read in a book stays in the book.

Health in the Home has not been carried home to the hundreds of thousands of rural mothers and girls, upon whom so largely depends the health of the rural population.

In fact, they do not believe in Sanitation as affecting health, as preventing disease.

There has been a melancholy instance near here.

At your special request I have been making assiduous enquiries for educated women trained in such a way that they could personally bring their knowledge home to the cottagers' wives on a mission of health for rural districts. For this they must be in touch and in love, so to speak, with the rural poor mothers and girls, and know how to show them better things without giving offence.

We have, though they are but a sprinkling in our great towns and in London, excellent Town District Nurses, but for many obvious reasons they

(2)

would not be suitable for your proposed work. We can find no one woman for this ready made. She must be created for a rural Health Missioner.

Knowing how deeply interested you were in this subject on its practical side, we have consulted a number of the most experienced people. And we have arrived at the conclusion that to make the movement a success, we must find some gentleman apt to teach, and educated women apt to learn - in other words, we must train them for the purpose. And we must not mix up Nursing the sick with Health in the Home.

It does not appear in the least necessary to go outside this county. It seems far better to utilize the ability at hand for teaching and the capacity for being taught.

With this object, I have made enquiry as to who there may be in North Bucks who would be willing to give time and trouble to teach, and who is qualified by knowledge and experience, and caring for this problem as it deserves.

I had already been much struck by a report of one [of] the North Bucks Medical Officers of Health - Dr. De Ath. I made enquiries from independent sources. I have seen him, and have a good hope that he will prove himself to be as competent, as he certainly is willing, from a high sense of duty, to undertake this work - the work, that is of training those who are to teach practical domestic sanitation to the mothers and girls, and who will be qualified by a course of work, theoretical - that is, to give them the "reason why" and practical, to show them how to do it, under Dr. De Ath.

I know of no such School of health now in existence for teaching of this kind as would be started at Buckingham, if this project is carried out. And if carried out successfully, Buckingham may become a centre of supply of trained Health Missionaries - not for its own immediate neighbourhood only, but for many parts of England where such work is sorely needed.

It seems hardly necessary to contrast Sick Nursing with this. The needs of Home Health-bringing require different but not lower qualifications, and are more varied. They require tact and judgment unlimited to prevent the work being regarded as interference and becoming unpopular.

(3)

They require an intense and real belief in Sanitation, and that Life or Death may lie in a grain of dust or a drop of water, or other such minutiae which are not minutiae but Goliaths - and the Health Missioner must be a David to slay them, and have his sweet voice, and must be trained as he was to fight the giants with the simple weapons of every day use.

She must create a new work and a new profession for women. And she must make her work acceptable to women of the labouring class.

I trust that your County Council will not think me one of your interfering Health Missioners. I know your interest in inaugurating a vital work among the rural poor women.

And I have, therefore, done your behest with alacrity. May North Bucks distinguish itself by its wisdom and success in giving such an education to rural mothers, and in waging the war against national deterioration of health and vigour.

Pray believe me,

Dear Mr. Frederick Verney,
Your and the Mothers'

Anxious and attached Friend
(signed) Florence Nightingale

[end 6:589]

Frederick William Verney, Esq

9013/210 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

Oct 20/91

Dearest blessed Margaret

Fred sent me this yesterday
to post, if I "saw not objection" -
You know we put down as questions:
to Dr. DeAth how many lessons

how many a week
how many in the class
&c &c

Did Fred settle this with him?

24 Lectures at 6 or even 3 a week
seems to me a cram - a superficial cram.

Dr. DeAth said to me: he did not think
he *could* take "them about to the cottages"

Has Dr DeAth written to you
as promised? If not, there is *no syllabus* settled.

Dr. Dr - seemed ~~to me~~ to have thought
so little on the subject that he said
to me he could take *80* in a class

He also said that he could not
make the ladies preach before him,
which ~~we~~ think essential. So did Miss Calder.

As ~~this~~ Dr. D.'s answer will be considered a public
possession & a model for others, should
not Fred be careful? But he *may* have
settled it all with Dr. D.?

Did you see the strange & beautiful [1:666-67]
sunset last night, lasting so long?
Yet it will be followed by rain -

Is not this the "*Real Presence*"? - not
attached to a bit of biscuit nor anything
to eat - but to give us an unearthly
pleasure with His love - *just* to show
us *His Love*

Pray do what

is best for your own dear self -

not to hurry yourself - about
seeing me this morning -

I am so glad you have Maudie
this trying day - and Fred -

ever your loving
F. overflowingly

9013/211 unsigned incomplete letter, 2ff, pencil

Dearest Margaret

Oct 22/91

I send you Morey's note. [Please return to me & do not mind my pencil notes on Dr. Maguire's letter] *At what hour* has Sir Harry appointed himself at Mr Croft's? He does not think that Consulting Surgeons are often absent for 24 hours.

I telegraphed by 8 o'clock to 10 South St. to have rooms warm & lunch - &c But I shall write or telegraph more particulars to them - And might I not fix Mr. Croft to go ~~there~~ at a certain hour to South St?

Sir Harry as the wildest ideas;
he is going to London E - London N -
S. & W. - to George's - to his Solicitor's
&c &c &c

How did you sleep?

I have read Dr. MacGuire -

Two conclusions:

1. his diet leads straight to "the Drink"
2. any District Nurse would be dismissed at once for half his blunders - blunders of the ~~16th century~~ beginning of this century

I should like to tell you what Mrs. Pigott told me of Quainton

9013/212 signed letter, 2ff, pencil

Dearest blessed Margaret Oct 25/91

I am so sorry that you do not think it possible to go on Wednesday with dear Ellin - Pray re-consider it -

As for Dr. De'Ath, I should like very much to see him again indeed - But I don't think I could see him, to do any good, & ~~the~~ so early, & the two Diceys on the same afternoon - *You* could see Dr. De'Ath, if possible to you, with just the same good as *two* of *us* & with treble the good

of I by myself I - ~~I~~ think
And if you kindly wished it, you could talk it over with me first; I have got some more documents to show you - I am quite tame about the National Health documents - that is "rather snappish but not 'rageous" [Indeed I think them better than Dr. De'Ath's] -

All depends, I think, on whether Fred wants this done *at once*. If not, *I would venture to suggest that Dr. De'Ath should come when he can give more than an hour some afternoon, & be prodded* by all of us - We all have sticks -
[We really don't know what he thinks now]

≡≡≡ I hope you have got your Canary
documents at last -

≡≡≡ I was in hopes of seeing you yesterday
but did not like to ask - I hope I
shall to-day, please -

≡≡≡ If Sir H. Cunningham goes tomorrow, -

whom I so like & so hate at once,
may I see him this afternoon about India? And
do you know I have never seen his
dear wife, daughter of a King of men?

What a beautiful letter from
Morfy? I will return it - I *must*
read it again by daylight -
ever your loving

Aunt Florence

9013/213 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

Oct 28 {arch: ?91}

Dearest Margt. Thanks for your dear letter
& Dr. De'Ath's - I am so glad you are going
out -

Has Fred sent you a "Proof" of my letter
about "Health in the Home"? [He says he
has *me*: *He hasn't* - He wants a
correction made.] Yes or No please
Mrs. Verney.

After your walk I shall {printed address, vertical:} Claydon House,
want to consult you about this Winslow,
correction, please. Bucks.

I am in the midst of a budget -

Anent Ellin:

You are so tyrannical - You won't let
me have my fads to myself -

Have you found a good place for
a bad idiot?

that's me: your loving
Aunt Florence

{written vertically}

Yes or No please
Mrs. Verney

9013/214 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

{arch: ?91} 28/10

Telegram tonight says: "A restless day but
more comfortable this evening" - Knight -
perhaps Mr. Dicey would like to hear it - I did
not understand whether he had seen Mr.
Jowett since his illness began?

The Telegram this morning was that he had had
no sleep - apparently after having seen several
people - but liked to receive letters -
I was so sorry to keep Mr. Dicey waiting in the
passage - I had no idea that Sir Harry would
send him straight up - And I was not ready

F.N.

9013/215 signed note, 1f, pencil

Lettice

I hope thou wilt be able out of
these flowers to make up something
for Mother or for any one thou
thinkest best

Aunt Florence

29/10 {arch: 1891?}

9013/216 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

29/10

Dearest Margt.

I was so confounded that you were all yesty
afternoon at the book & those terrible letters - & not
out, I am afraid -

I am also confounded that you have had to copy
out the enclosed yourself

We all prey upon you -
yet I cannot see anything to suggest at present, except
a few words:

I (1) after "teeth" *tooth brushes?*

" "scrubbing" ? *with soap?*

" "the body" ? the *main* "source" or the *great* "source"

Il (1) Would you put *diarrhoea* after "constipation"
 Yes, I would put "rheumatism" & "gathered fingers"
 after "ruptures" - or somewhere in the List -
 But can we go into "warnings" further? I suppose
 flannel & always dry warm things & shoes are the best precaution
 against rheumatism? But how can poor people
 afford flannel? Is flannelette as good as
 flannel?

Top of p.2 - 4 lines from top - I am afraid there is
 no use in "planing the floors" if the joints are not filled
 up, or the floor not well laid - I have known the most
 hideous things happen from this, even in well built Barracks
 & rheumatism from damp in cottages

I send this *now*, because you may want to
 have *copies* made of it - [I ought to have
 sent it yesterday]

But I do hope to see you to-day.
 Have you heard from Ellin?

F.N. overflowing

Are you going out?

9013/217 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

[1:667]

Oct 30 {arch: ?'91}

Dearest Margt.

Could we finish our Syllabus to-day?
 And must we not have a copy for the 40 Thieves
 tomorrow? and I want a copy, please, for our
 enterprising Lea Schoolmaster, who brings forward
 the subject at the Schoolmasters' Derbyshire Union
at once. Also: I have a string of questions 2 miles
 long to ask you - *Not* magnifique but la guerre

Hurra for Ellin off on a fine day - but
 fog this morning I fear - Thank God for Eté de S. Martin!

F.

9013/218 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

31/10 {arch: ?'91}

Dearest Margt

Suppose I say Dr. De'Ath at 3.15, (instead
of Maude), will that suit him & you? But I

hope you will see him first

& Fred after his Meeting? There is so much

to say -

And have you anything particular for *me* to say

to him? I *have* three copies of the last

Synopsis - & send you a copy - will you ask

Fred if he wants one for his Meeting? But

I don't suppose they will get as far as dirty

clothes & perspiration & pots & pans to-day? They will

How is Quainton?

only put us in a

perspiration

your

F.

I hope Dr. De'Ath stays the afternoon

Thanks so many for your Reports

9013/219 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

Nov 4/91 1 enclosure

Dearest Margt

This is the Commission, the Stock-pot
which confounds me the most -

But I have other Stock-pots for your
kind inspection

May it be by day-light (in the afternoon, But go out first,
say 4 if you are not then busy?

Don't you think it rather alarming to
invite females *from a distance* to this first
experiment of Dr. De'Ath's? as Fred wishes -

Is Fred "Chairman of the *Technical Committee*
"of the County Council?" Is that right? F -

9013/220 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

Nov 5/91 7 p.m.

My dear Sir Harry

Would you kindly ask General Philip
what Temperance drinks, besides Tea,
Coffee & Cocoa, the men really like & will
drink? instead of beer?

[And I was two idiots not to ask
him myself]. what were the {printed address: vertical} Claydon House,
noises which so disturbed Winslow,
poor Mr. Arthur Sullivan in *St.* Bucks.
Thomas' Home? Was it the *trams* passing

along the Lambeth Road at back of
Hospital - or the traffic over Westminster Bridge
- or what?

F.N.

{answers in another hand}

9013/221 initialed notes, 2ff, pencil

Nov 10/91

Has Sir H. written, as he said he would, to make
an appointment, *fixing the hour*, with Sir A. Clark, on

Dearest Margt

Wednesday morning

A lovely good morning to you -
I was so in hopes that you would have at
least the two days Sir H. is away quiet -
I don't think they ought to ask you to go
up to London to see these "Miss Rowes" -

I shall have to ask you to-day what
glories I am to hold out to the females
who join the De'Ath course: in writing to Dr. D.

Shall I write to Dr. De'Ath? ever your F.

9/11 {arch: ?'91}

Dearest

Miss B.H. comes at 3.15

Fred turns up at 5.15

You will hear - "at this juncture she became
idiotic & had to be carried off to an
Idiot Asylum" - but if I were to attempt
anything more - woe's me! You would hear I
"had to be carried off to *two* Idiot Asylums"

So - à demain -

your F.

9013/222 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

Nov 10 {arch ?91}

Dearest Margaret

I am so sorry to trouble you on
this day -

Has Fred spoken to you about
the money arrangements for the Health
women teachers to be discussed at the
Bletchley Meeting to-day?

Suppose there are 12 to a Dr. De'Ath's
class - (& we have not one yet) -and 3

turn out fit to be teachers - we cannot charge the Co: Co: funds with the 9 others - Yet they ought properly all to pay a fee for instruction - to lighten the Co. Co. payment to the Instructor - Dr. D.

Then Fred says, very properly - the Health Missioners, whose preparation is, *alas!* only 14 lectures, ought not to be paid the same as the Cooking ladies whose preparation is, I believe, 9 months

&c &c &c

He will have to answer all these questions at the Bletchley Meeting today -

I don't think he ~~F.N.~~ ought to quote *me* - For I am of all the one

who feels most that it is a totally untried scheme.

F.N.

9013/223 signed letter, 1f, pencil

Sunday Nov 15/91
{printed address:} Claydon House,
Winslow,
Bucks. **[6:661]**

My dear Sir

If you are coming this
way to-day or tomorrow,
would you kindly ask
for my little housemaid
Ellen Pearce, who two
days ago pinched the fore
finger of her right hand
And it is apparently
going to gather -
It is not much, but I had
better seek your aid in
time - yours faithfully

F. Nightingale
P.H. Benson Esq. M.D.

[end 6:661]

Philip Benson Esq. M.D.
Steeple Claydon
15/11/91

9013/224 signed letter, 1f, pen

18/11/91

{printed address:} Claydon House,
Winslow,
Bucks.

My dear Sir

Enclosed is the
humble Syllabus for
the Classes to be
given at Buckingham
under the County Council
for which I solicited
your help.

May I ask for the
Syllabus to be returned
with your criticism

to yours

faithfully F. Nightingale

Ph. Benson Esq. M.D.

9013/225 initialed note, 1f, pencil

Dearest Margt. 19/11 {arch: ?91}

It *is* hard upon you to have all these
little details to settle -

You see Mrs. Pigott is coming at 4 -
to-day - How are we to have Dr. De'ath?
I should like to see both How can † we see
& you *to see both*

both?

As to *Saturday*, Dr. De'ath does not
seem to know that he is to be summoned to
the Wolverton Meeting - Otherwise I could

quite well see him on *Saturday* after
afternoon if it is convenient to *you*
& the Meeting in the morning -

Settle it, please, your own way
as to what is ~~most~~ least inconvenient
to you

your
F.

9013/226 initialed note, 1f, pencil

Mrs. Verney 21/11 {arch '91} (3 things
Would this corrected proof do? _____ (

Dr. De'ath asked me for one - but I
had not one ready -

I have one other Proof - Perhaps you have
more -

I shall have to ask you whether we should
write anything to F.W.V. for him to get at
Wolverton tomorrow - & what?

F.N.

9013/227 unsigned letter, 2ff, pencil

. 21/11 {arch: ?91}
Dearest Margt

It is a heavy blow to us in many ways
Fred's going - But dear Maudie would
like him to go "tomorrow" on account of
heat -

I think a Preface ought to end with one
short sentence in striking words -
something like being "startled by louder
"calamities" or "the warning not being to remain silent"
alas! we have perhaps in Marsh Gibbon's
Scarlatina a second "startling warning"

sooner than we would wish -

Do you choose to wait till Monday to see if we can "better our instructions"?

I did write to Dr. Benson this morning (whose yesterday's letter I enclose, because you want "materials to like him")

Shall I write again this afternoon to ask latest news of scarlatina

2 I promise when you carry out the delightful proposition of "stumping" N. Wales to come & hear you - I want to learn politics -

3. Cassell sent me Morris' Book of Health when it was first published - I own I thought it a *compilation* such as any literary man might make - But I have not at all 'worked' it like a mine -as I ought *I have it not here* - but have telegraphed to a ready bookseller to send it on Monday We would read it by Dr. De'ath's p.p.
4. Would you please thank Sybil Newcombe who was so good as to send me last year the Syllabus of last year's Lectures - & give

my love to her mother?

Confidentially & strictly between ourselves
I wish "a Verney" were "like" you -

9013/228 unsigned letter, 2ff, pencil [6:590]

23/11 {arch: ?91} *to-day*

Dearest Margt: *I trust Syllabus be given to Fred*

I think the Syallabus will do capitally -

You would not put, as Dr. Benson suggests

(who saw in a "genteel parlour" carpets nailed down & not taken up for 23 years)

something about "Carpets ~~should~~ to be always loose, so as to be frequently taken up & shaken" - But I would not overload it

Thank you so much for doing it -

My reason for putting "*blood-poisoning*"
as it were *separately* was to avoid carping
A case I only heard of a fortnight ago
was that of a woman, not poor, for
she collected £5 to give the Doctor to
operate upon her *on her own feather-bed*
14 days after her lying-in, for a small
Tumour discovered by the Midwife during
her delivery - *It was her death*. Neither
Doctor nor Midwife took the smallest notice
of the state of her bedding - Blood
poisoning set in - They did not know
what it was & hurried her off to the
Hospl which instantly detected it - She died
in 4 days -

But don't alter it back again - I don't
think it necessary to do so - Let it stand
as you have put it - Please finish it up -
So much obliged

In my stupidity yesterday I did not

tell you how we Dr De'Ath & I came *out of the Prizes*
to a long discussion on *water supply*
& to these *dreadful villages* - He is so
very instructive - I had rather talk to
him for an hour than to a dozen "first-rate"
physicians -

I only subjoin it now, because it might be
well to talk to Fred about it - *if, if, if* there is
time - *Are they coming?*
"Book of Health" come - a hopeless book

9013/229 initialed note, 1f, pencil

Dearest Margaret. 24/11/91

Would you, before Fred goes, ask him more particularly what Sir Harry should do, *if anything*, about the (Rhodes) houses & public-house in Steeple Claydon There is no occasion for more "information" or "inspection", since we have it first hand I sounded Sir H. last night, but received the same gratitude

that the squirrel gives the black fowls -

If nothing is done, I shall execute a new Sacred dance & Cantata, entitled "Mount, Diabolos, & fly" for "*Idiotcy* Scarlet Fever, & Diphtheria will "break "out"

F.N.

Pray remember , I don't say that *Sir H.* should do *anything*.

9013/230 initialed note, 1f, pencil

28/11 {arch: '91}

Dearest Margt.

I am so very sorry the F.s are not coming - Don't you think that the week beginning the 6th will be so very busy with the birthday crowd, & perhaps Fred wanting a Co. Co, volcano at the last moment before his departure from England, that I had better limit Miss Masson to *Monday* afternoon &c till *Saturday* afternoon if she does not sleep or till *Friday* afternoon if she does - What will be least inconvenient to you? your F.

that he wd write to Dr. D *this afternoon*
& ask for a Report to himself -
I am most anxious that YOU SHOULD SEE
THIS LETTER BEFORE IT GOES

It was to embrace all Sir H.'s cottages
in the 4 Claydons

your F.

Pray God it may be written
May I see you to-day?

9013/233 initialed note, 1f, pencil

I have read the Quainton Report
through two or three times

F.N.

2/12/91

9013/234 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

Dec 3/91 Red Letter Day

Dearest blessed Margaret I say not
May God bless thee, O thou Saver of
Souls - on this the day that gave you to
the world & to us - For He does bless
you - And all the roughs of life do
but increase His blessing - Fair land
comes out of God's fire, o thou Peak of
Teneriffe -

2 I think you may well order 100 copies

of Quainton pamphlet - And perhaps
Harrison will do them up & send them
for us, if Fred will give us a List. I
suppose all the *Co. Co. & Bds of Guardians*
& *M.O.'s of Health* & perhaps *Sanitary*
Inspectors (of Bucks) should have ~~any~~
copies - And as I favour the golden
gods *Rothschilds*, I would ask for
copies for them - birth-day presents!
And I ask for copies for my cousin Sir
Wm Evans, Chairman of *Derbyshire Co. Co.* -
But should not all *Co. Co.'s* in England &
M.O.'s of Health have copies? Quainton
has been in many newspapers -

I see with horror that the boy from [1:820]
London who died there ~~was~~ *Leonard Hedges*,
the son of a respectable butler whom my
mother brought up from the age of 2, because
he was the orphan nephew of one of my Crimean
Nurses - It could not have been more than

a week before that his father wrote to me for a nomination to a great Charity School But I see with greater horror that the two Doctors while giving dirty particulars enough to kill all Quainton are still searching for Who began? *Who gave the "infection"?* Can no evidence stop that delusion?

[end 1:820]

3. I await with some trepidation Dr. DeAth's answer to Sir H. - I felt considerable alarm at what you told me yesterday - But don't answer till I have the blessing of seeing you. F.

9013/235 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

Dec 4/91

Dearest Margt.

Your news maketh me glad - I cannot think "how to *write* to Dr. DeAth tho' it would have been easy to speak "about the N.H.S." One must be friendly as you *will* be, while positive that we don't want these amateurs - But then you see I am always afraid lest *we* may be a fiasco - So we must not be a cock-a-hoop, as you will *not* be [I shd not have told Dr. D., even

had I seen him, the *name* of the Co. Co. where those ladies ~~will be a~~ were such a failure]

We have Dr. D. just because he will make *practical* work & training *in* the Cottage an integral part of the teaching.

Blow Diplomas! we shall soon be obliged to have a Diploma to eat a bit of bread. Even the *Germans* laugh at us - they who want one for everything

9013/236 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

7/12/91

Dearest

I ordered my faithful bookseller in the small village of London to send another copy of the red book direct to Dr. De'Ath - He must then disgorge my copy, because your marks are in it. Wilson's Hygiene [~~with the chap. on Village Slop~~ is reprinting - & he shall have the first copy - Shirley Murphy's is out "Our Homes" of print - I am sorry to say.

What a wise man is Dr. Buchanan - I am

his faithful slave - re *Diplomas* -

I have a most touching letter from Miss [13:825] Masson which I must show you - because she wants to know: about learning Midwifery for District Nurses which ~~she~~ is the very most difficult point of all - *with Diploma*, she says.

[end]

Did you ask Fred as to the list of people for Quanton to be sent to by Harrison?
your F.

I should very much like to see you before I see Fred if I may

your F.

9013/237 signed letter, 2ff, pen

[3:429-30]

December 8/91

{printed address:} Claydon House,
Winslow,
Bucks.

God gives us joy, dear
Sir Harry, of your
90th birth-day -
We pray both for you & for
ourselves not for God's
love but that we may
know it & feel it - feel
it in the tender blessings
& care which He has
given us- feel it most
of all -in that tenderest
of all blessings when he
knocks continually to
our door & shows us
that we are not acting
up to our profession

O loving, loving Father, let
us at least act up to our
own words.

I pray for you, dear Sir Harry,
& do you pray for me,
that you (and I) may be
spared to accomplish
according to your own heart
& God's the many things
that require doing for
Him & for our fellow-
creatures -
I have never wished to live
but I do wish now to live
for this. O terrible and
loving Father!

9013/238 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

11/12 {arch: ?'91}

Dearest Margt *Syllabus*

I have only kept back 20 Syllabus s for you & me - I send you all the rest - There could have been but 50 altogether - I cannot help thinking Harrison has some to send out for us -

Quinton - Certainly from FRED, please - I send all but 20 - viz 67 Has Harrison some I suppose there were 100 more?

Dearest Do you go from Monday till Wednesday? to Bangor? If so, I will stay till

Thursday - But suppose he chooses to go to Dublin or Edinburgh, I must have A Troop & B Company under my command -

What day did you say Gwendolen, K. & Mlle were coming?

ever your loving

I am writing to F.

Fred about Pleasley

You will have to include Pleasley when you help Sir H. to make up his Balance sheet of Incomings & necessary Out-goings

9013/239 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

13/12 {arch: ?'91}

Dearest Margt I am so grateful & so
ashamed & so elevated & so depressed at
your labours in my favour that I don't know
what to say but God bless you

Sir Harry does not seem feverish this
morning, but rather the contrary - What do you
think of him?

Would you think well to ask Dr. Benson
if you see him this morning ~~to ask him~~ after
the outbreak of Scarlatina in Marsh Gibbon
& some other village where he was so attentive
last month - & if he was successful in finding any

"lady or farmer's wife" to attend the Class
at Buckingham - [Mr. Robertson suggested
that besides that Class there should be a
Lecture in every village for men as well as
women] Should we give Dr. Benson a
Quinton & a Synopsis? He was really
much interested in both -

ever your
F.

How are you?

9013/240 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

14/12/91

Dearest Margt

Let us have joy at least over Sir
Harry's betterness -

I have many things to consult you
about which Fred left with me -

So sorry to take up your time
with my own affairs - Would you
kindly look at these two Telegrams
which arrived at short interval?

"Mrs Burge" is my cook-housekeeper

- a perfectly respectable woman but so shatter brained that I am less uneasy about this sort of absconding than I should otherwise be. "Roberts" is not in the Court Guide & is I have no doubt some quack, because she had nothing to do but to send for our own family Dr. at my expence -

I can think of nothing but sending these two Telegrams which I ask you kindly to read.

Later -

Here comes Dr. Acland's Telegram
What shall I say?
your F.

I telegraphed betterness to Dr. Acland by
8 o'cl post-man

9013/241 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

Dearest Margt 16/12 {arch: ?'91}

Let me telegraph for Miss Parker - I am so glad you will have her. I *think* she said the days she could *not* come were Monday Wednesday & Saturday. but as Mr. Gladstone would say it may be just the contrary -

2. I am sorry to say Fred *has* written to Sir Harry - who will have had his letter this morning - And F. has sent me the copy of it, arrived this morning - I suppose you do not want to see it

3 I am a little appalled at the quantity of things me & Mr. Marshall & Dr. De'ath are to do together before I go - especially as I do so deprecate this public way of going on (which we oppose tooth & nail for our Nurses who *are* trained) We ought to have had our Health at Home Missioners quietly training & then working for two years before we became publicans -

You are so kind about asking me to

stay -

4 I did think Sir H. much changed - (& he begged my pardon for going to London) but not as to feebleness - He actually did his gymnastics before me till I stopped him, thinking: If he were to tumble down, I could not catch him as I once did.

I feel rather uneasy about Morey -

You see a "good night" for Sir H. is only the inside of a night for him - You have seen his paper -

5 Sir H. sees Mr. Robertson this morning.

9013/242 unsigned, incomplete letter, 1f, pen **[6:661]**

Dec 19/91

{printed address:} Claydon House,
Winslow,
Bucks.

My dear Sir

Would you be so kind as
to consider Joseph Coleman,
your Club Patient in Steeple
Claydon, as my Patient, if you
think he requires your daily
attendance & care - more than
the Club allows -

I find his bed-room has no
fire-place, tho' they do
manage a little Paraffin
Stove - If he ought to
remain entirely in bed,
which he does not, what
can be done to keep him
warm? & airy?

[end 6:661]

If you wish for any particular

9013/243 note written on an envelope, 1f, pen

postmarked

I have not the slightest knowledge of this poor woman -

Nor does she appear (small blame to her!) to be a

trained Nurse at all. I believe she has not the

smallest chance with "Lady Bloomfield's" fund

nor with Mr. Burdett's, &c - all of which

as far as I know, are for *trained* Nurses

the Right honble

who have *paid in* for

Sir Harry Verney Bt.

a graduated number of years, according

to a graduated scale -

There must be many

thousands of women

now in this poor woman's situation. But they are not

the worse off, because trained

Nurses are better off. Nor Winslow

would Pss Xtian's method of mixture make them better

off, I can't advise Sir H.V. to do anything. If I were to entertain

or even to answer the thousands of such random applications, my

whole life's work would become impossible.

9013/244 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

Xmas Eve/91

Dearest blessed Margaret

Sir Harry is nicely - & the children's
colds are better - is it not so?

I have been thinking so much of you
which must be my apology for asking: is it
quite wise when you have such legions of Romans
on your hands, to denude yourself of your
standard-bearers at once - Mary Beart as
well as Mazelli, the two Commandants of
one body of giants - And I believe you

have not even your own Emily - & poor
Mrs. Ruth's foot - & the fog - Have
you any news of the boat at Plymouth?

Suppose I should denounce you to the
Commander-in Chief for letting all your
Officers go on leave - The long Genl. Philip
recalled all the Guards Officers in the
Dock Riots I know for he was in my room
quarrelling about Soldiers' Libraries -

Will Mazelli come back to-day?
Are there signs of a riot? Alas! it is Grand-
papa who is the rioter & must be put under arrest.
Have you any orders to give me about
Mr. Best & Dr. De'Ath, to whom I should
write? & whether he Sir Harry signed the Western
document?

Don't write a word unless you need - I
shall know -

O valiant beloved daughter of God -
it is you who are the Commander in Chief

FN.

9013/245 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

26/12 {arch: ?'91}

Dearest Margaret blessed & blessing
I hope you have something of joy -
I am sure you show forth the "glory
"of God in the highest" - I thought dear
Ellin looking well & cheerful - as

Would you kindly some time mark
on the enclosed your idea of what I
was to write about Mr. Best to Gdpapa

I found dear Grandpapa last night
so eager about doing the cottages
& the Cottage Register & talking
clearly & well about Sir H. Acland's
book which he was reading diligently
I had no idea he could be so clear
in *detail* -

I hope you will spare me a time
to-day to tell me about many things

Do you expect Maudie?

ever your

F.

9013/246 initialed letter, 1f, pen

Dec 26/91

{printed address:} Claydon House,
Winslow,
Bucks.

My dear Sir Harry

After the conversation
you were so good as to
have with me twice, about
Dr. De'Ath & Mr. Best, & your
Steeple Claydon cottages,
would you think well to
desire Mr. Robertson
to write to Mr. Best to
say that you wish to have
him for two days at 5 gs
(£5.5) a day with his
assistant at 1 guinea
to give you a scheme
for water=supply and
carrying away of refuse

for your cottages at Steeple Claydon
Mr. Robertson of course
to show you this letter
before it goes.

It would probably be
better that the order
should come direct from
you and not through Dr.
De'Ath.

F.N.

9013/247 signed letter, 2ff, pencil

Dearest Margaret DON'T trouble to answer this
But thanks for your dear kind letter -
I have secured a good little under housemaid
indigenous to Embley, slow but sure, who
has been with me some months - & who
is enchanted at coming with me & Lizzie
to Claydon - [I understand that Mrs.
Broadhurst would like two maids to come
with me]

I am so extremely anxious to fly from {arch: ?1891}
{printed address, with a line through it, vertical:} 10, South Street,
Embley unknown, because the dear Park Lane. W.
Volunteers want to "turn out the Guard to

salute me, going, coming & here - So I do
not tell Sir Harry till the last moment
But I believe please God it will be *Claydon Station* 5.22 (from
Oxford) Tuesday

[2]

6 I have had no letter from any *Doctor*,
I am almost sure from divers things
that what we feared was true.

Do not trouble to answer anything
till I have ha the blessing of seeing you

I have had a nice letter from Ellin
ever yours with many blessings
Aunt Florence

9013/248 incomplete, initialed letter, 1f, pencil

[1891?]

3. Might I ask: has there been any
more about the "Peerage?"

4 Your letter to the Bangor Miss Reist
is perfect - How good of you to write.

5. I enclose a letter from Lord Rosebery
- so touching that I think you will not
dislike it - I showed it to Fred: & he
& I agreed that you would kindly
advise me how to answer it

6. If there is an old woman in Miss
Holland's workhouse who can knit
large loose lamb's wool stockings, I
should like to employ her - please

There are many other questions of
Fred's I have to ask you about

How ~~we~~ I prey upon you
ever your loving

F.N.

Wellcome Ms 9014, microfilm

9014/2 initialed note, 1 f, pencil

Jan 3/92

My dear Sir Harry

I am so sorry about your knee - ~~And~~ But what a pity to lose the opportunity of catching three colds! Keep your knee *warm* & quiet in the easiest position - & don't leave your room - I will come down to you as soon as I can.

F.

9014/3 and 4 not FN

9014/5 signed letter, 4ff, pencil

Jan 16/92

Dearest blessed Margaret

An excellent Report from dear Maudie this morning of Sir Harry -

And he will so feast on your return. He thinks so much of your great calamities when he is not with you When he is with you your wonderful power in the holy spirit tranquillizes & cheers him - They are all looking forward to to-day - I hope this tells back upon you that you can, like Christ so give the holy cheerful spirit to others

I think so much of Christ's
eight blessings to-day,
all to be got out of
sorrow, evil & worry.

That is so like you -

 If I may say so, tho' I
don't like Parchment
Western, I think his
advice was very good -
You *are* not frightened -
you must conduct this
most worrying business
as not frightened - to
"sell your plate &
"jewelleries" is not to be

thought of - It would
look as if you thought
you had been robbing
the till, & must sell
your best gown to fill
it again -

 Put on the solid
appearance you have
a right to wear - Don't
offer your £1000.

 "Quit you like men"

You DO. E. too will.

Don't give the enemy
"Mr Fearing" power -

 Be, as ever, Mrs. "great
"heart" These alarms

generally turnout much
less alarming than
they seem -

N.B.

In my opinion,
Wills are a decisive proof
of the great injury to
mankind inflicted by
the 3 Rs.

I am a little anxious
about Dr. DeAth - I
have no ~~letter~~ answer from him
this morning - The last
was not in his *wife's*
handwriting - *She* writes
a beautiful hand - And

[2]

was addressed
it ~~went~~ to *Mount St.*
(tho' he has my address)
causing some delay in
delivery - I should
not trouble *you* about
him, but you so kindly
asked -

His 3rd Lecture is on
Monday - & he is evidently
in distress about "models" -
I would gladly authorize
him to spend £10 in
these - because I think
I have partly led him
into this - To see you

would do him more good
than anything -
Pardon me for giving
you so much trouble -
Dr De'Ath is also justly
anxious to meet Mr.
Best at Claydon -
& that P. Tomes should
be interviewed there -
I hope for good
news about dear Ellin
& Dr. Ord, if only by
a post-card enclosed
in an Envelope -

Your coming will
restore Maudie's health
Best love to Lettice
too -

I am afraid to ask
how tired you were.
Fare you *very* well.
I thank God for
having known you -
ever your loving
Aunt Florence

9014/6 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

[3:430]

Feb 4/92

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

My dear Sir Harry

Now, with thanks for all your letters, I will try to make up for arrears - Your letter about "holiness" making our work true & steady for God "who sanctifies it - does me good.

But, more still, your letter saying, unbidden, that never again would you run risks with your health, that you knew its importance, that I might depend upon you.

Let me tell you that your life hangs upon a thread - not because of any feebleness or disease, but because you all at once do things which

have brought on & will bring on serious feebleness & disease, to the terrible anxiety of all of us - Your life hangs upon the *thread of your own will*, which you put on paper & sometimes *leave on paper* - Let it not be so this time, dear Sir Harry.

And it does distress Margaret so. And you promised you would not.

I never saw her so cast down, as when you were ill, since her great misfortunes began, the blessed Margaret -

I know you won't put such a strain on her & Morey again. So help us God!

I am interrupted by a
semi-official visit of business,
but will write further -

Ever, dear Sir Harry,
Your affectionate
F.N.

[end 3:430]

9014/7 signed letter, 2ff, pencil

Feb 12/92

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

Dearest blessed Margaret

I hope you are not very
tired - Thank you a thousand
times for your charming
letter about Dr. De'Ath -

I hope to write again;
but now I am only writing
to ask you to be so very
good as to say whether I
must answer the enclosed
letter from Miss Rose Adams -
& whether, if so, the enclosed
answer will do.

The lady, Miss Adams, has

a "special capacity" for
cruel mischief-making -
It was she who headed the
conspiracy before the "Lords"
of some dismissed Probationers
from the London, & tri against
poor Miss Lückes, & tried to
drag me into abetting them,
& gave out that I was their
relation - The mischief
she has done increases
every day -

I am specially anxious
to keep her at arms' length
& therefore I trouble you
to look at my corresponde.

May I?

I have a world of things to
say, which I hope to say
to-morrow -

Maudie is coming to London
for Herr Gompertz' Concert &
lesson, on the 17th, I believe.
I hope she & Lettice will
lunch & dine here each
day - Will she kindly tell
me what time she comes to
London & what time she
goes back?

ever your loving
Aunt Florence

9014/8 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil [1:667-68]

Feb 13/92

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

Dearest Margaret

May I ask: has any
progress been made towards
Sir Harry, in concert with you,
planning the disposal of
his clear ? thousands a
year - whether, as you said,
in paying off debt on
Pleasley, &c - as also in
improving cottages &c on
Claydon?

It will never be done,
if not now with you -

But your own hands
are so full, your anxieties
so great, my blessed one,
that I have hesitated to

write -

Christmas is now long since
past when Sir Harry made
a solemn promise to do it,
as soon as he knew what
income Mr. Calvert had
left him - That income is
£8200 a year.

Sir Harry was so good
as to show me his Balance
sheet -

Would you think the time
is come for me to write to
Sir Harry?

My excuse would be
that since ~~Mr~~Dr. Payne has
taken my Photograph, the
plague of people has been

absolutely incessant - to
have my photograph & an
interview with me, & a history
of my life from myself,
including the Dolls I played
with!! (sic). I can no longer
say" There *is* no photograph.
[The insolence of the people
who propose is only
equalled by the vulgarity of
the people who accept.]
That is not however the question.

You and I are so exceedingly
anxious about Sir Harry's
balance sheet: shall I
write to him claiming his
promise conditional on my

having my Photograph
done at Claydon?
I write in greatest haste.
ever your loving
F.

9014/9 signed letter, 1f, pencil, original Salmon scrapbook; faint in copies

Feb 17/92

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

{left edge of letter is almost too faint to read}

I commend your valour,
my very dear Lettice, for
{illeg}ing the Bill out of
Mother. And I wish you to
crown your valorous exertions
by summoning the young man
{illeg} the young lady, name of Parker,
You pays your money & you
takes your choice) from Oxford
{illeg} your Mother will have either -

I enclose a 'pund' - don't
{illeg} there shall be
enough to pay your next Bill

Thank you for going to
{illeg} father Coleman - And
{illeg} poor old King"

I am afraid Mother has had
{illeg} again to Rhianva - has
not she? Aunt Florence

9014/10 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

10 South St March 6/92
Dearest Margaret

I am thankful to Ruth's
teeth that I shall see your
blessed face again - Yes,
please, "Thursday at 12" -
And will not you & Ruth
have your luncheon here
(at whatever time you
will order it) before
returning to Claydon?

I hope the wolves in
Anglesea have been quiet.

Your retirement into
1600 I heard of -

Many questions have I to

ask you - And Dr. De'Ath
writes to ask *me* for
questions!! I have a
good many of the Lectures
he sent me ever your
F.N.
And thanks *so many*
for your letter!

9014/11 initialed letter, 2ff, pen & pencil

March 14/92
{printed address:} 10. South Street,
Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir Harry

I have to thank you for
many letters & many flowers.
The weather is exceedingly
rough & disagreeable here
& quite unfit for you. It
is April frozen into March
- sudden showers of frozen
April rain, in the shape of
driving snow-storms &
blizzards, horses slipping,
cabmen & carters making
their demoniacal yells -
tho' with sunshine & dry
hard pavements alternating
with seas of half frozen
mud - very slippery at times -
snow not gone - East wind
howling bitterly often - much

worse than in the country.

I thank God that you have escaped cold these last two months, & have been able to ride - But I hope you don't go & stand upon the terrace after tea, & bring on cramp; but that Virtue has returned; & battle-dore & waltzing with Kathleen (to whom my respects) on bad days - & that you let Mr. Robertson write a great many of your letters, & do a great deal of your business - & Morey write for you.

I was overjoyed that you had done such a great deal to make your Estate Office healthy - and I hope

the cottages & farm-buildings are following.

Is the good General Smith getting better?

{pencil} I suppose you know Princess Christian has announced publicly that she is going to apply to the Queen *in her* OWN NAME for a Royal Charter for the Registration Nurses thro' the Privy Council. - They are having meetings all over the country. And they are employing counsel. We are going to employ Mr. Finlay for Senior Counsel. & Mr. Bristowe for Junior Counsel - which will cost much. The Hospitals are rightly determined to stand out

Whether we shall win
God only knows -
Shore & Louisa are
going to Jersey for health.
May God bless you -
ever yours
F.N.

9014/12 signed letter, 1f, pencil

10 South St. March 28/92
Dearest, still blessed Margaret
If you are coming to
London on Wednesday with
dear Lettice, will you not
lunch here Wednesday &
Thursday & let me see
you - & at what time?
ever your loving
Aunt Florence

9014/13 initialed letter, 2ff, pen

April 4/92
{printed address:} 10. South Street,
Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir Harry

Harry Bonham Carter asks
me whether I will not add
something to his.

You see the Annual Meeting
of the Probationers' Committee is on Thursday
at St. Thomas' with Mr. Rathbone
in the Chair, in order to secure
him before he goes out of
town. We have no need
to trouble you - There is only
the Year's Account to do - & the
horrible subject of the R.
Charter to oppose - Hy B.C.
has written & printed a
masterly Brief for Counsel,
two of whom, Senior & Junior,
we have already engaged.
And I am grumbling over
having to write a 'Case' for the

President of the P.C. myself, which they tell me is quite necessary & must be done this week. We are glad to have no occasion to trouble you. There is great unanimity in all the great Hospitals & Training Schools but one of London & Liverpool &c in their determination to resist that unfortunate Pss Xtian, the B.N.A., & the R. Charter - Their ~~conduct~~ scheme is most “disgustingly miserable”.

I rejoice that you are making a good job at last of your Estate Office.

The loss to us of my friend of 39 years, Sir Wm. Bowman, is very severe. He wrote to H.B.C. a week before his death about us.

=====
In answer to your & Sir H. Acland's desire to have my "pamphlet on Bombay Village Sanitation", I suppose he means my letter to Lord Cross - I don't know how he knows of it - on the subject, containing also a Memorial signed by ten of the Indian Committee of last year's Hygiene Congress. I believe it is etiquette, it ought to be so, to give away no copy of a letter to the S. of S., till it has been answered & he has given consent. [I have a copy - the first I ever had made.] Lord Cross answered with a very kind private note - I have not yet the official answer. It must go before the Council.

[1:606-07]

Have a "Physician", thanks
- & he attends me frequently -
Shore & his wife are come
back from the Channel
Islands, much better.
I hope you are taking care
against Cramp
Aunt Florence's love to
every body
yours ever

F.N.

9014/14 signed letter, 2ff, pencil

10 South St April 20/92

Yesterday was Parthe's
birth-day; and I celebrate
it by thinking of all you
have done by bringing
out the books during
his lifetime, for which
she was so anxious, for
her.

[1:668]

And I celebrated it too
by having Rosalind Shore
Smith before her unique
singular marriage with
absolutely no *certain*
provision - They are
going to live in a cottage

at the East pole of
London, separated from
us by 5 million of people,
but not from the Easterns
among whom they are
going to labour.

They are called by
respective relations
the Naughties
the Babes in the Wood
the Early Christians
I have not told Sir Harry
because if he were to
write to the parents,
recommending a house
in Grosvenor St., he would

send them stark staring
mad, the one from
indignation that it
should be thought
desirable - the other
from regret that he is
too poor to give it her.
Verily the world is full

of the strangest &
saddest contradictions -

But if you like to
communicate this note
to Sir Harry, please do -
ever your loving

Aunt Florence

9014/15 initialed letter, 2ff, pen

[3:430]

10 South St April 27/92

My dear Sir Harry

How grieved we are for your being so poorly. And for Margaret's sake and God's sake and all our sakes you will really do the sensible thing, & keep warm & quiet. I know Sir Henry Acland is with you to-day, & will give you good advice - the best advice - Be a good man & follow it.

As for dear blessed Margaret, we are always thinking of her and of

Edmund, and of his good turning to God, - as you said - and his deep repentance. And sure we are that God has forgiven him, as He promises, and has given him to Margaret to be trained for the gift of eternal life - God loves him - And who are we that we should be greater than God?

These are sad days for us - but the blessing of the sad

is often greater than that
of the happy.

I have thought so much
of those words for us: "I
"will not leave you
"comfortless: I will come
"unto you". And then He
leaves with us His peace,
- the peace He had even
in His last terrible hours.
And we may have not
peace with the "world"
but peace with Him.
Thank God for Margaret
but thank God for
Edmund too - I know
you do.

Not to be lengthy to-day
God bless you, and He
will bless you
ever your affectionate
F.N.

9014/16 initialed letter, 2ff, pen **[3:431-32]**

April 29/92

My dear Sir Harry

How happy we are with
a kind of solemn happiness
& how kind & right you
have been taking the
Prodigal home - a measure
which is more god-like
& will do him more
good than all the
great heathen's severity.
And our blessed Margaret
- how relieved she is -
The peace of God which
passeth all understanding
will be to her & you &
you all. I have

had a cheery little note
from her from Maude's
Soon, soon they will be at
Claydon - & you will
feel like Him who
welcomed the Prodigal
home - And he, the
deeply Penitent, will
begin the new life
with the gift of Eternal
Life from His & our
Heavenly Father. O
how our blessed Margaret
has deserved this day
of bliss, tho' of sadness.

Only be calm & good;
& bless us all with getting
better. And you
will see the victory
of God.

My kindest regards
& thanks to Morey. So
glad Mrs. Davidson
is come

ever your affectionate
F.N.

[end 3:432]

9014/17 unsigned letter, 1f, pen

[3:432]

April 29/92

Aunt Florence's blessing
on the two dear re-united
ones - re-united in God's
name & the heavenly
blessed Margaret's -
& the dear sick father's

Ah how faithless we
are - we cannot trust
God, as if we did not
believe that He knows how
to fight His own battles.

Our Commander-in-Chief
always wins a victory.

A little longer may
the dear old father live.

Just now nothing seems

worth caring for but the
highest - love & forgiveness
& suffering & joy - & the
counsel of the Highest -

And may God's victory
be always ours in humbleness
and thankfulness

[end 3:432]

9014/18 initialed note, 2ff, pen

[1:669]

Aunt Florence prescribes warmth & quiet
& a little brandy - Don't laugh if she sends
a little of Sandeman's purest brandy
prescribed by Sir A. Clark. Or rather you
may laugh.

Keep Messenger - I am sure you must
want messages doing -

I should have asked dear Edmund to
come & see me; if he would be so good -
but, now the main thing is going home to
Claydon, it is better to be quite quiet -
Please, just a post-card in the course of the day

to say: "Two people well" F.N.

[2]

Dr. De'Ath

I hope, tho' in the midst of
all your business, you have
heard from him -

He has written to me:

and I cannot think how

I can dare to write to you
now, tho' you *are* risen
with Christ, blessed Margaret.

1. Mr. Best's report arrived

2. Class - Answers to my
questions arriving - you &
Dr. De'Ath to look over them

3. Exam: of Class. I have
answered: Dr. Wilson's fee to
be paid by me, if Commee
won't nominate an Examiner.

Will Sir H. Acland be an
Assessor?

4. Could nobody write up

the (beastly, I will not say,
for it is calumniating the
beasts) state of the farms
from which London has
so much of its milk -
N.B. F.N. always thought
Bucks a beast.

5. Thornborough! Report.

6. Dr. De'Ath trying to
get a meeting of the
Medical Officers of North Bucks
in connection with the
Class' work, to help
"Mr. Verney" when he
comes home

F.N.

9014/19 initialed letter, 2ff, pen

[3:432-33]

May 3/92

{printed address, corrected:} 10, South Street,
Park Lane ~~Grosvenor Square. W.~~

My dear Sir Harry

I am always longing to
have news of you; let the
news be, please, what Sir
Henry Acland tells me
it ought to be - that
Margaret & Edmund
should stay till you are
much better; and that
you should be satisfied
and at rest with this,
as indeed you are. Your
dear letter tells me so.

Is not this the peace
which passes all under=
=standing? God is never
in a hurry - why should

we be? God is getting
ready His buds this
May time. He does not
tear them open & leave
them. Let *your* fair
buds of peace and
satisfaction, as you told
me, after the terrible
year we have passed,
open quietly & gently
for a while longer this
May at Claydon -

That is the voice of
God's spring. How often
we spoil His work by
haste! Edmund needs
rest under your wing

and blessed Margaret
no less. And Sir Henry
Acland needs *them* for
taking care of you. He
told me so.

“Come unto me, and rest,”
says Jesus. Where
better than at Claydon?
A little longer, a little
longer.

Peace, be still, the
“Master” says. Lo, it is I
be not afraid.

And the storm ceased.
And the restlessness
was stilled.

ever your F.N.

9014/20 signed letter, 1f, pencil

10 South St May 7/92

Dearest peerless Margaret
Thank you so much for
your good, good Telegram -
& for the news of my little
Ruth -

But oh I do pray God
that Sir Harry will not
begin to fidget, as soon
as he feels a little better,
to send you abroad -
We must ask Sir H. Acland
if it comes on to prevent
this -
if we *are* to think of the
world, [illeg] every one

I know has been so glad
that E. is with his father

Excuse haste
ever your loving

Aunt Florence

9014/21 signed letter, 2ff, pencil

10 South St May 10/92

Dearest blessed Margaret

So many thanks for your
letters & Telegram.

I have hesitated to send
~~the~~ something like the enclosed
to Sir Harry without your
leave. If you will kindly
return it to me, I will
write anything you like of
it - or not write it at all.

[3:433]

I have had the most
beautiful letter from Sir
Harry - about his peace &
comfort & acceptance with
God & God's nearness to him.

But, in which he belies
himself, he always separates

good from God, & makes
doing good in the world a sort of
worldliness - There *is nothing*
worldly except what is wrong; and Christ has
made His meaning pretty
plain, when He prays
not that we shall be taken
out of the world but that
we shall be *in* it, yet not
of it.

I often think of you
when I think of His last
words to His apostles -

'Be of good cheer: *I*
have overcome the world'

Sir Harry does not mention
at all your going away.
or anything about it. On the

contrary

I am so glad little Ruth
is prospering:
 & so glad Fred is
coming home.
 in haste
 ever your loving
 Aunt Florence

9014/22 initialed letter, 1f, pen

10 South St May 11/92

Dearest blessed Margaret

 If you have been able to
make the plans you wish
& think best I am so thankful.

But you were quite right
to threaten horribly when
that Monster proposed
your 'both going away'.
My big long-range guns
have the exact range
of Claydon Ho: from South
St. (without going round
by Bletchley) And they
could & would, altho'
regretfully, blow up Claydon
House in 3 minutes and
15 seconds, if provoked by

any aggravating act
to open fire -

But let us hope they won't.

 Would it bore you to
read the enclosed about
Mrs. Homes & see if
Sir Harry could dictate
a very few words - but
not if it troubles him?

 Best love to dear Lettice
How good of you to write
& telegraph
 ever your loving
 F.N.

see: but Miss Calder
was with me a time
which did not seem long -
She looks as if she had
no body - But there are
fountains of cooking & laundry
& cutting out & "health at
home' perennial which
constitute her body - She
returns to Lpool on Saturday.
She said she had a half
trained lady on "health
"at home" - But I think
she would like to have
one of your three best - tho' she
said it was very natural

Bucks should like to keep
~~have~~ the best. She
can't quite separate Sick
Nursing from 'health' at home.
But she was going to speak
to a Science & Art man.
And I think her practical
enthusiasm will very
materially help in the
Bucks beginning.

The Telegram you kindly
sent me was from Grand
Duchess asking for news
of "dear Sir Harry - deeply
"interested" - I answered it,
of course - Please tell Sir

Harry - I will write to
 him - Please don't let
 him write to Gd Duchess
 as if he had nothing the
 matter with him. I did
 not write an Elegiad, but
 I wrote seriously, knowing
 her great affection -

I am sure you or Maude
 & so many thanks for the PANTHER'S letter
 will kindly let me hear
 the moment you have a
 Telegram from Fred -

Love to all -
 Pardon haste - I hope *you*
 are having some rest
 ever your loving Aunt Florence

9014/25 initialed letter, 2ff, pen

June 4/92
 {printed address:} 10, South Street,
 Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir Harry

Our dear Fred at home
 again. How thankful we are!

And for the joy of knowing
 that you were so well that you
 could try two new horses, we
 thank God with hearts
 unspeakably full.

Your magnificent copy of
 the "Verney papers" has just
 arrived - how pleased
 Parthe would have been
 that you should have
 these two Vols finished -
 the last time I ever saw
 her, just a week before her
 death, she spoke to me of

[3:434-35]

them and said that 'all she
 'cared about' was
 your wish to see them
 finished - And now
 blessed Margaret has given
 her her wish - Every body
 to whom I have given the Vols
 is delighted with them & with the illustrations. I have
 read a good deal of them (it
 is such nice large print). They
 are all interesting - the parts
 which interest the most are, of
 course, Strafford, the King's
 entry into the House of Commons,
 his strange character. [Mr. Gardiner
 says he is a 'bore'] & execution.
 The mother of Mrs. Shaw Stewart
 (who was with me in the Crimea)
 still wore mourning on the
 day of Charles I's execution!

To-morrow is Whit Sunday -
 how one likes Whit Sunday -
 the promise of the Holy spirit
 on the night before the
 Crucifixion - *His* 'spirit' of
 good sense & wisdom - the
 Comforter to teach us what
 is wrong & what is right -
 to give us a right judgment
 with no amateur alloy -
 to make public life a
 calling - not a Club -
 to make duty work for God.

The Holy Spirit is not to
 be an excitement about
 religion - but the Spirit of
power & of love & of a
sound mind - to
 "Direct, control, suggest this day
 "All I would think or do or say" -

It is to be the Spirit of
 'counsel & understanding' -
 the Spirit of 'love, joy, peace,'
 the *peace* of (not absence of
 distress but) '*long-suffering,*
gentleness, goodness' & 'faith
 meekness, temperance.'

We have much need of a
 double measure of that spirit
 now.

Thank you for your letter
 about Lord William Bentinck
 I am glad you tell me of
 what he said to you about
 doing for your tenants/people &
 improving your cottages. Thank
 God you have the means of
 doing it now, & satisfying
 your (holy) spirit.

ever your loving
 F.N.

9014/26 initialed letter, 2ff, pen

10 South St June 5/92

About your magnificent
 book, my dear Sir Harry,
 the chapter: "Sir Edmund
 'strikes his last blow" is
 truly a gem: but of it
 the last few pages are
 the gem of gems - especially
 the conversation between
 Sir Edmund Verney & Lord
 Clarendon - where he says
 that "Mr. Hyde" is so
 happy because he thinks
 the King ought not to
 grant what is required
 of him. "*and so you do*

*“your duty & your business
together.”*

He, Sir Edmund, feels he cannot,
[I have always been
seeking for that expression.]

You, Sir Harry, are happy
because you always can do
your duty & your
business together.

Let me rejoice that
Steeple Claydon & Finemoor
Farm & the Estate Office
& the cottages are all
doing or done, thanks to
you! & the Farm Buildings -

“The End of many things and
“people” is also a splendid
chapter in your book -
a tragic chapter indeed -
particularly Sir Ralph
Verney’s part & character is
beautiful -

You will be occupied
with sons & daughters -
& so is my heart. But I
will write to you about
Lord Wm Bentinck’s Life
another day.

ever your affectionate
F.N.

9014/27 initialed letter, 2ff, pen

June 5/92
Whit Sunday
{printed address:} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

Dearest blessed one

That Mr. Bickersteth
had a good opinion of dear
Ellin I heard from Fred &
Maude. But I hope to hear
from Maudie further
particulars.

You will not think
Fred looking well. But it is
such a mercy to have him
'safe at home' -

Your book is magnificent -
how you have brought them
all living before us, I have
not time to say just now.
What time & skill *you*
have spent upon it.

Yes, indeed you have
done wonders at Claydon -

for
the garden-men
the fowls
& I have no doubt the
taking the two men-servants
out of the Servants' Hall
or at least one -

The Reservoir
Mr. Robertson
Mrs. Leicester
AND - Steeple Claydon
&c &c &c &c
and Dr. De'Ath's "Health
in the Home"
and the father's health
above all -

I suppose now you are
thinking of flitting - I cannot
speak of that But

you have put the father in
the state to "try a new

“horse”: And how can we
be thankful enough?

Love to all

I dare not think of the
next week

I am sure that you are
“putting Sir Harry’s
“affairs straighter for
“him” besides

I only fear that you have
had much too much to
do -

And so with a ““never-dying
“but a constant growing
“respect” & love

your F.N.

9014/28 incomplete, unsigned letter, 2ff, pen

Waterloo Day

10 South St June 18/92

Yes, dear Sir Harry, I could
have “cried” too when
“blessed Margaret” went away.

How much good she has
done during this past
year! How many

Waterloo days she has
won for God - And
so she will again.

It is not a loss for
you. It is only
lending her away
for a short time. And
I think she felt the
need of a change
herself. I know you

will carry on all her
good works during
her absence - That
is the true love to
give her -

How kind of you
to think of the Nurses
& of giving them the
delightful day at
Claydon which they
look back to for years
& forward to for
months - I am
arranging for it, as
you kindly desire -

I think it will not be
before ~~early~~ the second week in July,
which will combine
the return of Fred &
Maude - & the letting
Miss Crossland go for
her much needed
holiday after it.

Thank you a thousand
times for wishing me
to come now. I should
dearly love to come.
But dear Shore is
very ill in London with
two Doctors who

hardly think that
 he will be able to have his daughter
 Rosalind's marriage
 which had been fixed
 for June 29 at Embley.
 I could not leave
 London while he is
 so ill. But, besides
 this, I am overwhelmed
 with work. I have not
 been back more than
 5 months from Claydon
 The temporary absence
 of Parliament makes
 but little difference

9014/29 signed letter, 1f, pencil

10 South St June 25/92

My dear Sir Harry

I hear from Fred that
 you are coming up on
 Monday - Pray come here
 to lunch - & go to Mr.
 Western in the afternoon
 after lunch by appointment
 & then come back here to
 coffee - and make an
 appointment with Mr. Power,
 the Oculist, for Tuesday
 morning - & come here to
 lunch afterwards.

But if you have made
 an appointment for the

Monday *morning* with Mr. Western,
 then come here to rest
 and lunch ~~afterwards~~
 & don't go to Mr. Power
 till afterwards by
 appointment -

Pray don't knock
 yourself up -

ever yours

F. Nightingale

9014/30 unsigned letter, 2ff, pen

June 25/92

In answer to your kind letters, {printed address:} 10, South Street,
My dear Sir Harry Park Lane. W.

I must give you joy that
what you have so long
wished to do for Steeple
Claydon you are now
enabled to accomplish -

I am sorry that the
water-supply takes one of
your best fields. But
we want it to be associated
with your name. [But is it
not **raal naughty** of you
to wish "the water had
"been found on any other
"land than" yours?] Have
you not the opportunity
now to do as you have

always wished -

- to make Steeple Claydon
into a model village
instead of the place it is?
With the new rail-road,
if it were made into a
place with a good
water-supply, the first
essential of a model village,
&c &c ~~villas~~ might not
villas be built, & Steeple
Claydon become a good
liver & prosperous?

The water-supply will be
I presume, leased from you.

There is such a movement
all over the country that

Bucks must not be left behind. Lea Hurst rated itself - brought pure water from a moor, & it is brought within a few yards of every cottage, I understand.

As for "blessed Margaret" it was *her warmest wish* that you should do these things, & do them without waiting for ~~your~~ her return. She *craved* that you should do them - i.e. - should do the water-supply & also the new cottages after Sir H. Acland's pattern, as you wished, which you can do without waiting for any one.

As I understand, you will not, shall you? - be called upon to pay anything for what you call "the Govt. "measures" for another 6 months, because of the delays of the Sanitary authorities - And by that time you will have, shall you not? another half year of Mr. Calvert's income.

9014/31 signed letter, 2ff, pencil

[3:506]

10 South St July 19/92

My dear Sir Harry

I give you joy for your
appointment of Mr. Higham.

With regard to "whether
"he is a religious man",
Christ says that *He* came
"to seek & to save them
"that are lost." Now there
will be some chance for
the 'black sheep' & the
grey sheep of Steeple
Claydon -

If a clergyman is in
the pulpit, & *that* part
of his congregation in

the public-house, of course
they do not hear the
clergyman -

Mr. Higham will help
you with the Coffee-room
& with bringing men into
the Coffee-room to be benefited

And he will make
himself beloved by the
boys & the sick -

God grant him tact
& wisdom.

[end 3:506]

The Probationer-Nurses
did so appreciate your
hospitality on Thursday -
In spite of unfavourable
weather, Miss Crossland
said they never enjoyed
themselves so much.
She also said they
found Mr. Higham's little
address so helpful -

ever yours

F. Nightingale

9014/32 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

10 South St July 25/92

My dear Sir Harry

I send you the Diary of
Probationer=Nurse Meek on
their happy visit to Claydon.

[All our Probationers write
once a month a Diary of
that day in the Wards -
It was Nurse Meek's turn
on their happy day at
Claydon. So Miss Crossland
said: write *that*.]

I think it will amuse
you & please you. Nurse
Meek is not a *Lady*=Probr -
she is a-most promising &
is now Probationer=Nurse in

the Children's Ward -

Please show the paper
if you like to Maudie
but not to Gwendolen or
Kathleen -

I am sorry you have all
this bother about Ste. Claydon
& Mr. Small. But you will,
I know, be Mr. Standfast.

ever your affectionate

F.N.

9014/33 signed letter, 3ff, pencil

10 South St Aug 11/92

My very dear Sir Harry

I am so grieved that
you are so poorly. I am
afraid that you have
been worried - and perhaps
you have been indulging
too much in Athletic
Sports. Any how you
must *look up*, take
rest and get well.

Thank you very
much for your renewed
invitation to Claydon - It
must not be just yet, I
fear. Shore is still only

just able to leave his
bed for a small drive
in the Park. Embley
is let, as was necessary -
And he will not be
able to move before
his tenants enter there. His
two sons do everything
for him - They are
excellent boys -
I was reading this
morning with the maids
Lady Hope's admirable
account of her Coffee-room

where one of the men
 says: "You gave
 "me Christ's invitation,
 "and I accepted it -
 "heaven *there* and
 "heaven *here*," (pointing
 "(to his heart.) "And
 "it was a *gift* - Eternal
 "Life" -

 May God bless you -
 Give my love to the
 two Miss Spring Rices,
 who I hope are still
 with you - Maudie & her

children have Aunt
 Florence's love -
 ever yours
 F.N.

kindest regards to
 Mr. Morey & Mrs.
 Davidson

[2]

{archivist: 1892}

Please remember, you have
 bound yourself to take
 care of your health, which,
 tho', thank God, you are so
 wonderfully well, requires
 care from hour to hour.

Yesterday I read thro' the
 Brief of our Counsel
 against Princess Christian's
 R. Charter - which took
 me some hours. Every thing
 has to be printed & sent in
 to go before the Privy Council
 by Wednesday next - evidence
 will have to be brought, and
 affidavits made - !!!

 our success uncertain F.N.

9014/34 initialed letter, 1f, pen

Private Aug 31/92

{printed address: Telegraph, Claydon House,
Steeple Claydon. Bucks Winslow,
Bucks.

My dear Sir Harry

When you were so good
as to speak to me this
morning about Mr. Western
& the important business he
is coming on, you said
that you would find great
"help" in "Mr. Robertson."

1. Has he been warned to
come & speak to you?

He would "help" you, I
suppose, about such
matters as whether Parthe
advanced money for the
purchase of the six acres
of Botolph Ho: you were
speaking of.

2. Might I ask you

whether you told Mr.
Western the object of his
visit, in order that he
may bring all the papers
here necessary for
materials?

3. I suppose you would
not like to ask Mr.
Western whether it would
be possible for him to
come on Friday & stay
over Saturday, to give
you more time?

ever affectionately

Yours & Parthe's
F.N.

9014/35 unsigned note, 1f, pencil

[1:821]

Might Mr. Robertson be asked to look at
Joseph Coleman's cottage, or Philip Tomes
sent to look at it?

It is one of two cottages at Steeple Claydon
- standing back from the road - near the
P.O. - opposite the Grocer's shop, Tibbits,
bottom of hill of which Vicarage is at top.
Joseph Coleman is getting worse, because of
the dangerous draughts - & the outer door
lets in wind all round
Could not the door be moved to the other

side the large window, made to open
the other way, a screen put, a
small window put where the door now is
J.C. Could then lie or sit on the side
of window fire nearest the light with
his back to the window, & read or
do something, instead of. as now, lying
in the dark & the draught on the other
side the fire?

2/9/92

Joseph Coleman's Cottage
Steeple Claydon

9014/36 initialed note, 1f, pencil

Sept. 7/92

Welcome home, dear blessed Margaret
to you & all yours -

2

Would you invite, or I mean authorize
me to invite Dr. De'Ath to luncheon on
Saturday? He has been trying to come for
a week to talk to me about the "Health
"at Home" Lady Missioners. We thought he
had so much better come when you are here
to have the advantage of your advice and

opinion too - Now he writes to me to
ask to come on *Saturday afternoon*
I MUST answer/ accept - But I want him so to
see *you*. May I say you ask him to
luncheon? And I will see him afterwards.

Please say Yes or No.

I must not ask to see *you* this
afternoon - you will be overwhelmed
But might I see Lettice, *when* she is
at liberty, to hear how you all are -
& especially Ellin -
ever your loving intruder
F.N.

9014/37 initialed note, 1f, pencil

Sept. 14/92

Dearest Margt

I thought you looking so tired last night
And we all pull at you. And I kept you
last night.

What you were so good as to propose, viz.
that you should write a Synopsis for of one or more
Lectures for Dr. De'Ath I am sure would be
an untold advantage to him, if it does not take
too much out of you - He sees that these
Lady Lectures are not the thing for poor women,
tho' he does not exactly know what to substitute

- by putting the *practical* first, & as you
say postponing the Physiological.

I hope I may see you before seeing Dr. DeAth
ever your
F.

9014/38 unsigned note, 1f, pencil

PRIVATE

Mr. Battersby & Mr. Higham

Sept 18/92

Dearest Margt

I do not see how I can avoid sending you this miserable corresponde., (of which of course I shall give no idea to Sir Harry) for yourself. But I would not send it you last night to worry you

How truly does Macaulay say: the Church of Rome has been so wise, the Church of England so idiotic. The Ch. of E. drove out Wesley. Had it been the Ch. of Rome, we

[3:240]

should have had a Saint John of Wesley.

- a Saint Fry of the Prisons in the Quaker Mrs. Fry - a Venerable Countess of Huntingdon & many others - The Church of England would have ousted St. Francis of Assisi, St. Ignatius Loyola, St. Teresa, & a thousand others, men & women - The Ch. of Rome built up herself (& F.N. not only herself but active religion, organized benevolence, male & female, with them. The Ch. of England would have declared them lunatics-)

[end 3:240]

9014/39 initialed note, 1f, pencil

17 Sept.{archivist: '92}

Dearest Margaret

Pray don't have "*Miss Rowland*" on "Monday or Tuesday" - & not till you come back from Lpool.

- *Wednesday or Thursday* or any day you like.

2. And don't let Miss Deyns come back on purpose. We can settle a day when you like it.

What a charming woman Miss Bartlett is - ever your

F

9014/40 initialed note, 1f, pencil

Sept. 19 {archivist: '92}

Dearest Margaret

God speed you both

Give us a Telegram

I have not written to Maude or Fred -
 since they left. Shall I return Maude's
 letters to-day - & say that you have
 seen them, & will be anxious to know
 the result of her enquiries - or something
 to that effect. [My judgment is worth
 nothing.] Only Yes or No, please -
 ever & ever your loving F.N.

9014/41 initialed note, 1f, pencil

Maude & High Schools

Sept. 19 {archivist: '92}

Dearest Margt It's not my fault -
 It's Maude 'done it' - She wants you,
 you will see, to see these letters before you go.

I propose to cut you up in little pieces

Delightful letters from Maude & Fred

Yesterday & day before

O do try & have a *Saloon* Carriage
through - There is time yet to have one
 from London - [I did it when I was here

alone with my mother during her
 widowhood taking her North. (that's
 a long time ago) I remember we
 had a full hour to wait at Rugby - &
 elsewhere - & were spun round & round
 But that was better the town
 than changing. And

Pardon my insistance

ever your loving

F.N.

9014/42 signed note, 1f, pencil

{archivist: [1892??]}

Sept 20

Dearest Lettice I suppose you have
heard nothing of Mother yet?
Would you kindly say to Father that I did
not quite understand what Mother wished me
to say write in answer to the letter *they* received
on Sunday - & / the night before - & that if
he would be so very good as to give me
half an hour this afternoon after 3 anytime
he will kindly appoint -
but daylight is best for me if one has to look
at letters - - - I looked for him yesterday

(over)

afternoon after Mother was gone -
but could not find him

ever your loving
Aunt F.

We think Grandpapa has gained so much
ground the last fortnight.

9014/43 initialed note, 2ff, pencil

A cry for Justice

Rt. Honble Sir Harry Verney Bt

21/9/92

To the Rt. Honble Sir Harry Verney Bart.

F. Nightingale's statement -
In defiance of all pacts & promises, at
1 p.m. to day Sept 20/92, the Magpie
entered the tennis lawn & leapt upon a
chair on which was a large white duster,
another white something and a black one.
but perhaps this last was only his tail -
He began tearing the large duster, but
which was torn before - He then flew off
with something to his hiding place, in

apparently the Church-yard, where I found
 a bone of his, but perhaps it was Nip's
 He then returned quite innocent round
 the Church - At this juncture appeared
 Ruth, & rescued the duster - There then
 ensued a struggle, a *single combat*
 between *Ruth Achilles & Magpie Thersites*
 when the duster was dragged thrice round
 the walls of Troy. But Ruth firmly held
 her ground, & the Magpie appeared intent
 on flying in her face -

The Magpie returned round the Church, looking quite innocent to
 the lawn tennis, but on Sir Harry & Miss
 Lettice appearing, retired with a piece of
 meat to the bushes in sanctuary -

I now call upon Sir Harry as a
 magistrate to empower me to capture
 the Magpie who has broken bounds - who,
 fond of attacking people's heels & biting
 their fingers is easily caught. For the sum
 of one and six, a boy will have no
 objection to have his fingers pecked, to seize

the Magpie & wring his neck - But I
 do not propose to proceed to this
 {printed} extremity to-day - only to cage him
 To-morrow if he returns wring his
 neck. *Affidavits*

I testify to single combat with Magpie Mark
 (signed) Ruth

I testify to Magpie biting my heels
 (signed) Lizzie
 Coleman

We testify to being driven from
 house & home by Magpie
 (Signed) Blackbirds & Thrushes (their marks) &c {7 birds' feet drawn}

9014/44 pencil

Michaelmas Day (archivist: 1892; 29 Sept]

Dearest Margt

Your paper is divine
Black Board for ever -

I do so very much wish you would
let me have some copies of this paper
printed off at Winslow *now* - I have
often done this before - There are only
one or two slight corrections to make

Please tell me after you have seen Miss
Deyns any little hints as to what you wish

me to say -

about 4?

Shall I expect her

9014/45 incomplete, initialed note, 2ff, pencil

Michaelmas Day

Indeed I think that what "the ladies" do "want"
is a "good skeleton plan"; but I am sure
they can have nothing half so good as your
own "Syllabus" of the Eight Lectures
which I read twice this morning.

If there were time, we might have
copies printed at Winslow. But I am
afraid there is so little time, that it must
go, as you say, tomorrow by train to Dr. D

9014/46, pencil

Miss Deyns quite thinks so too -

What a truly charming person she is! I
think some experience will make her a most
capable one.

Shall I have the blessing of seeing
you to-night?

ever your F.N.

I think the Eight Lectures are the Eight
Wise Men - O I am afraid there were
but Seven Wise Men.

me to say -
about 4?

Shall I expect her

9014/47 initialed note, 1f, pencil

Sept. 30

{archivist: '92}

Naughty Sir Harry

Dearest Margt

1. I have no answer from Mr. Jowett. He will probably telegraph
2. If Dr. De'Ath wishes to print off your admirable Syllabus "at once", perhaps you should let him - As you said, when we come to print your Lecture & Syllabus all together at Winslow, you can make any little alterations or additions you like - It is almost perfect.
3. I think it would be a great benefit to Dr. De'Ath, if you could see him ~~from~~ "three to five" as he says - I am afraid it will be a scramble for you - only you never do scramble you always climb or fly, under St. Michael's protection - [Yesterday was Michaelmas Day]
I should guess Mr. Jowett might come at 3 - 4 -
But the one or the other when he can't be seen by you must be satisfied with me
4. Yes, I think Mr. Jowett would like to meet Mr. Battersby - O that he could *loosen* Mr. B.'s 'stays'!
5. You see Dr. De'Ath wants you to telegraph to him "before 12". & "before 11" if you want to stop printing of Syllabus

your loving F.N.

9014/48 initialed note, 1f, pencil

Oct 4/92

Dearest blessed Margt

I send *most* reluctantly your Lecture
& my one (printed) Syllabus -

If they lose these I shall make a noise
to be heard at Dunsinane

2. I am dreadfully sorry that you who deserve
to be at the "papers" till "5.20" - [I *bless* the
paper-room which I never did before -
but just the reverse] should have boy, Bishop
&c just *this* day. It is very hard. ~~But~~ As
to boy, I hope Ellin who has such a genius

for boys, can partially help you

3. Yes, please: I hope to see you *before*
& *after* Mr. Higham *who comes at 5.*
(*before* - in order to settle something
more about him) - I hope he won't
stay till 7.30, as he sometimes does.

I shall not have you tomorrow
And I must report to you about
Mr. Higham -

4. I think you & he (E.) are so
noble about *that* - You had better
write, I *believe*, to Mrs. Gladstone
Such a letter as *you* would write -
ever your loving

F.N.

Will you & Ellin have meals at South St
tomorrow? Please do - say what
time -

9014/49 initialed note, 1f, pencil

Oct 4 (Enclosure: Bishop's letter
received this morning)

{archivist: 1892}

Dearest blessed Margaret

Here's a "go" - Excuse my vulgar
language. it is the more serious because
it *is* only a "go" - The Bishop means to be
& is most kind - But his main hope is to
get the "bee" out of *his* "bonnet" (i.e. *his*
diocese) Mr. Higham *must* have committed
himself somehow, we must fear

I am glad ~~his~~ the Bishop's letter came
before Mr. Higham's visit -

You "scent the "battle" -

But this "battle" is a "*dreadful revelry*"
ever your F.

I would we had Mr. Jowett's "war-horse neigh"
this morning -

9014/50 unsigned note, 1f, pencil

Oct 6 {archivist: 1892}

Dearest blessed Margt

You *must* be so tired.

But I *must* ask you to revise my ~~stud~~
letter to Bishop (enclosing his note)

May I see you to-day?

But when that envious, ever to be objurgated
gong sounds, "me ne pento, me ne pento"
for every minute I let you stay

As that immortal man says

Pulcinella malcontento	[The unhappy Pulcinella
Disertor del Reggimento	Deserter of the regiment
Così scrisce al Governmento	Thus wrote to the govt
Me ne pento, me ne pento	I'm sorry, I'm sorry]
(that's me)	

I shall use Dynamite

9014/51 initialed note, 1f, pencil

10/10

Dearest I return Dr. De'Ath's letters
 Would that *Mrs.* De'Ath could write
 in the names in his Circulars!
 Can they read the name **Deyns**?
 I will write a short note to Dr. De'Ath
 by Coachman saying that his
 Missioners' Diary shall come by post
 I think I ought to look it over *with you*
 I mean with *Portia* - F.N.

9014/52 initialed note, 1f, pencil

10/10 {archivist: 1892}

Dearest - Thank you very much - I
 have re-written the p. 4 as you were so
 good as to suggest -
 The Coachman has sent word that he
 is ready as soon as we are -
 If you are so good as you propose to copy in "short
 hand", I think it would be worth while
 because the best part of it is yours -
 If you are sending to Steeple Claydon,
 shall I telegraph to Dr. De'Ath
 that it is coming?
 F.N.

9014/53 incomplete note, 1f, pencil

Mrs. Verney 12/10/92
for Sir Harry Verney
 Mr. Gladstone's Article
 just out & just come
 How strange is the change
 when a Prime Minister & two ex-Cabinet
 Ministers enunciate their manifestos in a
 Monthly periodical & an American one

9014/54 initialed note, 1f, pencil

Oct 14/92

My dear Sir Harry Where were you
last evening? I was so frightened - the
Banquet was spread at 5 - but no Sir Harry

With many thanks to you & Margaret, Miss Gordon
will come *to-day* by train 10.43 to Claydon
& leave " " 5.22 from "
She regrets she cannot sleep here -

I had a long interview with Mr. Robertson
at 6 by your kind desire last evening - of
which I will tell you anon. F.N.

9014/55 initialed note, 1f, pencil

Oct 14 {archivist: '92}

Dearest blessed Margaret

How excellent art Thou!

Thanks, thanks, & don't tire yourself too
much - I am afraid you were tired last night
Now you have to jump at once into your
School Board where every body will be
asking you questions. And when you come
back, I am going to learn from you a System
of Elementary Education!!!

Thanks for my father's letters - many, many
& bits

And I am so glad if the Cattermole
sketch of *her* is found, thank to you
in the wood cupboard!

Aunt Florence's best love to dear Lettice
I should have liked to have seen her
again - & heard her on the "Peace of Utrecht".

It is about 300 years ago that I wrote a
paper on that "peace" for my father!! She
knows a deal more now than I do -
ever, dearest Margaret,

your most loving F.

What a deal of trouble we do give you

Please tell Capt. Verney that I am embedded
in his Reformatories - They have sent me
a mine!

God speed you in Anglesea
& Lettice in Norwich Cathedral
with dear Maudie & the children

9014/56 initialed note, 1f, pencil

21 Oct. 1892

My dear Sir Harry Have you asked
Professor Malden about Wild Birds
in their relation to agriculture & frugi/horticulture?
are they our best friends?
& those who kill them our worst enemies
or not?

F.N.

9014/57 incomplete note, 1f, pencil, original Salmon scrapbook

21/10

My dear Lettice I am so glad Father has
telegraphed for Dr. De'Ath - I hope he will
be at hand, but yesterday he wrote to me
(about Sanitary matters) & wrote as if he were
scudding about the country -

You know that Col & Mrs. Hawthorn are
coming to morrow - Would you ask Father if
he would think well to put them off? Mother
would be very sorry; but last evening she could

9014/58 initialed note, 1f, pencil

23/10

Dearest - I think I *will* not
come to you to-day, thanking
for your kind invitation -
There is nothing really
pressing to tell you or
to say but: *Get well* -
Dr. De'Ath & I are only
the Council of all the
dirts. And, about *yourself*
when two such "Wisdom"s
get together as *he* and *me*,
of course we only say:
If she will keep her room
& *not talk*, & inhale,
she will soon be well, -
God be thanked. Your

[2]

cough does not reach the
place which bothers you -
it is an unbusiness=like
cough, a good for nothing
cough. It does not
know its business, like
so many females, but not
like you - It is a "foolish
"virgin". Therefore you
must keep quiet &
prevent this ignorant inefficient
cough from coming, &
let the tops of your
bronchial tubes have a
chance, & *not talk*
Now do be "good" -
God bless you - your F.

9014/59 initialed note, 1f, pencil

23/10 {archivist: 1892}

Dearest blessed naughty Margaret
[How could you tell me you were
"good in everything"!! Who talked to Mrs.
Hawthorn?]

But to business - I hear from Morey that
"Sir Harry is determined to go - & *is writing*
"to ask if Miss Ellin can accompany him
"instead of Mrs. Verney"

You are sure that it will do Ellin's knee

no harm - So I follow suit. But we
know Sir Harry is incapable of taking
care of her - and there will be a
"great crush" -

I shall see Sir Harry after
church & will report to you whether he has
written

But you have no business to be
arranging for other people - Your
goodness renders you unreliable as to
being "good"

Do you know that Mr. Jowett has
written to Mr. Battersby about Mr.
Higham?

Also: Dr. De'Ath told me yesterday
a great deal - not all agreeable.

I heroically refrained from
telling you anything - but not a bit
will I touch you any more than the
Lions touched a bit of Dan'l, unless
you *are* good your F.

9014/60 signed note, 1f, pencil

24/10 {archivist: 1892}

Dearest Margaret Thank God that you yourself
are relieved. It is a humiliating (but salutary,
I suppose), to think how dependent we are on teeth,
digestion & cooking - But the Spirit works in
you joy - while *we* are grumbling & grovelling
away.

About the greater thing, dear Ellin; I don't
want to take up a minute I can help of your
crowded day to-day - not even to ask your plans
- only to try & facilitate them - alas! that we
cannot do no more - I have written to put myself

off in London *sine die*, as you were so very {indefinitely}
good as to say that it would be a comfort
to you to think of me here with Sir Harry
while you are away - I am so glad to be able
to do it.

And I write to the N. Zealand Nurse to come
here on *Monday?* or *Tuesday?* - which is, I believe,
her last day in London. [I don't worry you to
tell you why I did not yield to your gracious
invitation before] I have now got the things
here for her - If you go on ~~Monday~~ Tuesday, she had better
not come on Monday

I think of you as perhaps starting for
Lpool on Monday -

Ellin was wonderfully brave yesterday -
interested in every body & every thing - simple &
therefore the more heroic - thinking more
of you than of herself, & except in as far
as she thinks of what she has to do in her
future life. She is no doubt 'down' some
times, but I cannot say, '*poor* child'. I think
she is *rich*, & Lettice too.

Thanks, thanks, thanks your loving & grateful
Aunt Florence

9014/61 initialed letter, 1f, pen

25/10

Dearest I am so glad you approve the letters - But how shall we know whether bring about that Sir H. writes his & *what* he writes? or even know whether he has not forgotten all about it?

Will Edmund undertake this (with his gentleness)?

[You see Sir H. is not to write till tomorrow or next day.]

If you could just say Yes or No? Dr. D. might impress it on E.

I am sadly afraid that all Sir H. will say about *his* paying "*the rate*" will be: 'we will see about that when the time comes.' F.N.

9014/62 unsigned letter, 2ff, pen & pencil **[6:574-75]**

Claydon Oct 25/92

Dearest Margaret

Your two "Shakespearian Readings were delightful: viz Lord North's Sewer in Chancery Lane, (whom I must see again) - and the Health Missioner & the Cottage Wife - Shall I have that printed in letters of gold?

I am like? Trinculo all over cramps & bites at coming in upon your enforced retirement just now. But I don't see how it is possible to avoid it. And I hope at all events to give you no talking -

A strong warning has been given by a

distinguished authority in London that there is not a week to be lost in setting our house i.e. our villages in order before next spring - [This authority is neither the Buckingham one, nor the Local Govt Board, nor - - - nor even Sir Harry]

Now I will give you a real Shakespearian quotation "I hope my holy humour will pass off - as it always does when I have counted twenty" as the language in the heart of the above persons, in brackets.

Now to business -

Dr. De'Ath, and I, acting as your dog, your Bugler Boy out of tune, have had much conversation on my dear village of dirt, Steeple Claydon, which ~~certainly will~~ may not escape if there is an epidemic.

Will you be so very good as to read over the three letters enclosed? & give it your judgment?

I could easily write Vols: but I will only add two things:

1. Still acting as your Bugler Boy out of

tune: I tried {inserted in faint pencil} 2000 days ago, to find out from Sir Harry whether he had written the letters

a. to the Buckingham authorities

b. to the Local Govt. Board

which Dr. De'Ath more than 3 weeks ago had (in a typewritten letter) given him all the materials for

Sir H. could not remember it at all, but said that he always wrote what he was asked directly!!!

If he has done so, you may possibly know my strong impression is 1. that he has not
2. that you must not bother yourself - 3. Here

[2]

is a new letter for him to write
if you approve.

Dr. De'Ath will give it to Sir H. himself
to-day when he comes -

2. Mr Robertson went away yesterday
for a fortnight. But he sent me word
~~yesterday~~ that he should be all ready
to begin on Steeple Claydon when he comes back * [However
the thing *MAY* now have to be done as a
whole]

x if Sir Harry orders

* having received certain (quite indefinite) orders

from Sir H.

Now, my blessed one, you really must
not let this hurt you. Or you will see me
dangling from a tree in front of your windows
by my neck - as food for the Tomtits
I dare not sign myself.

9014/63 initialed letter, 3ff, pen

26/10 {archivist: 1892}

Dearest I do trust that
you are really better
As I understood from Dr. De'Ath
yesterday afternoon - [but dear
Sir Harry came up with his
dreadful newspapers, &a;;
business was suspended]
*Dr. De'Ath's letter to Sir Harry
about Sir H. writing to the
Local Govt Board, re Steeple Claydon
- which you say - would come
to Sir Harry by this morning's
post-*

You said/assented that Edmund
would be so good as to
undertake the rest - & see
that Sir Harry's letter was
written in that sense - and
*went by to-night's post - to
the Local Govt. Board;* which

will receive *Dr. De'Ath's*
letter, which you also saw,
this morning -

Perhaps it was fortunate
that Sir Harry did come in,
with his newspapers, for Dr. De'Ath told him
then & there that his,
Dr. D.'s letter was coming
this morning - And Sir Harry
vigorously assented to write
to L.G.B. - I added a few
word's after Dr. D. was gone,
And again Sir H. vigorously
assented.

So I hope this time the
letter will get written to-day
But I am sure it will *not*
without Edmund - see p. 2
your F.N.

I was so very glad that

Edmund

stopped the Health Missioners'
Diary with Dr. De'Ath,
on the ground that the
Committee would think her
not a Missioner by a *spy*.
We were aghast, as you know,
Sir at the headings Wages

Rent -

But tho' made as innocuous
as we could, it the *Diary* is much
better done away with
as far as the committee
seeing it.

I will write about ~~the rest~~
pamphlet to you -

[p.2]

re

Dr. De'Ath's letter to Sir Harry
Sir Harry has again &
again expressed to me
his sense of the cruel
unfairness of *charging the*
OCCUPIER with Sanitation - & also to Dr. D. -

It is not therefore like a new
thing (to Sir H.) Dr. D.'s
proposal that Sir H.
should pay his tenants'
rates in this matter

Wellcome Ms 9014

631

F.N.

9014/64 unsigned memorandum, 2ff, pencil [this appears to be written in faint pencil on an unfolded envelope, something illegible is written upside down at the top of the page; not FN hand]

long {illeg passion? } gives us help & gratitude to God. The recollection of the kindness & goodness of others to us is agreeable to us to see if we are obliged to feel conscious that we did not meet it as we ought to have done - the kindly look still beams on us, though the loved one has been long in the tomb/grave. His or her kind doings. perhaps some advice, still sounds in our ears, & the recollection is grateful to us. How much more if we can {illeg recollect? } {illeg of intense labour any} {illeg style ?} or given counsel which has been useful to others saved them from evil or done them good

{archivist: 1892}

[3:436]

A friend desires me to write on the "Comforts of Old Age" for which task I have two qualifications & only two. I am 91 years old & I have many comforts Peace & Rest are comforts of the aged, (illeg but} they are not to be enjoyed by us but they are not to be enjoyed by us unless we can look to the end which must be very near, with confident hope Our chief comfort is to look back and to recollect God's *deal* ings with us, particularly if we can call to our remembrance circumstances in which He protected us or guided us in which we can give/recollect no/any reason {illeg why this? illeg}

took, but on retrospection we see its advantages - we see that we were influenced by wisdom higher than our own which makes us thankful for the past & gives us now confidence for the future & a source of comfort to us. If we have used/made efforts to promote objects which have been successful, the recollection of them gives comfort & enjoyment. The calm review of our whole life is very agreeable, even if we feel that on this or that occasion we acted foolishly/wrongly or even {illeg absurdly? /illeg lly}. If the {illeg} is not that one {illeg should wish?} **[end 3:436]**

{illeg} perhaps & which has been succeeded by a quiet sense of {illeg }
entirely by now
brings its punishment, the recollection of that which is

9014/65 initialed letter, 4ff, pen

Claydon Oct. 29/92

Health pamphlet

Dearest Margaret

How thankful that you are better, I criminal, can find no words to say - nor how miserable about your smoking chimney.

I return your bundle of papers which I ought to have done long days ago -

No. 8

(a) I consider your "Notes" to the Missioners *not at all* to be "omitted". They are about the best things, except your Lecture, in the bundle -

Could something be added to emphasize this that

the after Visiting is more important than Lecturing. Almost every day adds to my store of communications that people think the Rural Health Movement begins & ends with a 'Course of Lectures' instead of the Lecture (see end -

p.2)

being only a way of introducing the *friend* -

(b) I consider you a treacherous 'lot'. I see myself "introduced" who have done nothing.

(c) Could you not further dwell upon the importance of the Medl. Off. of Health Instructor

going over *villages* with his class as *part of the course* - and initiating the first steps of the Lady Lecturer lecturing by (finding out whether she is in touch with the people) giving her hints, & by the *confidential Diary* when it is finally settled -

All this is the fruit - the *Lecture, the Examn, the Certificate, are only the sign-board, the Advertisement* d. No 6.[61?] I thought the Missioners would not like their names mentioned. But Dr. De'Ath says they would - & that we can't mention the names of the successful ones without mentioning the others

e. Treacherous "lot"

"submitted by Miss Nightingale

I suppose this means

"submitted to Miss N."

Both are equally *unmeaning*

No 10

f. Treacherous "Lot"

I never saw this before

[2]

II (see a)

A bundle of papers

reached me this morning

from Miss Rosalind Paget

- asking me to "approve"

or criticize & return

a scheme of hers & Miss

Lampport's for "training"

Lady Health Lecturers -

("training", because it does

not train. F.N.)

[You may remember a

corresponde. I had with

her last year - she is a

most able person - in which

she gave us valuable confidential

information about the

short-comings of - especially

the "National Health Socy"

lecturers & others.

Her scheme appears to me

to combine all their defects.
It is the play of Hamlet
with the part of Hamlet
left out]

*May I send it to you
to look at & prompt me
to answer?*

But the true answer
would be *your Pamphlet*
if you would think well
to emphasize the things
I have mentioned - The sooner
it is printed the better.
[I have ruined my eyes
in looking thro' the Vol:
of the "Record" I showed
you at the *things which
are not there.*]

[3]

Health Pamphlet

(in connection with two letters
sent by Miss Rosalind Paget)

- a. instruction cannot be given in
London -- must be given in the
rural places by a rural
Medl Officer of Health
- b. what sort of *person*
*will she do for a Health
Missioner?* CONSIDERED by
both Instructor & Examiner -
- *personality* of candidate, in
short - "many are called
but few are chosen"
She may go thro'
the Examn. to
perfection but not
be fit for a Missioner
to Cottage women.
- c. must be examined by
a person acquainted with
rural life. *agricultural*

[3]

Herkomer would say: I
 have no faith in theoretical
 instruction. It is like
 the sculptor who lectures
 but does not know how
 to use the chisel. to show
 his pupils.

ever, dearest,
 your loving F.N.

[4]

1st Syllabus omitted
*What Sanitary authority
 the Health Missioner
 should appeal to?*
 for things she cannot amend
 herself.

Dr. De'Ath says
 if they, the R. Paget
 scheme, really want to
 start, they should support
 this, the N. Bucks, Institution -
 - not oppose it
 It should be improved
 - not opposed
 30/10/92 F.N.

9014/66 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

Nov 1/92

My dear Edmund

It is quite certain that if you, in consultation
 with the terrestrial (practical) magnates, decree the
 lengthened flue, out of the solid wall, it is right
 & should be begun directly - The hammering won't
 be at night, & won't be heard in the Blue Room
 And you ought not to hesitate a moment -

If you want *besides* a different fire-place
 in the room, you know, I am sure, better than I
 what excellent new inventions there are. Sir Douglas

Galton has invented one which takes its air thro' a tube running behind the wainscot to the outer air - I have had one for some years at South St. Before this, the fire had no idea of any other function but to smoke - & *not* to warm -

I long to see your papers - This morning I have some too=long=delayed difficult letters to write of my own. In the afternoon I hope to have an audience of Margt. about Pamphlet & Dr. De'Ath's additions for ½ hour. Will you kindly say so to her? with my duty -
your affecte F.N.

9014/67 unsigned letter. 1f, pencil

Nov 2/92

Dearest Margaret

I thought you so tired last night - I repent in dust & ashes that I went bothering you at all - much more that I stayed more than 1/4 hour. But my ashes don't do you much good. Here are Miss R. Paget's & Miss Lamport's letters. They are really rather a relief to me - for they seem as if they were not in the wild haste that ~~see~~ appeared, to start an immense scheme - Now, will you

have Miss Lamport? & when? & to sleep or not?

Don't have her directly

[I have never seen her - I should think she was more of a professional x than Miss R. Paget who is really very nice, genial, heart in her work, hardworking & clever] ~~She is~~
x a professional giver of "theoretical lectures" - who does not care much provided she is called a "successful lecturer" what follows in practice

I have not heard from Mr. Higham - and oh well! Dr. De'Ath has not heard from the Local Govt. Board & is going to telegraph. In February (Ho: of C.) it will be too late to ward against Cholera

9014/68 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

Nov 2/92

Dearest Margt

I think as you have that lady, the Reviewer-ess, who I hope will be a pleasure to you, for "2 or 3 days", & are, tho' portentously strong, "not quite so much so at this moment," it would not be well to have *Miss Lamport* on Friday. and I have accordingly asked her for *Tuesday* - Did you mean her to *sleep*? I enclose my note, in case you wish any alteration.

I think it is very cool of me to do this
And I *may* not be here, my dearest

I agree with you that Fred's Preface is charming - all except the last page - & worthy of your "Lecture" - so weighty & so light in hand.

But I have one or two words which I think ought to be added -

And I wish besides that the "Scheme", tho' not yet fully worked out in practice, were on paper
by you to wit -

Lectures to Missioners
Taking Missioners to Cottages
Examination
Appointments to Districts
Continuation of Medl. officer's
guidance
Health Missioners *anchored*
- take *Probationer* Missioners

"Unaccustomed as I am" to pulpit "speaking"
I am going to have the novel pleasure of sermonizing
you - How ill-natured you are to the person

Draft for the pamphlet last night
with admiration -

F.N.

9014/69 incomplete initialed letter, 1f, pencil

Dr. De'Ath

Nov 3/92

Dearest Margt:

I have a whole packet of papers from him this morning. He will come at 3.30 - or if he can't, will ~~bring~~ send what he can't bring, i.e. more papers. Will you see him?

Could you kindly just glance at this his paper on Cholera? & give it me back before he comes, if he does come?

[Of course we can't alter Ernest Hart's Andrew Clark's or L.G.B. "Instructions"]

But there are things of his I have criticized to him -

Further, I told him that he could not leave off with "What will be done? Nothing" p. 18. And I wrote a few lines which he chose to carry off -

He has inserted them as mine at end - Do you not think this won't do? It is like a bugle-boy in the midst of a Sanitary Committee

Mr. Higham

==== You will have seen Mr. Holmes' letter to Sir Harry this mornng. I could not help laughing at the last advice in the P.S. *But* - alas! alas!

Yes, If I may come to you to-day, you will see me descending in the form - not of a dove but - of a magpie - to steal your silver - not spoons but words -

F.N:

I read your

9014/70 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

5/11/92 Inkermann Day

Dearest Margt

I have looked over dear Fred's Preface again & I think it better only to put in about pig-stye & cesspool privy p. 4 - & not to disturb the unity of the thing by putting in that in water-supply & drainage the country is worse than London

Would you think well to have it

put in type at once in Winslow?
that is ~~and~~ sending it in tonight or Sunday for Monday morning.
I protest against the last page - Fred must have meant *you*

when he put I -

Would it be convenient for me to see dear Lettice directly after ~~her~~ your tea -? 5.30 to wish her good-bye?

~~And did Sir Harry let~~ young Mr. Robertson know that I could ~~see him~~ is coming at 6.30 about the Northamptonshire Osier bed?
Sir Harry wished it

your F

9014/71 initialed letter, 1f, pencil & pen

5/11 Inkermann Day

Dearest Dr. De'Ath telegraphs

"Board refuse to inspect villages"

I feel collapsed as when Cassy found
==== out that "Pilgrim's Progress" was "*a dream*"

You see we cannot give up Dr. De'Ath on *Monday* - because the omnivorous dear Fred {pen begins} keeps us well at work for his County Council on Thursday. Edmund has been so kind in drawing up an

invaluable Minute for me for Fred

If † we give up Dr. De'Ath on Monday,
how shall † we get done for Fred? I
cannot get his Dr. De'Ath's materials out of him
while Miss Lamport is to the fore -
can I?

He fixed Monday himself - [I
had understood from you that you had
previously fixed him x for Monday]
and asked to be asked to meet
Miss Lamport besides - on Tuesday

I have sent reply Telegraph -
"what hour on Monday? Miss Lamport
"comes on Tuesday - Mrs. Verney will
"write", because you kindly said
you would as to "Tuesday or Wedny"
[I have telegraphed to Miss L.]

Edmund is anxious I should see
young Mr. Robertson about Osier bed
- This must be today, in preparation
for Dr. De'Ath on Monday. Shall I?
x not professionally now perhaps F.N.

9014/72 initialed note, 1f, pencil

Nov 15/92

Dearest As you are so good as to let me
choose, I like the one looking down
the best. It looks like an young
angel studying Scripture - Perhaps
they have even more Scriptures
than we have

But the one looking you straight
in the face is good too -
ever your F.

9014/73 signed letter, 2ff, pencil

Private 10 South St. Park Lane
Nov 19/92 W.

My dear Edmund

Thank you very much
for your 3 notes. With
regard to the last recd
this afternoon about
the copying for dear
Margt I feel it as
strongly as you do -
I *will* write to Sir Harry
as you suggest, but it
must be when you & Margt
are at Claydon - & he can
set it a-going directly -
But last year she was

so good as to accept
from me a young lady
from Oxford to copy -
And I pressed her again
upon her this ~~year~~ autumn - But
Margt said she was not ready
for her yet. Last year
I sent for her without
telling Margt. Could
not this be done again
this year? - Lettice knows
her address - Margt
liked her & her brother
better still -

Everything must be

done to spare Margt, I
am sure.

[3:507]

I am glad you come
with Mr. Higham, & shall
be most anxious to hear the
result - Mr. Jowett writes
again that Mr. H. should
not put himself in the
Bp's power, & that Mr.
Battersby ~~wd~~ (whom
Mr. Jowett has seen)
~~wd~~. not oppose his being
presented to Steeple
Claydon - Mr. Jowett ~~wd~~
gladly see Mr. Higham
himself at Oxford

==== Perhaps Margt will be
able to give orders to
print off "the" pamphlet
before leaving Claydon
on ~~Wed~~ Tuesday

We are in all the agonies
of this most unsatisfactory
business - petitioning &
insensing Counsel against
the grant of a R. Charter
by Privy Council -

Love to Ellin - so sorry
not to see her again -

Love above all to
Margt

Yours affectionately
in great haste

Burn F. Nightingale

9014/74 signed letter, 4ff, pen

[1:669-70]

Advent Sunday Nov 27/92
Margaret's book 10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir Harry

Thank you very much for
your kind note.

I know how uneasy you are
about blessed Margaret's
health, & her being so overdone
with work - which yet she
loves for your sake & others'
& for God's right.

You have often been good
enough to talk to me about
how necessary it is to spare
her everything that is
unnecessary trouble or that
any person who can read &
write well can do *for* her -
& to invite my suggestions -

I know how anxious you

are to get the Third Volume
of the Verney Memoirs done
Margaret being the only
person who can do it -

You have no doubt
anticipated me in what I
am going at your prompting
to suggest - viz - that you
should make it clear to her
that she is to have, *at your
expence*, EVERY thing she
wants for the book -
that she is simply *to order
any books of reference*
she requires - and to
employ as many clerks as
she can find work for.
that she *is to* do this - & no

dispute about it.

You are ready to give her at once any book of reference necessary for her work or rather yours. And there must be several of these wanted.

And then it is simply killing her to let her do *any* scribe's work for herself. - killing the eagle who lays the golden eggs - for it is all for nothing. You and I know that more than one learned man & practical in authorship has said: *it* is entirely *impossible* for her to ~~finish~~ write that book for you if all clerical work is not taken out of her hands directly.

You know dear Margaret is only *too* scrupulous not to run you into unnecessary expence. You will judge whether it might possibly be easier & safer for you, as it would be cheaper, to give her a blank cheque so far as the book is concerned - Christ's work must be worked in us this day -

I pray God and you to save that blessed life - to enable it to do all the work that it alone can do

This and action in God's work & holiness is putting upon us the "armour of light" - this blessed day when Christ's work is worked in us - & even external Ceremonies may be a "works of darkness" if they do not lead to bright action in the business of God. We have *no* business of our own.

[2]

Roke

[7:702]

2. You desired me to ask about Roke (near Stanbridge) It is the property of a Capt. or Major Henderson - It *has* a house upon it - which is let to a widow lady with sons & daughters who gives garden parties - I believe her name is Knight.

It stands high & looks over the valley & Romsey Abbey Church - a beautiful view as good as Longdown

You can see it to your right as you drive up the long hill from Romsey towards Embley - itself standing on a hill, but part of the property slopes down to the river - It has a low tower, a sort of castellated looking thing -

This "very desirable "property" it might be called in an Advertisement with perfect truth - There are about 200 acres I believe

[end 7:702]

3.R. Charter Court of Enquiry

After all, I believe Bonham
Carter is to ~~be~~ give evidence
to-morrow - He is the only
man who really understands
the work - who has worked
it out from the beginning
in principle and in detail
- in spirit & in truth -
whose facts are as trustworthy
as his intelligence, his theory
& his conduct of the work.

[I presume that the Judges & the large
majority, if not all, of those
who have given their names
to petition for the grant of a R. Charter
know nothing at all about
the principles of Nurse-Training
or the working of a Register -
It will be a great thing

for us to have our work
& considered opinions
laid before the public,
even if we fail in opposing
the R. Charter, as I suppose
we shall]

Pray thank Morey for
all his labours for us with
French at Winslow -
ever dear Sir Harry
yours F. Nightingale

{printed address, upside down:} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

9014/75 initialed letter, 5ff, pen

[1:670]

10 South St. Advent Sunday

Nov 27/92

My dear Edmund

I have written to Sir Harry
by this post to beg him
to do what is so important
to provide all Clerkship,
all necessary books of
reference for Margt.

I hope he will show
you or her the letter
& act upon it at once.

But wish you would
be so good as to order
"an extinct Baronetage"
directly for me. I should
be so glad & honoured
to give it her. I would
order it myself but am
too stupid to know its
title.

Thank you *very* much for
your letters

I am so horrified about
Mr. Hannen the builder &
Mr. Robertson's house
& shall be so anxious
to know what you have
done.

Sir Harry, I should think,
would never be induced
to make Mr. Hannen liable
to legal penalties - And
it is unwise to disturb
Sir H. too much - But
Mr. Hannen *must* be
compelled to repair his
neglect & his scamped
work - ~~Have Shall you have had~~
~~a Sanitary Specialist down?~~
Or Have you sent for a
man from Mr. Hannen to

[2]

see to Mr. Robertson's house
directly -

I am so glad you are there,
because you do your
"spiriting gently"

[3]

Advent Sunday

Nov 27/92

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

Since I began this letter, I
have seen Fred, & we have
gone fully into this dreadful
Hannen business -

First of all, he says that you
probably have no standing
ground for an action against
Mr. Hannen, because Mr. Calvert
ordered the works - paid for
them - And he is in a better
world of drains [You asked Fred's
opinion]

Secondly, he advises you to
write to Mr. Hannen x see p. 3 (showing
your letter of course to Sir H.)
taking the tack with Hannen
that he is as entirely ignorant
as you were of the iniquities
of you his foremen, & that he

will be glad to know of them
& obliged to you for telling him
then you have three things to

put to him

1. what will he do himself
by way of making everything
good?
2. how does he intend to
treat his guilty &
punish

unscrupulous foremen? of
whose doings he is certainly
guiltless - put it thus -

3. will he order a stringent
examination of the *rest*
of the Sanitary work at
Claydon by an entirely
independent man - say an

Inspector of the London
Protective Sanitary
Association? to be paid
for by him, - & will he, Hannen,
agree to carry out at his
own cost any works he the Inspector
may recommend as necessary

Fred says that, without
using *anything resembling*
a threat, you might leave
it open as if you could
do something else, if he is
not entirely satisfactory -
[x see p. 1] You will of course tell
him in the first part of
your letter exactly the state

of things at Mr. Robertson's
house.]

Fred says that Mr. Hannen
will see quite well
that you *might* write
a letter to the newspapers,
& tho' he would bring an
action for libel, this
would be a thing extremely
detrimental to him - -
but do not ~~to~~ use a threat.

I am afraid I am too late
to be of any use. But I
could ~~be~~ not help it - Fred
has got thro' his disappoint-
=ment at Aylesbury & his
week, by keeping a little
quiet, without any attack of
fever, thank God - He & Maude
are gone to Harrow to-day

[4]

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

I believe I have taken
up all your points about Mr.
Hannen - but I have no doubt
you have already done what is
necessary - & I am too late

I should deprecate anything
in the way of legal proceedings
- It would so disturb Sir Harry
Mr. Higham Fred says
that the more opening of
"communications", as you say,
with Sir R. Phillimore would
be the best deterrent for the
Bishop, who would certainly
otherwise engage Sir R.P.

[3:507]

What with Bishop
Board of Guardians
County Council
Privy Council

we are compassed round
with wild bulls of Bashan

Think of the Rt Revd
Bishop Stubbs & the Lord
Hannen turning out to be
wild bulls.

Which Hannen of the
builder or the Law Lord
is the worst?

May God defend the
right! for there are
many rights at stake -
your affectionate
F.N.

I must put off writing to
Margt till tomorrow -

9014/76 initialed letter, 2ff, pen

R. Charter Nov 28/92
printed address:} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir Harry
We have lost, as we
expected. No evidence
will be called. And
the enquiry has
terminated.

We shall not see
the Report to the Queen,
of course. But we have
been given to understand
that the Judges think
some modifications in
the R. Charter desirable
& will say: if you won't
have these modifications,
you shan't have the

Charter -
Sir R. Webster made a
good fight -
But it will cost us
£1000 at least: we
are told.
Sir Horace Davy was
rather impudent.
They put us entirely
under the Doctors &
Matrons. "We won't
"have the Bonham Carters
"& the Rathbones to
"reign over us" (they
who have done all the
work) Lord Ripon
asked: nor Miss Nightingale?

No

We are not discouraged
& I shall set to work
tomorrow to bring
all the good out of
it for the Nursing
career that we can.

So help us God!

Let us fight with
the "armour of light" -
Yours ever affly
F.N.

9014/77 initialed note, 1f, pencil

30/11/92

printed address:} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

Very many thanks for
these letters (3 returned)
- excellent one from
you to Mr. Hannen -
so anxious to know
the result

will write

F.N.

9014/78 initialed note, 1f, pencil

Dec 1/92

printed address:} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

My dearest blessed Margaret

Thank you a thousand
times for your letter - and for
all in it except for what
was not in it - viz - nothing
about yourself.

I send you Miss Lamport's
& Miss Rosalind Paget's
revised Manifesto - Tho' the
word "rural" occurs many
times, I don't see that
there is anything else
"rural" in it. I am
sending them each a copy
of our pamphlet. It is
more yours than mine. I

am so glad you & Edmund
are going to Lady
Portsmouth's

All blessings be with
you -

ever your loving

F.N.

Please thank Edmund so
much for his letter

9014/79 signed letter, 3ff, pen

[3:435-36]

Dec 8/92

printed address:} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

All hail to you on your
91st birth day, my dear
Sir Harry - And we can
truly say: may the Loving
Father give you several &
happy returns of the day -
happy for you & for us all
to have *you*

I wish I had heard an
Advent Sunday sermon
which the maids heard
(at St. Thomas', Portman
Sq -where I have seats -)

It began with: Lift up your
heads: for your redemption
draweth nigh - Be joyful -
when you meet with
trouble & sorrow & failure

& temptation, for *that*
is God drawing nigh to
you to redeem you -

Then it went on: "Do you
read *the Bible that is*
within you? [what a good
& true expression!] - you will
draw from it faith & hope -
But how few do read it!"

Then it spoke about
temptation & that we
should meet it ~~joyfully~~/ cheerily
& feel that God is with
us -

I was thinking that one
would like to amplify
all that - but no doubt
the preacher did - and

say: *the facts of life*,
these too are *God's word*
out of these He is working
in us the Ideal He has
for each one of us - that
we may be perfect as he is
perfect - & each one of us,
a different member of
Christ's body

not by our *criticizing*
the facts of life - except
criticism be the finding
out the meaning of them -
God's purpose in them -
still less by calling
wrong right - or right
wrong -

but by bringing all our
thoughts, our words, our
prayers into close
connection with the
facts of life, which
are God's words to us.
no to accept them as
such - & as pointing our
way to us what He would
have us do -
[St. Paul's first words
were: Lord, what
wilt *Thou have me* TO DO?
not to kick against the
pricks -
Let our unceasing fervent
prayer be; Lord what
wilt Thou have me *to*
DO?

Now, my dear Sir Harry, do be
 good - that we may look
 forward to many birth days
 of yours - I know *yer* & the
 naughtiness of *yer*, when not
 controlled by Dr. Morey, & blessed
 Margaret - And how you {printed address, vertical::} 10, South Street,
 Park Lane. W.

will make handsome
 apologies to us all, if
 only you may have your

own wicked way -

 Thanks for lovely flowers
 - splendid Chrysanthemums -
 How fares Mr. Higham?
 God bless you - and He
 does bless you -
 your loving sister
 F. Nightingale

[end 3:436]

9014/80 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

16/12 {archivist: '92}

My dearest Margt Allow me to suggest
 that you should see after MY education *too*
 before dinner.

I am jealous of the little farmerine: God
 bless them.

Sir Harry comes to cocoa at 5. You gave
 me hopes - You gave me hopes that you
 would give me "wine" this afternoon.

What time?

your loving F.N.

9014/81 signed letter, 1f, pencil

Dearest blessed Margaret

I send 4 little historical books

Henry V Cardinal Wolsey

" VII Q Elizabeth

I dare say you have them all, or may not think any of them suitable for my god child Ruth - But I send also the unexceptionable Vol. of Mrs. Molesworth's - & if none of the Lives can be added to it, & you have them not, perhaps they will do for

{vertical:} 19/12/92

{printed address:} 10, South Street,

Lettice & Ellin - You see *Henry V* is Park Lane. W.

among them for the Shakespearians: ever your loving

Aunt Florence

9014/82 initialed note, 1f, pencil

A mutton, shank bone, cooked, ~~with~~ (all the best part of the meat stripped off for human cormorants) is what the Tomtits would like for his Sir H.'s birth-day

[We always began the mutton system for the Tomtits at Lea Hurst in the summer, & at Embley in the autumn. And they signified their gracious acceptance of

it by pecking at the
bone all day, except
when they were swinging
on it]

Suet is very agreeable
to birds - *Sparrows*
only will eat/ can digest crumbs -
Other birds must have
all sorts of meaty things
F.N.

There was one wretched
half-starved starling (starlings
eat only animal food) who
used to beg at my window
this year: - the only survivor
of the splendid parade of
starlings on the Church tower -

9014/83 unsigned memorandum, 1f, pen

[1:408]

In loving remembrance
of my dear sister
{in print} **Parthenope Verney**
who is gone home to God
this Cross is offered
by Florence Nightingale
(undivided by death)
n the anniversary of death, May 12 1892
“O God! Thou hast created us for Thyself;
“And our souls are restless till they find
rest in Thee”

9014/84 signed letter, 1f, pencil [92?]

My dear Lettice

"Baxter's 2nd Innings" telegraphed for yesterday
- came obedient - but alas! not in his
nice cricketing leggings.

S. Crispin is not in the Prayer-book
Calendar - And all I can remember about
him is that he was the Saint of *Shoemakers*
[You know he was not one of the real great
Saints like S. Anselm, S. Benedict, S. Augustine

(over)

&c &c &c - Henry V only mentions him
because it Agincourt happened to be his
Crispin's Saint's day in the Roman Calendar
I have an Italian Callendaria at home
but I don't think maids could find it
Will you give me the name of your
Henry V with Holinshed in it?

Aunt F

How is Mother?

" " Ellin?

Mr. Sandy sends me word that he
is drawing diligently donkeys as well as pigs
for Miss Lettice

9014/85 unsigned note, 1f, pencil {archivist: [to Lettice] [1892?]
[first two lines illeg - too faint to read]

the passage in Henry IV where
Falstaff boasts of having killed [faint]
in "Kendal Green" & of having killed *Hotspur*

Have you finished your Henry V -
And has dear Ellin finished here - I should
like to see her this afternoon.

Today & tomorrow (Battle of Inkermann)
anniversaries in Crimean War - I am overwhelmed

with India

9014/86 initialed, incomplete letter, 2ff, pen

[2]

to me - India does
not go into the
country to canvass
no more does the
Nurse -business
I saw your letter in the
"Times" about the
election.

I have had a most
beautiful letter from
Miss Irby about
"the book" which
I will copy for you.
I sent her "the book"
Shore's wife who is a
good judge says

that every detail - &
not one too many -
is worked up to give
a perfect whole of
each character -

I think such unworldly,
straight forward, high-
-minded characters
- rare, alas! now-a-days -
as Sir Edmund & Sir
Ralph Verney - tho'
so unlike each other
- & their excelling
wives - must, *thus*
recalled, do good.

I shall send a copy
to Georgina Hurt - [Georgiana]
who was deeply
attached to Parthe -
Pray the Father of
an infinite Majesty
& of personal interest
in each one of us
that He may send
the Kingdom of Heaven
into this house &
into your house &
every where
ever dear Sir Harry
your affectionate
F.N.

9014/87 initialed, incomplete note, 1f, pencil

of Her Majesty Margaret Verney, keeping it
always going at high pressure, & then
calling it "once" - It asks you kindly to
give it a little, a very little rest - And
then it will perform all the duties of
Throne, Authoress, Administratrix, &c &c &c
&c &c &c - And you turn quite unkind -
When you can do that "Theseus", & all these
papers, I think you are behaving very bad
to it, my Queen -

ever your F.

9014/88 unsigned, incomplete note, 1f, pencil

I will write by a later
train -
God will carry out His
purposes - His purposes
are those of Infinite Love.
Only keep well - You
must be so tired - You
are Christ's loved
handmaid with both
Edmund & Sir Harry -
Aunt Florence's love
to Edmund -
& oh my dearest if I
could but take one straw
off your back

9014/89 unsigned, incomplete note, 1f, pencil

[2]

*to me if there is any
thing I could do for
you while you are at
Onslow Gardens? & if I
might see you anytime but I
don't expect that you
will have time -*
The whole of the family
on both sides ought to
have rallied round you
- you who have borne the
burden & heat of the day -
And they don't - They are
just like agreeable old
Pharisees - But I won't swear

9014/91 unsigned letter, 1f, pencil

Jan 4/93

printed address:} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

Dearest Margaret

I almost fear that you
may not have had an
answer from me, posted
last Friday, to your letter
dated Dec 27, with a List
of five Surgeons in it -

ever your loving

Aunt Florence

Will you tell Ellin that we
lost Miss Stains last
Thursday at Lpool. She
was a woman of a
mighty spirit - *she* built the

[13:271]

new

Lpool Infy -

It was most touching -
she would not have
flowers at her Memorial
Funeral Service at Lpool,
because of not putting the
Nurses to expence in
flowers - She lies buried
at St. Albans - yesterday
was the funeral -

[end 271]

9014/92 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

16/1/93

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

Dearest blessed Margaret

I know how full these
days are for you - & will
write only one line now -

Would not Edmund
obtain the opinion before
he goes of Dr. De'Ath
on the earth-closets he,
E. is planning for Steeple
Claydon?

God bless you
ever your loving
F.N.

9014/93 signed letter, 2ff, pencil

Jan 19/93

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

My dear Sir Harry

I am aghast at your
naughtiness proposing to
come up to London to "see" me!
& "do a great many things" -!!

I shall tell Dr. Morey of
you & blessed Margaret -
And you will see what they
will say - horrible January
weather! I am horrified!

Now don't be naughty -
But tell me what I want
to know. How are the earth
closets getting on for Steeple
Claydon? and is the pool
where the cows of Mr. Ingram,

[1:821]

(your farmer & the Guardian
of the Public Health,
drink, & their milk is sent up to
London, abolished?
And is the drain from your
stables & Laundry finished?
And poor Mr. Robertson's house?

[end 1:821]

If when in decent weather
you come up to London
I shall be so glad to see
you - & have much to hear.
God bless you
your affectionate
F. Nightingale

9014/94 signed letter, 2ff, pencil

22 Jan /93
{printed address:} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

Dearest blessed Margaret
Harry Bonham Carter who
has been Secretary to ~~the~~ our
Training School for Nurses
for 30 years has begged
me more than once to ask
you to ~~giv~~ ask Sir Harry
to give him several
copies of the Photograph
which was last taken of
me at Claydon (& which
I have never seen) -
*or to tell him where
he could get them -*
I did not like to

trouble you, seeing that
you had no luck under
the Heading: Trouble -

But he said he would
write himself to you, only
that you would probably
have the trouble then of
writing to me for my
consent.

If I might suggest, it
would be that Morey
should pack up as many
as you choose, & should
send them straight off to

“Hy Bonham Carter Esq
5 Hyde Park Square
London W.

You know that Sir Harry
actually had the coolness
to write off ~~sa~~ to me
that he wanted to come
up to London to see me
& “to do a great many
“things” -

I tell him I should
tell you how naughty he
was -

I send him my love
all the same, & Lettice
& so many thanks for her
letter about Miss Negus,
& to all the dear travellers
& voyagers. And we sing
“Eternal Father, strong to save”
ever your loving
F.N.

9014/95 signed letter, 2ff, pencil

24/1/93

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

Dearest Margaret

Thank you so very
much for writing &
telegraphing - I was
just telegraphing to
Morey when yours came
I hope, please God, that
all is going on right
with dear Sir Harry.
It is a terrible
anxiety for you.

Good Mr. Robertson
has sent me this evening

3 Vols of Sir H. Acland's
Cottage Register
filled up with all Sir
Harry's cottages - [It
is of course quite out
of rule to send them
to me first - but Sir Harry
is never jealous]

"My bosom's lord
"sits lightly on his throne"
to see that so much
is in train - Sir Harry
had written me such a
desperate letter -

"Come Wisdom, Love &
"Power" -

ever, dearest love,

yours

F.N.

9014/96 initialed letter, 2ff, pen

[3:508]

Feb 4/93

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

My dear Sir Harry

I have seen Mr. Higham
as always quite without
bitterness & notwithstanding
the painful nature of
the case only thinking of
following the Master -
I know that you intend
to do so too in fighting
it out to the end. And
I am told by a very high
authority - no connection
with Mr. Higham - that
you will win - This is
really fighting for the
Church. Those who wish
to narrow her boundaries
are destroying her.

[end 3:508]

Last night Temperance

[1:772]

- you remember Temperance
-now the mother of an
eldest son of 19 - came
up from Plympton with
the eldest son - a very
nice lad indeed - And the
two slept here - And this
morning the lad has gone
on to his place as journeyman
gardener in Lord Fitzwilliam's
Gardens at Wentworth in
Yorkshire - The poor mother
seemed almost heartbroken
at parting with him - But
Lord Fitzwilliam's House
Steward, Hatcher, is
Temperance's brother - And

9014/97 initialed letter, 1f, pen

Mr. Higham} Feb 14/93
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir Harry

I return by Maude's
desire the letter from
the Bishop to you about
Mr. Higham. I cannot
tell you - but you know -
how deeply it has grieved
us all -

I believe from what I
hear that the Bishop's
case is legally weak
in that he has not given
an adequate reason to
the Patron for refusal
to institute.

I cannot say more at
present. The whole
thing bristles with
difficulties

But if we believe
in God we know
that good will come
out of evil.

Have faith in God,
His spiritual voice says
continually -

ever yours

F.N.

I have of course conferred
with Fred, as you desired

9014/98 signed letter, 1f, pencil

20/2/93

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

My dear Sir Harry

I shall expect you
joyfully at "a little
"before 5" on "Wednesday"
afternoon -

Pray give my love
to the Miss Spring Rice s
whom I rejoice to
think of at Claydon
& to Lettice & dearest
blessed Margaret &
thank her for her most
welcome letter

ever yours
F. Nightingale

9014/99 signed letter, 1f, pencil

'Thursday 23/2/93

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

My dear Sir Harry

I am so very grateful
for your note. God
bless you!

May I have the
pleasure of expecting
you this afternoon at
5 or at 6? But
don't come if it will
tire or chill you.

ever your affectionate
F. Nightingale

9014/100 unsigned letter, 1f, pen & pencil, original Salmon scrapbook

March 7/93

My very dear Lettice

I am so glad that a
reading room is at last
begun in Steeple Claydon.

I will gladly contribute

Cassell's

The Strand the two mentioned
and

The Daily Graphic x

The Animal World

The Cottager & Artisan

(if they have not these already)

and **Boys** which began

only last November

& is very cheerful.

Also would they like

Punch?

x which has superseded in St.

Thomas' the "penny dreadfuls" -

(over)

The following is for Mother
& you alone -

I gave Grandpapa £50
towards a Reading - room -
Forgetting this, he wished
to send it me for
something of ours. But
I reminded him that it
was towards a Steeple
Claydon Reading-room.

I only wish Mother
to be aware of this - not
that it should be spent
for the present purpose.
{in pencil} which she probably
would not think wise

9014/101 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

15/3/93

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

Dearest blessed Margaret

It is unspeakable the
disappointment to me of not
being able to see you - there
is so much for me to ask & to hear -
But - I can't - And I don't
believe it would have been good
for you either -

How are you?

& how is Ellin? my best love
& thanks for her letter from Jamaica
-And if she is going to Winchester
will she give my love to Morfy
& Col. George & James?

Would you kindly take back
to Claydon for Mr. Robertson
the 3 Vols. of the Cottage Register
which he filled up & kindly

[1:821]

sent to me? And will
you not have a look at
them?

There ~~are~~ appear to be 109 Cesspool Privies
to 132 Cottages

I trust Mr. Robertson's house
will be (undone and) done -
God bless you - God bless you

Love to Sir Harry & to all -
ever your loving

F.N.

You give me hopes of coming to
London again

9014/102 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil [1:822]

28/3/93

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

Dearest blessed Margaret

It is more distressing
than surprising about Mr.
Robertson's house. No one
ought ever to live in it
more, the saturated
beast - If it were possible
to feel this more strongly,
it is because this might
be an epidemic year -
that is, illness will claw
hold of such a lovely
nest -

Sir Harry wishes to have
a "competent opinion"
But the name of the
competent opinions is
Legion - the illnesses
are the "competent
"opinions" alas!

 If Sir Harry thinks
some other necessary,
would he have Mr.
Best?

 Long ago the house
should have been
pulled down.

We so do grieve that
you yourself should be
still so unwell, &
wish you could have
a perfect rest.

 Dear Ruth I hope
is well.

 With great love
ever your
 F.N.

I had a charming
letter from Ellin

 Excuse this scrawl

9014/103 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

April 10/93

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

Alas! alas! for me! dearest
blessed Margaret -
Doctor will not give any
hopes of my seeing any one -

But would you not see
and dear Ellin have
luncheon here on Wednesday
it shall be ready any
time you will kindly say
by post - card

Aunt Florence's love to
all

ever your
F.

9014/104 signed letter, 2ff, pen

[3:436-37]

April 11/93

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

Thank you, my dear Sir Harry,
for your sweet Sunday letter;
You say you "like to write" to
me "on Sunday, because "you
can then write only "what is
"agreeable to" you to write, &
"not disagreeable" to me to
read. But how "agreeable" to
you to write & to me more
than agreeable, delightful,
to read the efforts you
are making to bring the
kingdom of heaven into
secular life.

If there is anything that
our Lord in various ways
explains & dwells upon as

to bringing the kingdom of
heaven upon earth, is it not
this that when all that we
are impertinently pleased
to call secular life, "worldly"
life - as though it were not
all, all God's life, & ours
to bring it under God's life,
under Christ's rule *is* so brought - then &
then only is indeed the
kingdom of heaven come,
come *now*, come *here* -
What else does our daily
prayer: Thy kingdom come -
mean?

You speak of Mr. Robertson
in a way that I am sure
he deserves & I know you

feel. That is not merely
a "*Sunday*" way.

The sweetest Sunday thing
that you could tell me is
that his long trial in living
in that beastly house which
nothing can cure, the ruin to
his & his family's health &
purse that it is has been
is over - that you mean to
build your Agent another
& a healthy house at once
as you have so kindly, so
justly said. Nothing, nothing
can make the present
house safe for him or any
body to live in. The whole
place is saturated with
filth & disease

It would give me joy,
as you are kind enough
to speak about what is
“agreeable” to me, if you
would tell me that the
new house is to be begun
directly.

Excuse a very poorly
person from writing more
now - I could not have
written now but that how
can one say ‘God bless you’
if not doing the utmost
to secure His blessing of
health?

Yours anxiously

F. Nightingale

When you have pulled down
the house, you will say: how
could anybody *not* have died here?

[end 3:437]

9014/105 signed letter, 2ff, pen

10 South St. August 15/93

PRIVATE

My dear Sir Harry

I am so grieved that
I cannot come now when
you are so good as to
ask me. But I am
immersed in business
which keeps me in
London -

One department of this
I may write to ask you
about tho’ alas! alas! I cannot
do so by word of mouth.
Would you kindly tell
me as the person
principally concerned
what has passed
between yourself & Sir

Henry Acland about
the R. Charter business
& the Princess Christian's
R. British Nurses' Association
& what was the advice
you gave.

Sir Henry Acland, after
he had seen me, wrote
me a letter as difficult
to understand as was
Sir Geo. Tryon's signal
to the Camperdown -

I know with your
usual kindness you
will help me by telling
me what has passed

between you with as
little delay as possible
I am sure that Sir Henry
Acland & you wish me
to know as much as
possible - as it is above all
my business & has been mine for 40
years May God bless you -

ever your affectionate

F. Nightingale

I send this by Fred
not to lose a post.

9014/106 signed letter, 2ff, pen

April 29/93

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

Go to *Mr. Croft*, my dear

Sir Harry, with your foot

& to nobody else. He saved
you by his skill & excessive
care (which was really
that of a son) in the
summer of '90. You have
had him every year since
he has *always* done you
good, tho' there are things,
of course, that no one can
cure - It is such an
advantage to have a
man who is experienced
in you -

He lives now in

Mansfield St., where I
believe you saw him
last, but Mr. Morey knows
his address.

He is a *true* man -

I hope to see you when
you are in London - At
all events please tell me
when it is convenient to
you to come -

God bless you

ever yours

F.N.

9014/107 signed letter, 2ff, pen

[3:437-38]

May 12/93

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

My dear Sir Harry

On the return of the day
of our Parthe's going home
to a rest of constant progress
towards God - to realize the
Eternal love which we
call "heaven", I write to you

[And it is my birth-day
too. I am 73 to-day
Pray for me.]

You asked me to pray,
when you were here -
And the prayer I would
make is this:

we believe in the Word:
but we don't believe in the
Work. God as often

teaches us by the Work
as by the Word.

When you lash yourself
because you think of
something about the place
while you are praying -
it is very likely God's
inspiration, as for instance
when you think of the
earth closets for your
109 poor [illeg]-cottages which
have only cess=pool privies
- God values that more
than prayer, don't you
think? Or rather it is
one of His answers to
prayer.

When you so fervently pray

that you may never miss
one opportunity to speak
one word of religious truth
to any one, there are so
many ways of speaking
which touch people more
nearly & deeply than
words, are not there?

He who so often reminds
us that it is not saying
“Lord, Lord”, must mean this.

[When I say “you”, ‘your’,
I intend ‘we’, ‘our’, or
the French ‘on’]

“For it is He that *worketh*
within you”. God has
such a regard for work -
His own work & ours -

These are the thoughts
that pass thro’ my
mind - But I was too ill
to pray aloud -

Aunt Florence’s best
love to every body -
ever yours
F.N.

[end 3:438]

9014/108 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

May 15/93

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

Dearest blessed Margaret

How kind of you to
write to me: One must
always feel anxious about
dear Sir Harry. & yet
trustful that under your
care he may still enjoy
life for some time longer -
He always tells me how
happy he is - And, tho' he
tired himself unmercifully
when in London, I still
thought him better than
when I left Claydon in
November, which I justly
attributed to that care.

Great love to all
ever yours
F.N.

9014/109 signed letter, 1f, pencil

[3:438]

May 20/93

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

My dear Sir Harry - Whitsun Eve
is a favourite time. It is the
eve of the outpouring of the
Holy Spirit which we may
have if we choose it just
as much as they of the days
of old. Therefore I write to you
what I am sure you say for
me: "The grace (that is - the
living, loving, active, *presence*)
"of the Lord Jesus Christ, and
"the love of God & the
"fellowship of the Holy Spirit -
(what a promise!) be with us
"two now & evermore!"

London & the rail-roads
to London will be most

disagreeable on Whit Monday
(Bank Holiday): the
crowding, the drinking, the
noise - ~~And~~ I trust you
will not think of coming to
London on that day or
indeed that week -

Instead of the sweet
spring rain of the country,
the streets are a sea of
mud

With great love to all
yours

ever your affectionate
F. Nightingale

9014/110 signed letter, 2ff, pen

May 29/93 [?]

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

My dear Sir Harry

I wanted to ask you
something - But I prefer
writing it to you.

You remember signing
just now a document, which
was sent to me for my
signature, to make over
to you from me a little bit of land
about 1 ½ acre in Lea Hurst,
described in one place as
"Crossland near Lea" and
in another as "Lane Croft,
"containing, including the
"Brook & small piece of
"land over the Brook
"1 acre 2 roads & 12 perches"
"late in the occupation of
"Charles Else." It cannot be

worth much.

It has come into my
hands as Parthe's: heir-at
"-law", owing to some
informality, as you know.

Under the circumstances,
would there be anything
unreasonable in my
asking you to hand it
over to me for me to
satisfy my great desire
to give it to Shore Smith, now as perhaps you know,

I should be very Shore Nightingale
grateful to you -

I was so glad to see
you to-day.

God bless you -

ever yours affectionately
Florence Nightingale

9014/111 signed letter, 1f, pen

[1:607]

10 South St.

May 30/93

My dear Sir Harry

How can I thank you
enough for your delightful
letter, - so generously &
graciously giving me the
bit of land in Lea Hurst
called "Jane Croft" - for
Shore - and desiring to
"sign any document that
"does this legally".

It has been found
~~quite~~ impossible to get
ready any such document
for your signature to-day,
- but I shall gratefully
send it on to you to
Claydon when ready.

God bless you

ever affectionately yours

Florence Nightingale

9014/112 initialed letter, 1f, pen & pencil

June 27/93

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

My dear Sir Harry

You are so good as to say
that you will call here on
Thursday to ask if I could
see you that day or Friday -
I am afraid that I have
an appointment on ~~Th~~ Friday,
which I could not possibly
put off But if you
would kindly fix what time
{pencil begins} you could come on *Thursday*
afternoon, I would be sure
& keep it open for you -

Then we will talk over
things - No time for more now.

Great love to all -

ever your affectionate
F.N.

9014/113 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

London July 16/93

Dearest blessed Margaret

How I do feel with
you & for you - How long,
how great the strain
upon you - But good
is coming, tho' perhaps we
cannot see it yet -

Everything is being done
by you that can be done
Does his father's example.
at the last, of peace and
trust and love move
him at all?

I know I need not

[1:715]

wish you the presence
of God, for you have it.
The presence of God
means His wisdom,
power & love - And if
we have those present,
what can we wish for
more? Pray for me
that I may really feel
this -

Harry Lloyd writes to me:
"When our dear Father is
taken away from us we
shall only be able to

"remember him as the
best & kindest of fathers
that sons ever had -
He has been far too kind
& loving to us boys" -

And that is a fruit
from your tree -

To-day is Fred's
polling day - But God
is with him.

The peace was not
entirely kept in London
yesterday

Before you receive
this, we shall have heard

the result of Fred's day.

God bless them -

We must remember how
much George's moral
state has to ~~do~~ with depends on
the physical state of the
heart. But it is all
Christ's work on the
hidden life.

[end 1:715]

Aunt Florence's best love
to all - especially the five.

ever yours

F.N.

I seem to be writing more
to myself than to thee

9014/114 signed letter, 2ff, pencil

10 South St. W. July 21/93

My dear Edmund

I am so grateful to you
for giving me a good
account of your health
about which I was
anxious - Thank you
many times -

And I am also glad
to hear about your
butter!! I had just
ordered some more, thro'
Mrs. Robertson, the mother -
You must not let me
give less price than you can
get for it from a "great
"Butter-merchant" in London

I was so much obliged to Margaret
for giving me news of your
new clergyman at Steeple
Claydon. I hope no
more difficulties have
arisen -

And I trust to hear good
news of the dry earth
concerns -

Margaret was so good as
to say that she would
enquire from a friend
about the possibility of
our excellent School master
Burton, of Lea School
~~who wished to becoming a~~
member of the Geographical

or Geological Socy. I
cannot remember which
[He Burton says F.G.S. only
in his last letter to me
about it] If Margt could
return me the papers
without trouble, I would
not trouble her further.

Mr. Freshfield says there
would be no difficulty
in getting Burton in, but
that he would have to
pay £2.2 - a year &
only have a few papers
in return - Mr. Freshfield
~~says~~ is Secy. to the
Geographical -

Excuse pencil

F.N.

Aunt Florence's best
love to dear blessed Margaret
& to your children -
your affectionate
Aunt Florence

I know what great doings
You have done about
pulling down the Estate
Office - so necessary

9014/115 signed letter, 1f, pencil

10 South St July 22/93

It was very good of you,
dear Sir Harry & Margaret,
to think of giving our
Probationers a day at
Claydon, which they
enjoy so much.

Miss Crossland is
absent on her much
needed holiday in
Ireland. But she will
be back in a fortnight
or 3 weeks - And then
perhaps you will tell
us when it will be
convenient to you. Thanks
I am afraid Fred is

much overworked
about this anxious
Franco=Siamese
business

God bless you all
ever your affectionate
F. Nightingale

I hope you will take
a good rest & change
at Rhianva & Rhoscolyn
May God keep you -
ever yours
F. Nightingale
Particular love to my
God child Ruth -

9014/117 initialed letter, 3ff, pencil

10 South St. Aug 7/93
Dearest Margaret

I was in the act of
writing to you that our
Nurses so kindly invited
could not come to Claydon
("in the week beginning the
"13th) when the post (late)
arrived with your kind note
recommending the 15th.

I had already written
to Matron & Miss Crossland
to ask what day in that
week the Nurses could go
~~come~~ when late on
Saturday night, too late
to write to you, the news

arrived that Miss Crossland who was due at St. Thomas' on her return from her holiday was detained at Dublin by illness - & could not return for a week - It is nothing very serious - But I cannot at all fix for her that she will be able to come to Claydon with the Probationers at all in ~~that~~ next week -

Meanwhile the Matron had started on *her* much needed holiday which could not have been

stopped except at great inconvenience to her - Poor St. Thomas is a temporary widower - And we could not make any arrangement for denuding the Hospital of Probationers for a day under these circumstances, even if we had another mother like Miss Crossland to send with them -

I am so very sorry for the inconvenience to yourselves when you had been so kind as to fix a day Dear Love to all - I telegraphed to you this morning

== I had Miss Masson up
 from Oxford here
 yesterday - She has had
 such uphill &
 disappointing work - But
 I hope the Committee has
 been steadfast - And
 she has gone back
 refreshed.

It is 37 years to-day
 since I returned from the
 Crimea - 40 years since
 I began Nursing work.

[Would I could hope to
 come to Claydon soon] -

I feel we are still only on the
 very threshold of Nursing
 May God rain His blessings upon

you.

{from the margin of the first page}
 ever your F.N.

[2]

Miss Irby asked me to
 introduce you & to
 introduce myself to a
 Novelette by a particular
 friend of hers, a Lady
 Medical Student at
 Edinburgh - I do it
 with the greatest
 reluctance - I think
 those books are so
 mischievous which
 make adventurous
 ladies fñ do court ship
 & marriage - but
 more especially make
 Lady Nurses marry
 the son of the father
 they are nursing, as has

lately been done -
don't you?

Why are young
gentlewomen allowed
now to meet men - without chaperone
in what is ~~naturally~~ *otherwise* the
most indecent position
possible, as e.g. on
each side the bed of a
Surgical male Patient,
but *because* they are
supposed to be thinking
of quite other things
than men & courting?
in Hospitals, in the
Medical Lecture room,
in the Dissecting or Post Mortem

room?

I have scarcely glanced at
the book - "Mona Maclean" -
but I have as desired ~~ordered~~ bought
two copies, one for you, one for
me. & send one.

I was told the other day,
(tho' it must be difficult to
register) that a larger
proportion of *Nurses* marry
than of any other class of
women -

9014/118 signed letter, 3ff, pencil

10 South St. Aug 18/93

Dearest blessed Margaret

How good, how very good
it was of you to ask our
dear Miss Crossland to your
Rhoscolyn to recruit. I
telegraphed your kind
invite to her at Dublin,
because I knew it would
give her pleasure - But
she preferred coming
"home", as she said - I have
seen her of course & think
her in rather bad case -
but she has brought "home"
one of our Matrons who
has been fighting an uphill

battle, & who, we fear,
must undergo an operation
in St. Thomas'. We are
glad she is there - There
is nobody but Miss Crossland
& me in town! And St.
Thomas is very heavy, &
Matron & Sisters & Nurses
are away on holiday. and
Probationers have much
temporary duty to do - I
telegraphed to Maudie
that we had no chance
of the Claydon day at
present -

I am surprised myself
at the dejection caused by
the Princess Christian Movement

among our people. They
feel as if, after fighting for
40 years for their *liberties*,
they were shoved down
by a King John & a Pope.
They had to fight against
a Charter - but *the Barons*
to fight *for* one -

But Scotland stands
firm & cries Victory for
us -

Miss Crossland has been
with us 19 years - I think
her much altered

It is wicked of me to
laugh, & of course I am
duly impressed how outrageous

& dangerous it is to take
the law into one's own hands
But, my dear, allow me
to grin, strictly between
ourselves, at the doughty
Welsh *non-strikers* issuing
forth at Ebbw Vale (I don't
know how to pronounce it - in
consequence I conclude that
this happened in King John's
time) sending their
mounted tradesmen before
them as scouts - & well
armed with sticks & staves
driving the *strikers* before
them, routing them into
huts & *drains!!* & improving
them off the face of the earth

[2]

And then they the non-strikers were kind
to the wounded - It
wasn't bad, now, was It?
And we shall have
come Coals in winter -

Dear Ellin wrote me a
letter from Oxford which
was very useful to me
very grievous - & I was
very grateful -

I hope bicycles flourish
& that you find the
bicycle as good as the
sea air

I am very sorry I cannot
go to Claydon But I see

alas! but little prospect of
it at present.

Adieu, sweet Welsh
lady - I trust that you
& I may yet be seen on
bicycles some day pursuing the
strikers into drains!

Love to all your dear
people -

ever your loving
Aunt Florence

9014/119 initialed letter, 2ff, pen & pencil

10 S. St. 22 Aug/93
[2]

[12:455-56]

My dear Sir Harry

We have been having
rather a bad time of it
at St. Thomas' - Miss
Crossland came home
but poorly from her
holiday - but bringing
with her - ~~with~~ by her
unfailing wise & prompt perception of
our Father's guidance -
- one of our best
Matrons, Miss Stewart,
Matron at the
Incurable Hospital,
Dublin, to be nursed

at St. Thomas' - This
morning Miss Stewart
was operated upon -
And so far, thank God,
all has gone well.

{pencil starts} Miss Stewart was one
of our best Ward Sisters
in St. Thomas' - She was
in charge of a Men's
Surgical Ward. She had
the most wonderful power
over the little boys -
the scum of the London
alleys. How often I have
thought of 'Go out into
the highways & hedges
& bid them to come in' -

We have had a child
of 5 or 6 years old, who
literally could not
speak without an oath,
He was clever enough:
he knew exactly how much
meat he could get for
two pence - Miss Stewart's
patience & kindness won
this child till she could
teach him his little
prayers & hymns -
And he used to call
out 'Sister, Sister, I have
not said my prayers'-
And then he would
put his arms round
her neck & pray - And

with the tail of her eye,
she would see the
Men-Patients on either
side put their heads
under the bed-clothes
with tears - The child
was quite a little
(unconscious) missionary -
in the Ward.
{pen begins} How often we have seen
in the Hospital & Workhouse
Infirmary the children
brought in from the
highways or low ways to
the Father's feast by
good Nurses.
If Mrs. Daniell is with you,
will you remember me
to her. your affectionate

F.N.

12:456]**[end**

9014/120 signed letter, 1f, pen

10 South St. W. Aug 22/93

Sir H. Acland

My dear Sir Harry Verney

In answer to your
kind letter, I am
compelled to say that
I am satisfied that
no useful result
could possibly come
out of any such
proposed interview
as Sir Henry Acland
suggests -

And that I cannot
be a party to any attempt
to bring it about -

ever yours sincerely

Florence Nightingale

9014/121 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

Aug. 19/94

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

Dearest blessed Margaret

I am so glad that
you have had all those
nice parties of Brit.

Assocn & *Extensionists*
& Tenants - all must
have been very happy.

Please thank
Edmund for his letter
to me -

You were so very
good in asking me to
come - I am still
kept here, partly by

work, partly by illness,
 partly because Shore
 wants to see me -
 You are going to Rhoscolyn,
 I know, "on the 24th"
 "for 10 days or more"

I could not come
 any how till the end of
 the month -

And if you were to
 make any difference
 for me, I should prepare
 a bomb for you - And
 then the world would

stand still -

I only want to know
from time to time

What are your plans -
 The dear children
 would tell me - But
 it isn't decent to ask
 them, and I am so
 afraid of being in your
 way -

ever your loving
 F.N.

9014/122 initialed letter, 1f, pencil **[1:608]**

24/8 {archivist: ? 1893}

Dear Sir Harry

I am very sorry but I cannot - very, very sorry

You were quite exhausted yesterday -

The last half hour you were nearly fainting -

& I could hardly keep my senses

I can do nothing for you -

And it kills me - I could not break
 your fall, as I did before, if you fainted -

F.N.

9014/123 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

[1:607]

4/9 {archivist: 1893}

My dear Sir Harry

You will come to
me to-day at 12,
will not you?

And you kindly
promised to take
the Sacrament with
me to-morrow (Monday)
from Mr. Higham -
Will you ask him to-
day?

You will see my offering
at Emily's tomb -

F.N.

9014/124 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

Sept. 23./93

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

My dear Sir Harry

Thank you for your
most kind letter -

Please do as you say
about taking a cast
from the bust of me -

I fear I shall not be
able to come to
hospitable Claydon
before Thursday.

Excuse me - I will
write.

ever your affectionate

F.N.

9014/125 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

Sept. 23./93

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

Dearest blessed Margaret

How can I thank you
enough for your dear
little letter!

I fear there is no
chance of my being able
to come before Thursday
But I will write.

God bless you
ever yours with great

love

& condoling at the
departure of 3 chicks

F.N.

9014/126 initialed letter, 2ff, pen

Embley Sept. 24./93

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

Dearest Margaret

Thank you a thousand
times for your letter - Love
to all: great love -

Would you be so good as
to give the enclosed letter
& read it to Sir Harry - explaining to
him that it is from a Mr.
Robertson, who was for
many years head of the
Madras Agricultural College
& Farm, where he did an
immense work among his
students, especially among
the Brahmins who always
had despised Agriculture - &
all, I believe every one has
got a place as Agricultural Agent

[10:713-14]

to a Zemindar or otherwise
 This was really doing good.
 He left India to our very
 great regret, because Govt.
 would not ensure him a pension
 or put him among the Covenanted.

The enclosed letter is simply
 to give Sir H. information
 about Hampshire Agriculture.

I have been here at a sad
 leave-taking - Shore very ill
 has been obliged, thro' poverty,
 to let this, his home for 3 ½
 years.

I am obliged to return on
 Monday to South St. for at least
 a week - partly to see Sir A.
 Croft returning to India.-
 partly because I am too ill
 to come straight on to Claydon,

{written horizontally}

as you kindly press - I will write to Sir
 Harry as soon as I can fix a day, I hope
 perhaps Monday or Tuesday fortnight week, 25 or 26 as he
 kindly presses. I hope the Nurses will have
 already been to hospitable Claydon

Love to all

May God be with you. And He *is*

with you

ever yours

F. Nightingale

[end 10:714]
 [1:514]

9014/127 signed letter, 2ff, pencil

[6:663-64]

Oct. 23/93

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

My dear Sir

Thank you very much for
your kind note about my maid,
Lizzie Coleman.

She is always a ticklish
subject - as you say, "strumous"
or lymphatic. Her digestion
has become very bad indeed,
again, after having been
much better - She cannot eat
roast meat, & we always
have to have something special
for her - She likes pickles,
kippered fish, & all that
sort of thing -

She has alternately
Diarrhoea & Constipation

She has, after being much
better, great pain again at
the Menstrual period -

But still she never has
the drawn face & Invalid
look she had when she
came to me first 10 years
ago.

I should be so much
obliged to you if, besides
the ancle, you will kindly {FN's spelling}
look to her digestion -

I know by experience
the impossibility of keeping
her inactive - And therefore
I would ask you not to let
her return here till you think
it quite well for her -

The original injury to the ankle was merely giving it a "turn" on the stairs. But then she got up when the Doctor ordered her to stay in bed. And the consequence was that she was laid by completely for a month.

She is a girl of excellent principles.

Please not to tell her that I have written about her with these particulars.

I should be very much obliged - if I am not troubling you too much - for any further report of her -

[end 6:664]

yours very faithfully

F. Nightingale

Dr. Benson

9014/128 initialed note, 1f, pencil

[1:608]

Oct 27 {archivist: ? 1893}

My dear Sir Harry

Dear Ellin is in good spirits - & we must be glad that this necessary trip will be accomplished under such good auspices - We are all in the hands of God. There is, I believe, good reason to expect that you will get thro' this winter, & see dear Ellin again, if only you take care - & perhaps much more than this winter -

God bless you all - & He *will* bless you

F.N.

9014/129 signed letter, 2ff, pen & pencil

Nov 20./93

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

My dear Edmund

Many thanks for
your very kind note.

This terrible blow
so sudden seems to
have swamped all
corresponde. Dear
Vortigern!

The Public Libraries
are a great thing - &
I hope you may bring
in Steeple Claydon.
I was going to write to

Librarian Ellin about it -
offering her books-
which I still hope
to do - & to blessed
Margaret - & to see
Margaret

Thank you for the
glasses for birds
very much. My
winter birds are
beginning to flock to
my balcony. What seed

{pencil begins} do you recommend for the common (not cage but)

London birds?

{pen} The last news of Sir
Harry seemed good.

I believe you he will see
Maude tomorrow -

Excuse a short
note now.

Your affectionate
Aunt Florence

9014/130 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

[3:439]

Nov. 27/93

{printed address:} 10, South Street,

Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir Harry

I am scandalized

at your *riding* out inthe *cold* - I try to

forgive you. But I

don't know that I can.

But I hail with joy

your return to penitence

& prudence. Remember,

you have *promised*

not to ride out in the

cold. [Don't remember

to *forget*]

Indeed I do sympathize

with, feel

for & with you all

in the terrible loss of

dear Vortigern. How

many of us could learn

a lesson from him.

He could do what he

did not like *joyously* -

that marks a boy (&

a man) What influence

he had, tho' only 19 -

And as James says

there is nothing but

what is pleasant to

look back upon - in

his life. If it was

right to do, he could

do it *gaily*. May we

follow in his steps!

[1:608]**[end 1:608]**

Alfred Bonham Carter
(Parthe's executor, you know)
has lost his wife, the
happiest, brightest,
most loving woman. It
is a fearful break-up to
him. He hardly knows
how to bear it. She
died on Friday night,
after frightful suffering,
but there was no
suffering at the last,
& she was quite sensible.
Her sister Sibella, Harry's
wife, was with her.
Her Heavenly Father
took her home before
it was expected.

These are Tragedies
because of our unbelief.

But they are meant to
"open the kingdom
"heaven" "to all believers".
But our idea of the
"kingdom of heaven" is
so different from Christ's.

[end 3:439]

I am so glad that
you are going to have
Lady Frederick Cavendish.
I am sure you will
enjoy her visit.

But again I say
unto thee: Remember
your promise to be
prudent.

ever your affectionate
F.N.

9014/131 signed letter, 3ff, pen

Private & Confidential Village November 28

Sanitation 1893

in India {printed address:} 10, South Street, [10:377-78]
Park Lane. W.

Dear Lord Kimberley

May I trust that your kindness will not consider it too great an intrusion on your invaluable time - if I try to bespeak your favourable interest on behalf of some points in Indian Village Sanitation- or rather non-Sanitation?

For many years I have been deeply interested in this work. The Bombay Village Sanitation Act was a step: but it is said to be almost a dead letter for want of funds -

I then ventured to suggest

to Lord Cross who, with

Lord Lansdowne, kindly gave me the opportunity - and many experts joined in the suggestion - that each village should be allowed to reserve part of its own cess to answer the minimum requirements of its own Sanitary necessities

Perhaps your great kindness to India might make it possible to call for this letter to Lord Cross of March 21/92 & its enclosures.

I have also tried - not to be behindhand with the Indian native Associations - to appeal to some of them In Bombay

Presidency on this subject -
because we cannot reform
the Indian homes without
the Indians - A whole
Legion of Sanitarians could
not do it. Especially,
as you are aware, the "Poona
"Sarvajanik Sabha" has often
given valuable information
to the Govt. of India. It
(the Sabha) would doubtless
start instructed Indian
lecturers who would go
round to the villages &
show them on the spot
*what they could do for
themselves* - if it, the Sabha,
had the encouragement
of a small grant from

Govt. & a small Subn
from England. This
would answer in some
degree the question of want
of funds.

But above all the mere
fact of the Viceroy of India
having shown his interest
by such a grant would
give such a stimulus as
nothing else could to
Indian native exertions
for their own benefit.

Pardon me for writing
such a truism to *you* -

It cherishes their loyalty
& binds the native Indians
to us. It is so necessary

if you thought well.

May I ask to be believed

your faithful servant

Florence Nightingale

The Earl of Kimberley

&c &c &c

[end 10:378]

9014/132 unsigned note, 1f, pencil

Mrs. Verney
6 Onslow Gardens
Flowers
with F.N.'s
great love
Au revoir

29/11/93

9014/133 initialed letter, 2ff, pen

Dec 6./93

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

Dearest blessed Margaret

A propos of "Tom Verney"
of the "Commonwealth", Dr. Ord
says: "To 'breathe' a vein is
an old quasi-colloquial
expression - certainly
more than 200 years old.
It means blood-letting &
"probably expresses the sense
"of relief when a much -
"- distended vein is tapped."

I hope this is not too late
to be of use to you.

I am so grieved that dear
Sir Harry has had another
shivering fit. He has however
written me a long letter
since, not mentioning it,

[2]

but speaking of his pleasure
in Harry (medium-sized), & of
his old Brazilian experiences -
I wish good James would
take to work as a tribute to
Vortigern -

I hope to send 3 books tomorrow
for Sir H.'s birth-day which
perhaps dear Ellin will
put with any presents for
him - I hope but fear about
my choice. One is a book
of some, I think, very beautiful
short prayers which the
maids & I often use at
morning prayers. Two books are
Kingsley's - I wished to have
sent Kingsley's "Hermits"
but was afraid.

[1:609]

[3]

Has Sir H. Acland seen Sir Harry since he
returned to Oxford? Don't trouble
about answering this to me.
I am going to send books to Ellin
for the Library - with my love - but have
been much driven
God bless you all -
ever your loving
F.N.

9014/134 initialed letter, 4ff, pen & pencil

[3:439-40]

Dec. 7./93

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

My dear Sir Harry

Our thoughts, our love
& prayers are with you
on your blessed day of birth.

We call, we ought always
to be able to call the day
of death blessed. Why should
we not always call the day
of birth blessed? Our
'keeping' the 'birth-day'
is a sign that we think
it so.

What a gift is life!
What a splendid gift! life
which we may spend in
the 'fellow ship' of the Holy
Spirit, if we will but
admit that Spirit - *God*
dwelling in us - {pencil} which Genl.

Gordon said was the main
{pen} doctrine of the Christian
religion.

Mr. Jowett always said
that the *last years of our*
life were the *best*. And
much as he suffered during
the two last years of his life,
he said they were his happiest.
He enjoyed the love from
God & from man - He
could not endure to hear
people speak of life as of a
vain thing, from which we
had to be weaned. Just as
college was to him the
trainer & beginning for a
useful world-life - so this
life was the essential of
immortality.

I wish you, with {pencil} as do {pen} all your

belongings, several more
 years of the 'best years
 "of life". And I trust that
 you are faithful to your
 promise in God's name to commit no more
 imprudences - In God's name,
 we say: One of the last things
 Mr. Calvert wrote to me was:,
 quoting the Psalm: "Except
the Lord build the city, the
 workman worketh but in vain.
 - - - - for so He giveth
 His beloved sleep - said
 Mr. Calvert. It isn't "the
Lord", when we commit
 imprudences

May your birth-day kindly
 look upon 3 little books
 which beg a place at your
 feet - 2 Vols of Kingsley,
~~which beg~~ the beloved of the
 soldier. In the smaller Vol:
 is the message he sent to the
 Crimea in our time of
 dreadful distress - To me
 remembering the opening of
 the battle of Inkermann
 when a mere handful of
 men, without Officers &
 without orders, in the dark
 & fog of 4 a.m. on a November
 morning, {pencil insert} held firm the post {pen} against 100,000
 Russians who took us
 completely by surprise -
 - our men gallantly fought
 & fell without a thought
 of fame - merely to stand

[2]

by their comrades & their
duty - & so prevented
our Camp being overwhelmed
by the dead weight of the
Russian force, & perhaps the face of
Europe being changed.
It was to such men as these
that Kingsley addressed
his message -

How much can a few men,
“un-crushable” do!

How much can one man,
“un-crushable”, like Jowett,
do!

The other little book “Home
Prayers” is one I am fond of,
& sometimes use with my
maids at Morning Prayers,
as Shore’s wife does with hers.
I am far from suggesting it
to you for your own use, for

I had rather hear your
own prayers than
any others -

And when we speak of
the birth-day of the
veteran of 92, we do
not forget the dear
boy of 19, who has had
his birth-day, blessed
too, into home

ever your affectionate

F.N.

Take care of your birds.
 Feed your small birds
 - your singing birds especially
 - your little Tom-tits -
 your tree-creepers, your
 fly-catchers(?) - your
 Robins - your Starlings -
 It is a dreadful thing
 to see the Rooks killing
 the Starlings - the Starlings
 killing the Blackbirds
 & Thrushes - it is the
 horrible "Survival" of the
 strongest. All these
 birds are meat-y birds -
 they must have animal
 food - your singing birds
 are disappearing every
 year from Claydon.

The omnivorous Sparrow,
 the Robin & Chaffinch
 when hard up, are the
 only birds which will
 live upon bread, & ~~seed~~,
 the Black-bird & Thrush
 & Tomtit can only live
 on what resembles
 worms & insects. They
 creep into holes & die -
 {in pencil} Hang up a mutton-bone - in the trees -
 {pen} I always fed your Nuthatches
 & Squirrels with nuts -
 The Rook can shift for
 himself. My mother
 always put the whole
 remains of breakfast {pencil} & luncheon {pen} out
 of window. The birds
 flew down directly - at
 Embley. Now {printed address, upside down:} 10. South Street,
 Embley is being Park Lane. W.
 depopulated of birds like
 Claydon. {printed} **F. Nightingale**
 {pencil} a bird -

9014/135 signed telegram, 1f, pencil
postmarked: Steeple Claydon, De 8 93

South Audley St 11. 27 12.4
To Sir Harry Verney
Steeple Claydon Bucks
We all unite in saying
God bless Sir Harry on
his birthday and spare him
yet awhile to us and
may God bless him evermore
Nightingale

9014/136 initialed letter, 3ff, pen & pencil

[3:441-42]

Christmas Day
1893

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

My dear Sir Harry
On Christ's birth-day
must I not wish you all,
you & yours, the *dear you*
& yours, a happy Christmas,
when He has made us
such a splendid birth-day
present as Himself, & we
come humbly but yet
joyfully, with our poor
little birth-day presents to
Him of ourselves -
joyfully because "I see
"The beautiful child Jesus
"a-coming down to me;
"And in His hand He beareth
"Flowers so rich & rare"

-where did I hear those lines last? - it was when our dear Parthe was for the last time in this house. - and she looked up at my large print of the *Virgin & Child*, & she asked Him to "come down" to her. and we repeated those lines together.

And He *is* "coming down" *to-day* to give us His "flowers so rich & rare" - And we must not sadden His soul by digging into ourselves, but "forgetting "what is behind, stretch "forward to what is before". in spite of griefs & sorrows & real anxieties

"Hast thou a load? Let "*Omnipotence* bear it."
It is recorded ~~that~~ of one of those grand old Egyptian Christians of the 3rd century that he said over to himself continually those words, {pencil} Forgetting what is behind, "stretching forward to what "is before" - and Elijah's speech "The Lord liveth before whom "I stand *this day*" - & that '*this day*' meant taking no account of past time, but as it were laying down a beginning, he strove to become *day by day* fit to appear before God (in *this* world, you know), "pure in

"heart, & ready to {pen} obey
 "His will & no other" -
 He went at it like a man,
 that grand old Christian.
 And so ought we.
 But you're not to make us
 anxious by being naughty
 & imprudent -
 And you're to tell me what
 those "flowers so rich & rare"
 were that the child Jesus
 brought whose birth-day
 we keep this day.

And all those darling
 children who are about
 their dear Grandpapa now.
 - may God bless them - and
 He *will* bless them -

ever your affectionate

F. Nightingale

{pencil} A dear poor old woman, my most

[2]

particular friend, at
 Lea Hurst, with
 almost every sorrow
 under heaven, wrote to
 me in her Christmas letter,
 "How *can* we say, 'I fear,'
 (or 'I am afraid,') when
 God says: "Fear *not*".

F.N.

My love to the blessed
 Margaret who has been
 so good as to write to
 me this day - & to all
 the dear souls who have
 written or sent Cards -
 precious letters to me - and

my kind regards to Morey.
I am so sorry that Edith
is so far from strong - I
hope Mrs. Morey is well
again -

Success to your Xmas
tree & dozens of coloured
candles! F.N.

[end 3:442]

9014/137 signed letter, 2ff, pencil

[1:822-23]

Dec 29/93

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

My dear Edmund

I write in haste on a
subject where I hope if you
think well you will give
me your kind help -

You remember the house
of Joseph Coleman, father
of my Lizzie, where you
were so kind about their
smoky fire-place - It is
very much dilapidated,
very unhealthy, has only
the one fire-place -

Sir Harry told them,
& he told me too, that he
would give them Quainton's
house in the Upper Village,

near almost opposite the
Police Station -

Sir Harry at first said
th of his own accord that
he would give it them
at the same rent. But I
don't want to hold him to
that - Indeed I would
not accept it.

Quinton moved out of that
house yesterday - It is a
good house with I believe
3 bed-rooms - & I dare
say more than one fire-
place - I would gladly
pay any rent £6 or £7 or £7.10 a year I should guess Sir Harry

chose - The Joseph Coleman's
are most respectable cultivated people
- he was a gardener. They
are all three, father, mother
& daughter Invalids from
living in such an unwholesome
da house. The daughter
has to carry the water
every day some distance -

[They were ~~ruined~~ impoverished by one
of those too common stories of the Club
to which the father had
paid in for ~~some~~ years
closing]

Would Sir Harry fulfil
his promise now of giving
them that house? The

old house smokes as
badly as ever -
ever your affectionate
Aunt Florence
Let your kindness
Pardon me if you think
me interfering -

9014/138 unsigned, incomplete letter, 2ff, pen {archivist: [?1893] date not possible as her dates are (1807-77) and Gt Ormond St problem c1865-67

I believe I may have Miss
Carpenter here (who is
just come back from
India) tomorrow at 3.30.

As I have not the
pleasure of dining with
you, this will make no
difference in your dinner.

But it may make a
difference in my having
the pleasure of seeing
you.

So I return Major Dawson's
letter -

I cannot thank you enough
for your kind thought
about my not seeing poor
Sidney Herbert's widow -

As you say, there is nothing
I would not do, if I could
be of even the least use
to those poor children.

But I don't believe it
is possible - And

therefore I shall
most likely let things
hang on, because I
should not like Mrs.

Herbert to think I had
"quarrelled" with her -

And so probably her
stay in London will
end without my seeing
her which I shall be
glad of -

Manning is in Rome. It
is said he has left in order that
the "dirty business" at
Gt. Ormond St may be settled
by some one else in his
absence - his usual trick

[3:275]

9014/140 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

[3:442]

[2] Jan 20/94

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

My dear Sir Harry

We were quite
delighted with your
account of Divine Service
in the Saloon - It
sounded so home-y
yet so sacred - the
sacredness of home -

I hope you are
enjoying this bright
weather -

Do you know the
Chairman of the Nightingale

Fund? He wrote a
surreptitious letter to the
Senior Physician of St.
Thomas', making interest
with him to get a Lady
Probationer in. But
the Senior Physician
unveiled his perfidy

ever your affectionate

F.N.

9014/141 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

10 S. St 10/2/94

Dearest blessed Margaret
what can I say more?

A quite poor woman at
Lea Hurst who has been
my friend for scores of
years wrote to me:
'may this New Year be
the most blessed, the
holiest, the happiest
year of your life!

You are blessed
already.

You will know whether or not
to read the enclosed to

him -

I cling still to the
hope that he may be
spared to us - yet a
little while -

ever yours

F.N.

9014/142 signed letter, 2ff, pen

[1:609]

A son of *Dr. Armitage*
begs your kind Jan 20/94
interference i.e. *Dr. A* {printed address:} 10, South Street,
begs it for his son Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir Harry
Lieutenant Cecil Hamilton Armitage
wishes to go out to the
Gold Coast Corps - which
Lord Ripon could grant
at once

He is a Lieutenant of the
S. Wales Borderer's Militia
(the old 24th)

His age is 24.

He is a thorough trained
soldier - has certificates
for the *Artillery* (Shoeburyness
for *Rifle Shooting* (Hythe

He is known to Lord Battersea

I should not think the Govt.
was embarrassed with
applications from promising
young men for the

Gold Coast Corps

You will perhaps remember
that you were good enough
to get one of Dr. Armitage's
sons into the Navy
who has turned out
excellently.

Perhaps you would be so
very kind as to ask
Lord Ripon to put this
young man into the
Gold Coast Corps
He would not be a failure.

ever your affectionate

Florence Nightingale

9014/143 signed letter, 1f, pencil

[3:442]

10 South St Feb 10/94

Dearest Sir Harry

The everlasting arms
are under you - & under
us all - the arms of Him
who is all Love & all
Wisdom -
"Not what we are, O Lord,
but what Thou art" -
that is the real blessing
ever your loving
Florence

{written horizontally; archivist: Sir H.V. died 12 Feb '94
Letters 14 & 20 Feb}

c/o Mrs. Verney
Station Master
Claydon Station
20/2/94 Bucks

9014/144 initialed, incomplete letter, 2ff, pen [3:443]

Feb 14/94

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

Dearest blessed Margaret

I am afraid you
are very tired - But
think how happy you
made him - never a
time did I see him
or hear from him
but he said that he
'was happier than
ever he had been in
his life'. He always
called you 'blessed
'Margaret' - & as you

say he really enjoyed
 life. He is blessing
 you now - And God
 is blessing him & you.
 God's heart has
 received him home -
 Give my love to
 Edmund - he has been
 very kind.
 yours overflowinglly
 F.N.

"I will not leave you
 comfortless - I will
 come unto you" - if ever
 Christ said that
 lovingly to His disciples,

9014/145 signed memorial, 2 ff., pen

[3:442-43]

We mourn him, our dearest, dearest
 old friend
 Sir Harry
 never, never old to us
 we rejoice for him, whose 'name' is
 'written' in the 'Lamb's book of life'.

Is mine there too?
 F. Nightingale
 sorrowing
 Feb 12 1894

In affectionate remembrance
 of our dear, dear
 Sir Harry Verney
 on whom the grace of love was "poured"
 by the Father of Love
 to whose heart he is now gone home
 & drawing us after him -

 This Cross & wreath
 from his sorrowing sister
 Florence Nightingale
 Feb 15 1894

Just such is the Christian: his course he begins
 Like the sun in the mist, as he mourns for his sins,
 Then follows some dropping of rain;
 But as he comes nearer to finish his race
 Like a fine setting sun, he grows richer in grace
 And bids a sure hope at the end of his days
 Of rising in brighter array.

9014/146 initialed letter, 2ff, pen **[1:671]**

Feb 20/94

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

Dearest blessed Margaret
 The Gd Duchess of Baden
 desires me to "Please express
 "all my warm sympathy
 "to all the family. I have
 "sent some flowers wishing
 "them to be laid on his grave
 "as a token of gratitude
 "from one he has always
 "been so kind to - How much
 "I valued his letters!"

 It is such a heavenly
 letter. I hope to send
 you some more of it.

 She has been very ill
with Influenza -

 I was so glad to hear
 "All well" from Las Palmas

Please tell Morey with
my sincerest kind warm
regards how thankful I
am -

And if you have heard
from Brindisi, I am sure
you will tell me - Or I
shall hear from Maudie.

About dear Davidson,
I don't know that I can
say any more: but that I
think, if *you* are quite
satisfied with her, we
could raise the money,
at least for a year.
Dean Fremantle could
never find her equal as District Nurse
she has such good sense
& good judgment & sympathy

I have thought of you so much.
This time & the funeral day are
the bitterness of death. With
him was not the bitterness
of death.

Please thank Edmund for
his letter

ever with great love
yours
F.N.

A fortnight ago to-day he was riding -
Did Mr. Battersby preach a funeral
sermon last Sunday?

9014/147 initialed letter, 2ff, pen & pencil

Feb 20/94

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

Dearest blessed Margaret

It was impossible to me
to write yesterday
But I feel as you do. I cannot
believe that he is gone. All
Thursday I kept thinking
what he was doing, what
he was feeling - and it was
at his own funeral!

But you must be almost
overwhelmed with the
changes you have to make
- only *you* will never be
overwhelmed - " who but Thyself
"my guide & stay can be?
"In light, in darkness, Lord,
"abide with me."

But first, about Mrs.

{pencil in top margin} You kindly ask me for suggestions
{pen} Davidson. I do not think
she could take another
place as District Nurse -
The having the sympathy
of her employers which
flows out again upon
the poor people - [the having
become acquainted by
driving out almost every day with
my sister to the cottages
when she, Davidson, got out
to them] the meals & lodging
at Claydon Ho: &c &c makes
all the difference. My
experience is sadly against
sending out solitary District
Nurses in the country or in London. In
London, Liverpool &c &c
where the District Nurses
live in Homes under a
trained & sympathetic Supt.
who knows the work -

(which the Ladies' Committee don't) - it is so different. But why need I say this to *you*? You who ~~did~~ are the most knowledge-able person I know.

The question is - could we keep Mrs. Davidson at least a year? I would gladly give £15 to £20 if you will allow me. I wish I could promise more.

[I have never known whether Dean Fremantle, tho' he wrote so often about it, gave the money

{pencil} which he told me his first wife had left for a District Nurse at Claydon for Mrs. Davidson

I will write again by post -

Love to Edmund - & thank him for his letter - & to dear Lettice -
ever with great love
your F.N.

9014/148 initialed letter, 2ff, pen

March 6/94

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

Dearest blessed Margaret

Your kindness knows
how I do feel with you
for the storm of anxieties
& cruel changes that
have fallen upon your
head. But you are
the daughter of the
Almighty Father who
"rides upon the storm"
Hail, thou that art
highly favoured.

And *he* is safe above

all the storms -

Do you know the pair
of two magnificent Cedars
of Lebanon ~~were~~ in
Embley Garden were
blown to pieces in
the great S.W. Gale -
there is nothing left
but a few bare poles - I think
nothing is so pathetic
as the pains Nature
takes to repair her disasters.
A few of the bare small
branches broken off
were sent to me with

their cones on - The other
day I found leaf buds
sprouting all over
these dead sticks. "It
"is spring", they said:
"we will do our part."

That is God's lesson
to us - *You* don't want
it. My dearest love to
Lettice. She wrote me
such a dear letter.

And please thank
Edmund for his. I will
answer it. Have you heard
from Cairo?

ever your loving
F.N.

9014/149 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

March 9/94

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

Dearest blessed Margaret

How I shall look
forward to seeing you,
as you kindly offer,
& hearing about dear
Sir Harry, ever present.
It will be the greatest
joy I could have - but
please give me a few
day's notice that I may
not lose it.

ever your loving

F.N. Thanks for
lovely flowers.

9014/150 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

[8:979-80]

Easter Monday

March 26/94

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

Dearest blessed Margaret

(& Govt appointment to the
Council of the Welsh University

I am very glad)

You were so good as to write

to me about *Lizzie Coleman*

of Middle Claydon, (cousin

to my maid Lizzie Coleman

of Steeple Claydon) as a

kitchen-maid, age 16 -

who wants to be in the kitchen.

If she is "strong enough" for

the place, I should so like to

have her - But as I have

a new cook coming this

day fortnight April 9,

& I'd for both their sakes

I don't want to have two

new ones in the kitchen together,

what had I better do, O thou

of good counsel? But

how I dislike troubling you!

[Your Kate Jones wishes to go

the day the new cook comes -

I don't blame her -

My charwoman's daughter, a

poor half starved creature,

whom I have had by the week

as kitchenmaid under Kate,

& who looks quite strong now,

does not wish to engage as

permanent kitchen maid,]

It occurred to me: *should**you advise her (Lizzie) & could your**Lizzie Coleman come - say**this next Saturday or Monday, April 2 & learn*

a little of the mysteries of cleaning

*the coppers - & prove how strong**she is - before either Kate*

or the Charwoman's daughter go
away -

I am *stupida*

stupidior

stupidissima

{stupid, rather stupid, very stupid}

but cannot devise anything
else.

What will you kindly say?

Forgive this, written
under constant interruptions

N.B. I don't think the new
cook at all one who will
help a *raw* kitchen maid
in her work - but will be kind

And I am such a poor
mistress.

You see I am in a fix
Everyone comes to *you*

We will take every care
of the new kitchen-maid,
the other Lizzie

ever your loving

F.N.

9014/151 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

[2] March 26/94

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

Dearest Margaret

I was so glad to
see Mrs. Davidson on
Good Friday & Morey
on Saturday - they have
such feeling -

& so sorry to miss
dear Lettice - I
telegraphed to Maude
as soon as I had
a moment on Thursday -
But Lettice was flown.
Excuse that I have
not a moment now.
I have been starting
Matrons - one back to
Buenos Ayres -

I trust you have had
not an unhappy Easter -
Christ is always risen
again *in you* -
how sad Morfy will be
But oh I trust that
George will go to them
in Italy - & keep them
there a little time, if
you approve of it for Ellin

in greatest haste

ever yours

F.N.

Love to the children
dear

9014/152 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

March 29/94

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

Dearest, dearest
Margaret. Thank
you, thank you for
all -

Would you kindly
transmit the enclosed
to Lizzie Coleman
minima

I am writing
against time
ever yours
F.N.

9014/153 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

March 31/94

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

Dearest blessed Margaret

Thank you so very much
for your letter, just received
- & thank you for the pathetic
photographs & the Memoirs
of him - & above all for
the book he was reading
& had marked.

Your account of the
cottagers is so interesting. I
always remember your saying,
when some cottagers were
burnt out at Steeple Claydon,
and a sister. a widow with
children, took some in, it

was an act of heroism.

Mr. Jowett used to say
that the difficult precept,
"Sell all that thou hast &
"give to the poor", is often
literally obeyed by a poor
servant girl who gives all
her wages for the support
of her parents, or of a
spendthrift brother, & by such
like things so common among
the poor - at least the
agricultural poor -

The *mills* have broken
up the family tie so much

I am so interrupted - But
I will attend to your
dear behest - & try &
name a Lotion - *safe*
& efficient -

I am so sorry for the
tragic end of the little
Grocer - & so much
obliged to you for visiting
the Joseph Colemans.

Lizzie Coleman minima
- I trust she may do -
May God bless you &
He does bless you - Love
to Edmund & Lettice ever your
F.N.

9014/154 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

April 4/94
10, South Street, {printed address:}
Park Lane. W.

Dearest blessed Margaret
Aunt Florence's love to dear
Ruth -

I have been so sorry to
seem dilatory about the
poor old soldier's leg you
are so good to - But I was
afraid of dealing with it
separately - And I could
not get hold of a Doctor
famed for his treatment
of inveterate cases till
to-day - I wish I could
have sent you a simpler
Lotion - I have ordered
Squire to send you today
his Prescription made up,
with the Prescription in

[6:665]

English - If it is an
"irritable Ulcer of the leg"
as he calls it, he says it
will be "relieved" by this
Lotion - "Flannel or lint
"dipped in the lotion must
"be applied frequently.
"afterwards a light
"bread poultice, sprinkled
"with Almond Oil to
"prevent it adhering"
I told Squire to send you
some Almond Oil - You are such a Nurse [end 6:665]
I write in such haste
because I have had Shore
here - & have not a moment

God bless you.
ever yours
F.N.

9014/155 signed letter, 1f, pen

April 9/94
{printed address:} 10, South Street,
Park Lane. W.

My dear Edmund
Thank you for your
two letters. the reason
I preferred to have
my payments in April
& October was because
my other income
comes in in Jany &
July. But I wish
to have them made
in the way least
inconvenient to you.

My love to dear
Margt & your
children three - I hope
Ellin will come back
all right. She has been a little mother
to her aunt & her aunt's Harry.

ever your affectionate

F. Nightingale

I hope dear Margaret
was not too tired
on Friday.

9014/156 initialed letter, 2ff, pen

April 13/94

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

Dearest blessed Margaret

I hear that they could
not muster more than
6/ change for your half-
sovereign here - also,
you were so good as to
give 5/ to Lizzie minima.
I repay my debt
thankfully.

I am afraid you
were dreadfully hurried
on that day of the
Welsh University Meeting
- so important -

=====
I thought of you all
on Thursday - Ellin
returning & finding
no dear Grandpapa
in the flesh - but there
he is in the spirit.

ever your loving

F.N.

It was very lark-y
of you two young people
going up to London
on Friday - I hope
it answered -

Now you have your
four. God bless them
all.

Please thank Edmund
for his kind letter.

F.

9014/157 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

April 16/94

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

Dearest Margaret

You are so overworked
that I cannot bear
to trouble you. But I
feel anxious about poor
old Soldier Webb's leg.
The Physician who gave
me that prescription
for him wishes, *out*
of respect to Sir Harry,
to come down *without*
a fee to see what
could be done for him.
Of course I could not

accept that. But I feel
anxious to know that
the leg is not getting
worse, & to report
to this kind & skilful
man *professionally*
the state of this leg,
if not too much trouble
to you -

2. I am so afraid that
you were very unduly
hurried on your Welsh
University day - I hope

you arrived comfortably

in time -

3. If you have not disposed of all your Claydon fruit & vegetables, I should so very much like some - It is so much better than any London greengrocer's - I do not at all mind paying carriage *above* London prices -

4. On the afternoon of April 30, the Archbishop of Canterbury unveils

the Memorial to Mrs. Wardroper in the Chapel of St. Thomas' Hospital.

I am so very anxious to have representatives of Sir Harry there - I am afraid Fred & Co. will be at Norwich - Would you mind being invited? The Treasurer makes the invitations -

God bless you all -

ever your loving

F.N.

I hear you are gone to Harrow

9014/158 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

April 17/94

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

Thanks *so much* for
your letter, dearest Margt
I hope Ellin is getting
better - My love to her.

It was a great relief
to me that Webb's leg
was improving - I was
nervous about the Lotion.
If he will have some
more, *pray* let it me
send it from *Squire's*
Squire's drugs are so
much the best
ever your loving F.N.

9014/159 initialed letter, 2ff, pen & pencil

April 24/94

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

Dearest blessed Margaret
Poor Old Webb's leg -

The Doctor says:

"Careful attention should\
"be paid to the bowels:
"Fresh doses of Epsom
"salts with 2 grains of
"Quinine is the best aperient"
[I have written this to Squire,
& asked him if he conceives
the sending a bottle of
Epsom salts, & 12 papers
with 2 gr. Quinine in
each for 12 doses the best
way of administering, - to
send it so. Can Webb be
trusted to do it right?]

“To the parts below the knee
& the ankle apply a bread
poultice to which added
over the surface a little
olive oil”

[I believe that one, two
or three poultices merely
to *cleanse* the parts, is
the thing - & then resume
the Lotion - Squire {pencil begins} will
send a fresh edition of
Lotion - & some Olive Oil]
Further the great Oracle
says: “Has he Varicose
“veins? for altho’ the
condition of the veins has
little to do with the origin
of these sores they retard

“their recovery. The limb
ought to be raised &
perfect rest is greatly
to be desired.”

That you have done
already.

Further he says: “we
“must give a discretionary
“power to Lady Verney
“as to the continuance of
“the Lotion &c”

I do trust you will
not have a great deal of
trouble with this.

The protection of the
part skinned over is the
great thing.

I hope dear Ellin is
going on well.
I am sorry that Milsom
wrote to my Lizzie Coleman
about the Vegetables - She
is not my housekeeper
- *extremely not* so - & she
could as soon give him
the "retail prices" in
London he asks for as
the "retail prices" in the
Moon. He has not
enclosed the "List of
Vegetables" he says he has.
But I am more sorry at

{the following conclusion is given with 9014/160, but it seems to follow more logically on
9014/159,
especially as it is in pencil}

[2]

giving you trouble -
I will try & answer
his letter - in haste
ever your loving
F.N.

9014/160 incomplete, unsigned letter, 1f, pen

April 25/94

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

My dear Edmund
I return this letter
about Edith Morey
which I have read
with the greatest regret.
The letter "hopes" for
"greater progress in the
"next 4 weeks". Like you,
I do not see what
good Morey, to whom my
kindest regards, can do
at present but wait &
see what is the best
thing to do when
comes the time.

9014/161 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

April 27/94

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

Dearest Margaret

Thanks for mentioning
Mr. Gardiner - I should so
have liked to have seen him
whom probably I shall never
see again. There was not
time for me to get what I
wanted from him. I wanted
to ask him about the
moral government of God.
-the subject I have cared
about almost ever since I can
remember anything -
Is not the great object in
studying history to find out
what we can about this
from it?
History is the biography of God.

A great friend of mine,
Professor Mohl, learnt all
the Eastern languages in order
to be able to write *a history
of God.*

To learn from a man like
Mr. Gardiner what traces he
finds of God's moral governmt
would be a thing indeed.

In this sense God's moral
govt. or this particular branch
of it would mean how he
brings good out of evil - Evil
as an essential of the highest
qualities - The eight Beatitudes
all presuppose evil - Evil
brings its own unavoidable

consequences - but these again
bring the highest good.

He makes use of people the
most unlikely.

Our own personal Recollections,
Historical facts

all assure us of these
things

The marching of Russia in
to subdue Hungary - (in 1848,
was it?) brought about
the reform of Nursing -

The people of England were
so furious with Russia
for that scandalous act
that in 1854 nothing
would satisfy them but
war with Russia. It was

not the "Holy Places" - it
was our rage with Russia
that brought about the
Crimean War. And it was
the Crimean War that
brought about the reform
of nursing.

Mr. Gardiner could give the
strongest instances out of the
Civil War which was
for darkness - And out of it
came light.

F.N.

9014/162 signed letter, 2ff, pen

April 27/94

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

Dearest blessed Margaret

I am so glad that
you mean to grace
with your presence
on Monday the Unveiling
of the Memorial to Mrs.
Wardroper.

It is very nice to see
so many proofs of the
high appreciation of
our late dear old Matron.

Fred writes that he
does not think he can
be there. I cannot make

out from his letter
whether his children
G. and K. are at
Yarmouth or at Onslow G.

If the latter, I know that
Ruth would be rather
with her Cousins. But
if they are at Yarmouth,
would she and you not
come here & have food
before & after the
function? And at
what hours?

You are not going
to Southampton with her -

are you? I wish I could
offer you a bed - But
I believe you would
rather sleep at O.G.

or go back

With great love,
ever yours

F. Nightingale

I wish you had a wholly
good account to give
of dear Ellin.

Please mention how
dear Ellin is when
you are kind enough to
write.

affectionately yours
Aunt Florence

9014/163 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

May 2/94

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

Dearest Margaret

Many, many thanks
for your dear letter.

Might I ask you
whether you would
kindly look at the letter
from Birmingham I enclose
& at my answer?

Mr. Higham gave me
as one of his references,
of course without asking
me. If he had, I could
have consulted you -

Had I only know him
during the last 1 ½ or 2 years,
I could not have been his

reference for anything to
any body.

But this may be
a turning point in his
life, if he will but
stay with them - don't
you think so?

I am distracted
between saying too much,
& too little -

What do you think?
I would re-write it if
you like -

ever yours

with great love

F.N.

I hope you have good
news of dear Ruth.

9014/164 initialed letter, 2ff, pen

May 12/94

{printed address:} 10, South Street,

Park Lane. W.

Dearest blessed Margaret

I am so sorry not to have
been able to send you
sooner the opinion about
poor old Webb's leg -
It is now that it ought
perhaps to be probed ~~by an~~ for
fear the bone should
be attacked, as the
deep hole might
indicate - but that this
probing could only be
done by a Surgeon
experienced in Hospital
practice.

Dr. Armitage again

renews his generous offer
to come over & look
at it himself - He says
if he can do it between
noon & night some
day, it would not
damage him much -
=====

Thank you very, very
much for your criticisms
upon my letter to the
Birmingham Water Works
concerning Mr. Higham.
I rewrote it according
to your excellent hints.

- leaving out all about
objectionable *ducks*
&c &c
& received a nice little
answer from the Water
Works, thanking me for
"full & satisfactory
"information" & for
the P.S. about Coffee
Rooms

I trust dear Ellin is
better. Great love to all
ever your loving
F.N.

9014/165 signed letter, 2ff, pencil

May 18/94

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

Dearest blessed Margaret

Dr. Armitage writes
to me "Lady Verney
"having engagements on
"Saturday as well as
"to-day, I shall be very
"pleased to visit the poor
"old soldier on Monday
"or Tuesday by the train
"leaving Euston at
"2.45 p.m."

You know Dr. Armitage

is a character & talks
very fast - but is one
of the best as well as
the most skilful men
I know. He does an
amazing work among
the poor.

I gave him your
kind message.
What shall I tell
him now?

Please don't overwork
yourself.

Please thank Edmund
for his most kind
letter -

I hope Ellin is still
making progress.

And that Edith
Morey is really not
worse - Perhaps Morey
would write to me
about her.

I have had a nice
little letter from Ruth.

ever yours F. Nightingale

9014/166 signed letter, 2ff, pen & pencil

July 4/94

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

Dearest blessed Margaret

How good & kind of you
to think of our Nurses &
their delightful day at
Claydon. But alas! it {pencil begins}
seems as if the power to
go to Claydon now is
quite taken out of our
hands - Matron (Miss
Gordon) has started for
her holiday to-day. She
leaves a *new* substitute,
which throws more work
on Miss Crossland. There
are so many "Sisters" &
Staff Nurses away for

their holiday, every
Probationer is required
in the Wards. It is
good practice for them -
But I am very sorry
that they must be
deprived of their Red
Letter Day, which they
think of all the year,
now.

It is grievous that dear
Ellin is bad again - This
splendid weather ought to
have suited her better -
The British Association &
yet more the University
Extension will enjoy them=

selves
at Claydon

I hope that poor old Webb
will get as well now as
he ever can be. I am sure
you have done it all
yourself.

Lizzie Minima looks
very well. May I send
through you a message
to her parents that the
Confirmation, tho' put off
by the Bishop ~~was~~ for a
day or two, was successfully
performed - His address
was excellent, & Lizzie
& her friend, my little
housemaid, an Embley girl,
wrote it all down. And
the next Sunday they took

the Holy Communion
together - Lizzie has
a good deal of
character tho' she is
never solemn for a moment.

Aunt Florence's love to
all.

How terrible & pathetic
has been the Carnot

death & the Casimir- Périer succession

Mr. Gladstone is gone, &
with him the dignity &
high tone of the House
of Commons - May it not
be so with the French
Chamber -

ever & ever your loving
Aunt Florence
May I send you a pamphlet which
is in fact yours?

{4th Pres. of the French
Republic, assassinated by an
Italian

anarc
hist}

9014/167 initialed letter, 2ff, pen

July 28/94

10, South Street, {printed address:}

Park Lane. W.

Dearest blessed Margaret

How good & gracious it
was of you to write me
such an entrancing letter -
I must ask you to let me put
off my answer to you - & also
may I know your plans
that I may not interfere
with them?

Aunt Florence's best love
to *all* the dear ones - &
specially to my little
God daughter - now grown
big -
~~I~~ have been intending to
write to you ever since you
came back that you might
not think I had been

interfering overmuch about Webb I see
Dr. Armitage continually
because he always *will*
report to me about Patients
I have under his care. He
always asks after Webb.
And then he gives his
orders which I execute as
well as I can - Dr. Armitage
is always in raptures
about you as he well may
be. And he was so
pleased with a little bit
which I read to him out
of your welcome letter from
Oxford about Webb.
But he said: Oh now
Lady Verney is away, Webb
will suffer.

== Perhaps you or the girls
could help Morey, good
Morey, in choosing from
my letter to him books for the
Athletics -

I am interrupted
ever yours overflowinglly
F.N.

9014/167b {no no. assigned} initialed letter, 1f, pencil

Aug 19/94

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

Dearest Undergraduate {archivist: Lettice - see 3.10.94}

Thank you for your
dear little letter -

Aunt Florence is
so glad that you have
been successful -

But mind you
take care of your body.
- God takes such care
of our bodies, & of Mother
& I know you take care -

Yes: Aunt Florence
will be so glad to
see you all again

Love to all -

F.N.

9014/168 signed letter, 2ff, pencil

[6:666]

Aug 31/94

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

My dear Sir

I hope you have not
thought me very remiss
since your kind letter -
I was told you were
gone away for you
holiday - I have only
lately heard of your return.
Then came our great
loss of which you may
have heard.,

What I wanted to
say was: would you
kindly attend Mrs.

Joseph Coleman of
Steeple Claydon,
charging to me the visits
& the medicines which
you would consider
over & above the Club
payment? I should
be very much obliged
to you - Should
she go on with the
Whiskey?

And if the husband
& daughter require Medical attendance,
would you let them
also have it thus?

Yours faithfully
F. Nightingale

Dr. Benson

[end 6:666]

9014/169 signed letter, 1f, pencil

[6:666-67]

7/9/94

10, South Street, {printed address:}

Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir

Thank you for your
note.

As regards the old soldier's

Webb, I think if you
recommend the "Nursing
"Home" at Buckingham,
& you would be so good
as to make arrangements
for the old Soldier Webb
to be taken in immedialy [this is what she wrote]
on a payment of 8/ per
week which I will pay
for one month - And then
I should be grateful

we will see -

Who are the Doctors
at this Nursing Home?
if I may ask.

yours sincerely

F. Nightingale

Dr. Benson

[end 6:667]

9014/170 signed letter, 1f, pencil

12/9/94

10, South Street, {printed address:}

Park Lane. W.

Dear Edmund

Thank you very much
for Mr. Higham's letter -
He is well in his post.
I pray & trust that his
great self-confidence
will not lead him
into mistakes.

And thank you for
your good account of
every body.

I cannot decline
your most kind offer
of the Souvenirs de
Sébastopol, which I

have not seen - I
shall like to see the
book very much -

God bless you all

Yours sincerely ever
Aunt Florence

9014/171 signed letter, 2ff, pencil

[1:671-72]

12/9/94

{printed address:} 10, South Street,

Park Lane. W.

Dearest blessed Margaret

Thank you very, very
much for your delightful
letter received this morning
- I would not interfere

for worlds with your
taking Ruth back or
your cycling about -
But the truth is, I cannot
- come to Claydon now -
I am almost bed ridden,
& my dear people
take up all my time
& strength - But if you

will try me again
about the end of the
month, I should be so
glad to see you again,
if possible.

I gave your most kind
message to Shore's wife -
she was very much
pleased - she is able to
take a great deal of
pleasure in receiving
tributes to *him*. And to-day
she was quite delighted
in receiving 27 messages
of love & sorrow from
27 workmen whom
Shore had helped in the

[1:519]

best way -

Shore lived to see his
grandchild, which is not
6 months old yet - He did
not nurse or caress it
as grandpapas often do
- but he watched it. It
made all the difference
in his life -
His death was good &
simple like himself -

The boys are so good
in helping. Indeed every
body has been so good
in helping - I cannot
say more.

I feel one of them -
Shore has been more or
less my care since he
was 4 months old -

My love to all - Aunt
Florence's - I am sorry
I shall not see Ruth
or Harry. But I hope
to see Ellin & Lettice &
your dear self.

Shore was so good
to my mother -
ever, blessed Saint,
your humble devotee
Aunt Florence
in haste

9014/172 initialed letter, 2ff, pen

3/10/94

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

Dearest blessed Margt

Thanks for your blessed
little note - I was going
to write to you as soon
as I heard from you
that I would come on
Saturday as ever is -
But I am in a very
bad bout just now: & my
Doctor who had been
encouraging me to go
said yesterday: 'We
must get you over
this before you move.'
It is so very good of

you, my darling, to
wish such a tiresome
old 'Customer as me to
come' - I only hope I
shall not be very much
in your way.

I earnestly hope to be
able to come next week
- I should be very
sorry not to see dear
Lettice before she
goes to Oxford, Lady
Margt's Hall, isn't it?
the dear Undergraduate!

And I was very
sorry not to salute
Ellin on her birth-day
All blessings be with
you all -
ever your loving
F.N.

9014/173 signed letter, 2ff, pencil

Oct 9/94

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

Dearest blessed Margaret

I always think it so
grievous of me to lay
another straw upon your
"camel's hump", v. your
kind letter to me - But
you have probably heard
of the bad accident to
Leonard Wiggins, the
blacksmith's son, & a
wheelwright, last Saturday
night. My maid, Lizzie
Coleman, has been fiancée
to him for more than 11
years - And she is of
course very uneasy -
I should think every

[1:823]

thing

depended upon his being kept
quiet. If you thought
well to have Mrs. Davidson
for this case, I would so
gladly pay for her.

If you thought Dr.
De'Ath should be had
to consult with the Winslow
doctor who attends him,
I would so gladly pay
Dr. De'ath -

They are not needy
people as you know -
But they would probably
not even think of these
two things - much less
pay for them - And

Leonard's mother is no
use as a Nurse -
I only heard of the case
this morning -
Leonard had seen my
Lizzie Coleman's sister;
& the only thing he said
was: 'Was I coming? &
'was Lizzie coming?'
Of course *I would send*
Lizzie for a few days -
if I knew it to be safe
for *him*. But she is not
the least bit of a Nurse.
[She might come back to
pack me up, if I were so
happy as to come to you -

And then she would be
at Claydon & seeing him
as much as was desired
& safe.]

2.

[Dr. De'Ath is coming to me
tomorrow to talk over
what I think such a wild
scheme - which I had
wished to talk over
with *you* before I saw
him.

I note of course what you say
about wanting a better
class for Health Missioners
than Miss Bartlett's - & agree [than?]
entirely]

Love to all -
ever your loving F.N.
I will telegraph in the morning if
you have anything to say to me
before I see Dr. De'Ath - call him D.

9014/174 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

Oct 11/94

10 South St.

Dearest blessed Margaret

How can we thank
you enough for your
immense kindness about
Leonard (& Lizzie) when
you are so heavily laden?

The Collect of last
Sunday always reminds
me of you: "cheerfully to
"accomplish that Thou
"wouldest have done" -

Lizzie will certainly
not go tomorrow day or
next day - How kind of

you to ask her to Claydon
Ho:

We will see whether
she ~~had~~ can go on
Saturday without exciting
him - I take it,
whether he will ever
be his own man again
depends very much
on his "quiet & silence"
now -

Thank you so much for
your prudently decisive
Telegram this morning -

alarming -
She thanks you 1000
times for your great
kindness in asking her
to sleep at Claydon Ho:
But her own father &
mother are so poor,
infirm & old (they live
at Steeple Claydon)
that she thought they
would be hurt if she
did not go to them

I hope to see dear
Ellin tomorrow.

God bless you
ever your loving
F.N.

I impressed upon
Lizzie thro' your
kindness that "noise &
"light" were not the
thing for Leonard.

9014/176 initialed letter, 1f, pencil

Oct 17/94

10 S St.

Dearest blessed Margaret
I have been rather bad
since Sunday - & my Doctor
has been coming every
day - And with
unexampled forbearance
I have kept to my bed
entirely -

How tiresome I am
afraid this must be to
you - this off-ing &
on-ing - I am still
in hopes to be let to go
next week -

ever your loving

F.N.

9014/177 signed letter, 2ff, pencil

12/9/94

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

Dearest blessed Margaret
Grievous indeed it is
that our dear Ellin
(I thought her looking
with such a much
brighter & expressive
womanly way tho' tired)
should have this
additional thing to
contend with -
But if you are obliged
to have a week under
a London aurist, Dr. L.
Purves has the confidence
of the best & most
cautious of London

Surgeons as being
perfectly reliable -
And I trust & believe
he will be able to
pull her out of her
deafness, & that she
will not have so much
pain as the first time.
He is brusque in manner,
they say. And I think
it was worse than
brusque to tell her she
might "soon" be "incurably
"deaf" - it was only
conditional - But he
is not thought to be

brusque in treatment,
& it looks, they say, so
much more "violent"
than it is - I am afraid
dear Ellin must be
very sensitive to pain
- she has suffered so
much. But I cannot
but think that she
looks altogether stronger.
And she is so absorbed
in her Village activity
not as a duty but
as a living love -
 How good it was

of you to take poor
Annie Wiggins into
the arms of Claydon
for a time -
Lizzie Coleman says I
did not give her
message properly.
She begs her duty
& her best thanks for
your so kindly inviting
her to Claydon House.
I am writing in the dark
Edmund was so good
as to write to me -
 ever your loving

F.N.

I tried in vain to persuade Lizzie
to go back to morrow to Leonard Wiggins.

9014/178 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

10 S. St. Oct 23/94

Dearest blessed Margaret

How good of you to
write those two letters -
It was such a relief
to know that dear Ellin
would not have a week
of Dr. Purves now at least
- & then that she was
going to spend that
week like a Christian
not under Dr. Purves's
blowings - he is worse
than the E. wind - but at the
sea.

My Doctor thinks he
can patch me up by

Saturday to go to
Claydon - are you *sure*
that would not be
inconvenient to you?
- he tells me not to
see any one here -
but that is impossible
for me - and Shore's
wife & daughter are
coming up to London
to-morrow (Wednesday)
for a few days -
and I *must* see
them every day. While I am

looking forward to the
unspeakable blessing
of seeing you (slowly,
not hurriedly) at
Claydon, I think I
must refrain from
seeing you on Friday,
as you so kindly offer.

But tell me the truth.

ever, dearest,
your loving old

F.N.

9014/179 initialed letter, 2ff, pen

Oct 26/94

{printed address:} 10, South Street,

Park Lane. W.

Dearest blessed Margaret

I trust that to-day has
been successful with dear
Ellin & you.

Please God I may be
with you tomorrow
(Saturday) by train
2.45 from Euston.

Will you kindly see
that the same is done
this time which was
always done before my
sister's death, & after;
Mrs. Broadhurst was
instructed to say to Mrs.
Robertson what she
would have out of the
Chickens, Butter, Eggs &c

which we have from your
Home Farm, & of Cream
which we have twice a week
from the Creamery (at
Winslow, I believe) & of
Vegetables from Milsom -
I forget whether there was
anything else, but Mrs.
Robertson & Mrs. Broadhurst
will know -

Au revoir, please God,
my saint -

May I ask to be met
at Claydon Station

I shall have Lizzie
Coleman & Ellen Pearce,
the under House maid
with me, as you kindly
invited

ever yours so truly

F.N.

9014/178 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil

Oct 29/94

Dearest blessed Margaret

May I ask you 2 or 3 things for my
guidance, as my guide leaves us tomorrow?
Lady Ashburton came quite late without
notice on Friday evening. It is the first time
I have ever declined seeing her. But Dr. Ord
had so impressed upon me that I should
not be able to come here if I went beyond
my tether that I did: & it has been on
my mind ever since - she left saying that
she only came to wish me good bye, as

they were "going to *Egypt*" in a week or two' & to ask me "some questions" - As to Egypt, not having been there for more than 40 32 years & she having lost my little M.S. Histry of Ancient Egypt, I could be of no use to her, old or new.

But it struck me afterwards that she might have been going to ask me a question about inducting *Mr. Robertson* - Is it not of the greatest consequence that she should induct him before she goes; or she may forget all about him? But I can't *volunteer* this advice, Probably you know more than I do - What shall I do?

2. *Dr. De'Ath* wrote to me that he should come & see me here - But I can't do him any good till I have talked it over with you - & heard your 'sintiments And we can't do that to-day - [And good Fred's ideas are quite opposed to his]

3. I am so glad you like Mrs. Ormiston Chant.

Now don't trouble to answer th any of this on paper - But let me have the blessing of seeing you to-day; if you can spare the time - What time, if so, shall it be this afternoon?

Aunt Florence's love to Edmund
ever your loving
F.N.

4. Mr Jowett's tombstone

9014/179 signed letter, 1f, pencil

Nov 3/94

My Archangel Atlas

I submit - But I *must* see you to-day. Or I shall succumb & become - a puppy -

Will you kindly say to Dr. De'Ath that I am most anxious to hear the result of the conversation he said he was going to have about The Scheme - with ladies - Perhaps you could kindly ask him (in

answer to your question) whether there
 were any afternoons - not to morrow or
 Wednesday) when he could possibly
 come

ever your loving
 Aunt Florence

9014/180 signed note, 2ff, pencil

Nov 3/94

Dearest blessed Margt.
 grateful F.N.

for the valuable
 information of last night - & the books
 of this morning - & above all for your
 dear letters -
 And shall I have the happiness of seeing
 you, if even only for ¼ hour, this afternoon
 & if so when? I don't want to swallow
 you whole - & I am sure the girls *do*
 I am so sorry Edmund is so poorly

And I am afraid Ellin will want Dr.
 De'Ath again -
 I sign myself boldly & *unusually*
 ever your loving *Aunt Florence*

It's your own fault - who am I that
 I should be the Aunt of an Archangel?
 And why are you an Archangel?
I am sure *I* did not make you so -
 I think the name of the ladies who wrote
 "Egyptian Shrines" is not "Busy" - Ellin will

[2]

be able to tell us -

Should you care to see some M.S. Extracts (not many) from letters of Mr. Jowett: which Mr. Evelyn Abbott is going to put into his Life?

It would be a great benefit to me if you did - For I have the express power of preventing their publication. Mr. Abbot is eminent in many ways - & he has absolutely no self - But he is not a man of the world - & would not know what would injure Mr. Jowett. & would probably answer: "I want to present a picture of the Master - & *not* to omit"

Are you very tired? F.N.
I have heard nothing more from Fred.
I was so taken aback by his news - about "Phil" - I ought not to have bolted it upon you.

9014/181 unsigned, incomplete note, 1f, pencil

Inkermann Day Nov 5/94

Dearest I did not get my message of love sent to Lettice this morning -

I am afraid I kept her too long yesterday from you - She was so interesting -

What time does Dr. De'Ath come to-day? And ~~are~~ do you consult him for your little cough? I have understood that Atlas always consulted De' Aesculapius for his little cough?

But what on earth am I to say to

9014/182 initialed note, 1f, pencil

Nov 6/94

Dearest How are you? And how
is Edmund?

I have a good kind letter from Sir Henry
Acland this morning, tho' sadly out of date
When would you like me best to see
him? at what hour? before or after
his luncheon? Don't trouble to write
my Archangel Atlas

FN

9014/183 signed note, 2ff, pencil

Nov 8/94

Dearest Archangel Atlas

Does not Dr. De'Ath's
letter partake too much
of the famous Chapter
in the book on Iceland
"Chapter on Snakes in Iceland"
"There are *no* Snakes in Iceland" {She does say Iceland}

However, I'm your man.

What you tell me to
say I shall say -

But, Archangel, you
ought to have knocked
me on the head when
I appointed Dr. De'Ath
on to-day, forgetting that
it was Winslow day

Eheu! Eheu! Eheu!

Perhaps you won't be
able to come to me at
all to-day.

I am so thankful
you are better

ever your loving

Aunt Florence

I venture to send the
first letter Dr. De'Ath
sprung upon me
with my questions
upon it.

9014/184 signed note, 1f, pencil

Nov 11/94

Dearest I should like to see Miss
Janes very much, as you kindly
suggested - at the time most
convenient to her & you in the
afternoon - as I think I understood
you had Miss Holland here on
purpose to see her -

Are you & she going to Church

in the afternoon? Then, after Church
please, or after your tea? Or if
she is not going to afternoon Church
then at 3.30, please -

How are you, my precious
ever your loving

Aunt Florence

Remember the beautiful sinner's
(pigeon) health, please -

9014/185 signed note, 1f, pencil

Claydon Nov 12/94

Dearest blessed Margt

This is not a third incursion,
but a paying of debts. This is an
unconscionably small payment for
two weeks' grubbing -

But I want to know, honour bright,
whether it is not inconvenient to you
to keep me longer - You are going
to have a little party next Saturday
- & perhaps don't want to occupy

more rooms than you can help -

Please, speak the truth, & shame
the devil - It will be **râal maan**
of you if you are naughty in these
things -

ever your loving

Aunt Florence

9014/186 unsigned, incomplete note, 1f, pencil

Mrs Greig writes Nov 12/94

that one of her "Lads is very nearly
"blind with one eye, which also
"affects the sight of the other."

On examination for the "Royal Navy"
they could not pass him" on this
account

She asks for "a letter of introduction
"to" one of the London Hospitals "that
"something may be done for him to regain
"his sight," the defect in which, she says, "we have only

9014/187 initialed note, 1f, pencil

Nov 12/94

Dearest I should like to telegraph to
Morfy, George & Harry Lloyd Verney
on this, the day that Vortigern went home,
if I knew their address - Can *Ellin*
give me the address at Torquay - & are
George & Harry at Hinde House?

Here is the Card Manifesto of the *School*
Board candidates, if you would be so good
as to show it to *Miss Janes & Mr. Stowe*, &
return it to me - but *can* we vote by *proxy*? F.N.

9014/188 signed letter, 2ff, pencil

[6:667]

Nov 13/94

Dearest Saint

Don't you think that, as by your
extreme kindness, & Dr. De'Ath's, I have
gotten that introduction to Mr. Higgins
of Guy's for the Greig ~~be~~ lad, I had
better use it - that is if I can find out
the *Out Patient* days at and hours
at Guy's [Miss Janes apparently did not
consider me worth a copy of that useful
book] I think so, because I feel

so uncertain whether Dr. Nettleship of
 St. Thomas' who is overrun with
 pressing *Surgical* eye-cases, would take
 him in if it is only a case which can't
 get in to the R. Navy.

Also, if Mr. Higgins *should* say: "It is a
 case for Hospital, but I am too full" I
 could then try Dr. Nettleship -
 [There is fashion about Doctors as about
 Nurses - Dr. Nettleship is now the fashion
 & attends Mr. Gladstone - but tho' gruff
 he is extremely careful about his Hospital
 cases, I believe. He is the Dean of his School]
 I hope Mr. Higgins would give the lad a certificate
 2. When may I have the blessing of
 seeing you?

I have 2 or 3 letters to show you
 which I hope won't weigh heavy -
 Do you remember Vanbrugh's Epitaph
 "Lie heavy on him, Earth, for he
 "For he Hath laid many a heavy load on
 thee" -

I am afraid that will be my Epitaph
 some day with regard to *thee*

[end 6:667]

3 I have had the kindest & most
 hospitable
 letter from Edmund
 which I am going to answer - in his
 & your kind sense -
 ever your loving

Aunt Florence

{written vertically}
 You know the
 poor Archangel
 is dead.

9014/189 signed letter, 2ff, pencil

[1:672-73]

Claydon Nov 15/94

My dear Edmund

I cannot thank you enough for your kind & sympathizing note, giving me the precious freedom of your house for the present.

As for your hospitality, offering to hang your pigeons & suspend them to the mutton bone, it can only be surpassed by that of the Arab who killed his own horse which lived

in his tent & taught all his children to ride on its back, before they were 2 because he had nothing else to give a stranger to eat

I do prize beyond words the opportunity of seeing blessed Margaret, more dear than ever.

And I hope I shall see *you* soon You are engaged in so many works of mercy of which instructing people in the use of Parish councils [how will they turn out?] is certainly one

Vaughan Nash, Rosalind Shore's husband, works almost 'night' & day now at the School Board *elections*, London the 'night' being for writing articles for the Daily Chronicle, in which she sometimes assists.

I hope your cold is quite gone. I am glad to hear of my dear Godchild Ruth's approaching confirmation next Feb. I did not

remember she was so far advanced in years

ever yours affectionately
dear Edmund, F. Nightingale

9014/190 signed letter, 1f, pencil

Nov 23/94

Dearest I am so grieved about dear
Lettice's head aches - How good it is of
you to stay to see Miss Rowlands -

But I hope the efficient Ellin will
bring us back good news.

I could quite well see Miss R.
at 3.30 - if you would prefer it - & it
would release you - and then I suppose
Miss R. must have tea before she goes

& would prefer having it down-stairs
with you -

Please don't return Mr. Proby Cautley's note
to Fred till I have seen you.

and I have another budget from

Fred this morning

But you will have enough to do
with dear Lettice whom God will guard this afternoon
ever your loving Aunt Florence

9014/191 signed letter, 2ff, pencil

24 Nov/94

Dearest blessed Margt

I trust that you are as well satisfied
with dear Lettice as is possible

Thanks for returning Dr. De'Ath - I
presume you do not know *if he is*
coming today yet -

This is the only thing I have to
bother you about -

Fred has sent me a valuable letter
of hints about the Melchet business very

kindly - I think I had better polish
off anxious Mr. R. as soon as possible.

If Dr. De'Ath is not coming to -day,
& if Mr. R. is not busy with your business,
I would try if he could come at 3.30 or so
before dark - If Dr. De'Ath *is* coming
to-day, I would see the good Presbyterian
on Sunday, if you have no objection -

Louise, Shore's widow, asks to come
here for a "few hours" to see me, I telling
her the "trains" - What do you think best?

She is staying for a few days in London.
We could not get her before Monday,
even if you very kindly wished it.
Tuesday I should prefer, because I should
lose the least of you - But perhaps
you had rather she did not come on
account of Lettice when you were away.
[I don't think that I should dance a
war-dance round Lettice -]

The only thing that is *Immediate*
is about anxious Mr. R.
ever your loving
Aunt Florence

9014/192 signed note, 1f, pencil

Claydon Nov 25/94

I am unwillingly obliged to state that
the Archangel's arithmetic is very
defective & must be corrected - E.g.
among many other defects, there is no
mention of fuel, light, or washing &c &c &c

I do not wish to prey upon you.
- I deeply regret to state that, if you
behave bad, I *must* execute my
celebrated war-dance, round Lettice,
as I have given you time for repentance

& as you are good enough to ask
me to stay, business will compel me
to return to London by the next
train - in order to obviate the
destruction of decency by the
Archangel's arithmetic -

F. Nightingale

Lady Verney

9014/193 signed note, 1f, pencil

Nov 26/94

Dearest blessed Margt

Lettice is, I trust, much better -
Shall I see her to-day?

Ellin thinks that *Ruth* would
like two of Walter Scott's Novels
& some other book for her birth day -
Has she read *Waverley*? Whether it
was that my Mother read it to us
in our teens, I like it so much the
best - the vivid picture of a time

& an adventure in history which
people can hardly believe in now -
& the characters of Flora McIvor
& her brother are so vivid too -
Then what is the novel with Mary
Queen of Scots? & *Old Mortality* -
is that the one with Ly Margt Bellanden

Macaulay said: Walter Scott
was the making of Scotland - O if
there had been a Walter Scott for
Ireland!

What shall I say, to Dr. De'Ath?
I don't think we have enough to say
to him to bring him here on purpose,
have we? And if Shore's Louisa
is here, it would be impossible for me.
How good & kind your letter to her
was!

ever your loving

Aunt Florence

9014/194 signed note, 1f, pencil

Nov 30/94
S. Andrew's Day

Dearest blessed Margt

Thanks for your letter -

And thank God for this lovely day -

As the immortal Shakspeare says:

"I went to his cottage: still 'oping to find
"He had took better care for improving his
mind" -

So I was "still 'oping to find

"You had took better care for improving
my mind" But I *shall* 'ope

for to-day -

I was really refreshed by seeing

Miss Masson thanks to you: she is so clear, not
garrulous, but giving you any
information you want in a
considered way - And then you
know we were two 'birds' (Nurses)
'of one feather' -

I am sorry Fred writes to you
about Lady Victoria - naughty boy.

ever your loving Aunt Florence

9014/195 unsigned note, 3ff, pencil

Claydon Dec 1/94

Dearest Mrs. Kettlewell's answer

seems ~~all the~~ to tell us all that
we want so much to know -

It is that of a woman who
knows her poor people, herself
& Miss Rowlands thoroughly - her
poor people from actual practice,
herself because she is thinking

not of what educated people understand, but of what the uneducated do - Miss R. because she had her in her own house -

The other lady, Mrs. Willoughby-Jones, was scarcely so explicit -

You see Mrs. Kettlewell would like another course.

She tells us too that the subject of Health was quite "new" to her poor people - (not that they know 'all that')

I hope Lady V. Buxton will return all letters - I think this is valuable to us, as showing what we have to ask about - & that Dr. D. should see it.

2. I have been reflecting since you told me that Ly V.B. was "generally out of health" - and I think I might have another

Doctor to mention to you -
[But none the less is Fred a naughty boy.]

Hail, Margaret
blessed art thou among women.

Ave Margherita
gratia plena

Ecce ancilla Domini

I forgot to say that: ought not Dr. De'Ath to see these letters? does he not often say, I want to hear what other people say of said & heard

[2]

of them - not what they say of themselves -

Also: should not Ly V.B. see Miss Rowland's letter to you?

Or not?

Mr. Robertson has come back & written to me -

Of that anon - It is a bad/dismal prospect

9014/196 initialed note, 1f, pencil

Dec 2/94

Ave Margherita

Dr. Ord (W.M. Ord MD)

37 Upper Brook Street

is the address.

== I send Miss Rowland's letters, which
is found, as you see - But the other

letter sticking in the Envelope
was Mr. Proby Cautley to Fred
which I suppose I must return
to Fred. Pray do not have
a great search for ~~Ly~~ Mrs. Willoughby
Jones - But if you do not fall
upon her, I will have a hunt again
I am so sorry to think of adding to your
labours -

ever your F.

9014/197 signed note, 1f, pencil

Claydon

Dec 6/94

My dear Edmund

I fear Ellin is suffering from
her knee. She will have a long
day tomorrow - Perhaps you have
already ordered a first-class carriage
to go *through* to London - I should
be so glad to be allowed to pay for it

Your affectionate Aunt Florence

9014/198 signed note, 1f, pencil

Dec 8/94

Dearest

I am sorry to be obliged to assure you that I shall go to the bad if I can't see you to-day - the earlier time, please, (not "7 to 8")

With shame & confusion of face I have discovered Mrs. Willoughby Jones' letter - Here it is

ever your loving Aunt Florence

9014/199 unsigned memorandum, 2ff, pencil

Sanitary Potteries (Fenton)

"*With sunk knob & cover*", best - but does not fit. It should fit *quite* close - Dangers of unfitting lids: it may be ~~a little~~ exaggeration, but one is tempted to say it signifies little whether there is a large slit or a small one - Just as a window little open makes more draught than one wide-open, the smell, the steam, changing into drops decomposing or just ready to decompose, are perhaps worse than with a large slit when it is diffused more equably over the room or closet.

Knob young housemaids with clumsy fingers complain that the knob is difficult to hold firm - & say the ditch should be deeper.

But this shape is much the best - "*American shape*", the cover slips as much as those one meets with in an ordinary house - & makes a noise.

It is to be presumed that the specimens sent are made to (what they call) fit.

It ~~would~~ might not go under a low bed - or if it did it might not come out again

Fenton {archivist: 13 Dec 1894}

I have been refreshing my memory with
Lizzie (who has been with me 11 years)
as to the series of interesting articles with
their uses, abuses & virtues, which we
have had or have.

[I have been disappointed that Messrs
Baker have sent us no pictures -

If we could fix upon a good pattern,
& cheap, I might be almost as large a
customer as the Govt. of India.]

1. the one we liked best was the one

[2]

with a lid fitting *into* the chamber - & a
knob & a ditch - nothing projecting *above*
the rim of the chamber -

This will go under the *lowest* bed: & has *no smell*
Objection - Young country housemaids with
rather clumsy fingers may let the lid fall
back which may crack it - or even
on to the floor, face downwards.

If the ditch could be deeper & the handle
? a "bow handle" this would be the best

[3]

2. The objection to all the others that I have
seen is that they may fit *or they may*
not - In the latter case there is something
very like an open privy in your room.

Or with the lid *on*, ~~they~~ it may be
just too high to go under the bed
it may be got under & you can't get it
out again.

And - you must allow considerably
for gr-breakages - more of the chamber
than of the lid - You try to replace
& match it. You are told: It *is* matched

And it is *not*

{printed address, vertical:} 10, South Street,

Park Lane. W.

It is of course essential - that every
lid should fit every chamber in
the house - & every chamber every lid.
I think what you suggested - viz - that
Messrs Baker should send specimens
(with prices) of each sort of chamber &
cover is essential -

You are a public benefactress to moot
this problem 13/12/94

9014/200 signed note, 1f, pencil

Claydon Dec 14/94

Dearest blessed Margaret

For reasons unknown to me (which
is at once the safest & most incontrovertible
principle on which I constantly act,}
for reasons unknown to me I did
not send this bit of paper in on
the day on which it was due
printed address, vertical:} 10, South Street,

Park Lane. W.

Are you very sure your goodness
wants to keep me?

I do not find the world is
going to pieces because I am not
in London - which is very foolish of it
It might at least *stop*: (till I come
back)

Now don't be naughty but tell
me the truth about my staying with
your blessed self

ever your loving

Aunt Florence

9014/201 signed note, 1f, pencil

Dearest I dare say you will not
want to leave dear Lettice today,
to whom my very best love -

I shall wait in patience & faith -
The peace of God which passeth all
understanding is yours -

ever your loving
16/12/94 Aunt Florence

9014/202 unsigned note, 1f, pencil, original Salmon scrapbook [1:772]

The Land of Books Dec 16/94

Dearest Lettice

Could you or Mother kindly tell me
of a really nice book
for *Ada White*, nearly 16, a Claydon girl,
Mrs. Robertson's maid, who is going
with her to her new place, & has often
picked wild primroses for me -

I would ~~telegraph~~ write to London for it
to-day & get it by Tuesday -
I should like to give her two

contd scrapbook

Also for a *little boy*, the son of the Winslow station master, Forster ditto ditto.

Also for *Nelly Webb*, the old soldier's child ditto ditto.

I have none of my books here because I consider this

The Land of Books

I hope you will come & see me today

your ever loving

Aunt Florence

9014/203 signed note, 1f, pencil

[1:673]

Dec 17 {archivist: '94}

Dearest blessed Margaret: How is Lettice?

Cheerily: cheerily: as you always do.

My heart is with you -

That does not signify - But what
signifies is that you & dear Lettice
are "in the heart of God", as
some one said long, long ago.

ever your loving

Aunt Florence

9014/204 signed note, 1f, pencil

Claydon Dec 19/94

My dear Edmund

I can find no words to give
you joy about dear Lettice -
But we all thank God for His most
precious gift - What fools we be
to be so anxious -
I am obliged to ask you, as Margaret,
blessed soul, runs restive, for the
name of some Xmas present for your

Harry - Is it a book or a bat?

Now do it handsomely -

your affectionate

Aunt Florence

9014/205 signed note, 1f, pencil

{archivist: to M.M.V} Claydon Dec 22/94

Dearest You *must* excuse me if,
not having seen you for 2 days,
I am quite an idiot.

Have the copies of the "life of Jesus", by a
"Quaker", recommended by Mr. Battersby,
come? If so, may I have one for
Ruth? I have no present for Ruth
did you ever hear such a thing?

ever your loving

Aunt Florence

9014/206 signed note, 1f, pencil

Claydon Xmas Eve 1894

My dear Edmund

I return the Cross=model with many thanks - What you & Margt propose - viz - an additional white marble step with the inscription to Sir Harry upon it, which blessed Margt and I discussed last night, seems to me most acceptable - I trust you will let me have my share in the expence - {printed address, crossed out:} 10, South Street,
How is Lettice?

Park Lane.
W.

There is a parcel, I hope, of books chiefly

for the children, I hope at *Claydon* Station, which, I mean the books, not the Station, started from London by Passenger Train on Friday, unfortunately directed Claydon *Winslow* - [But when this happened before, it came on of its own accord the next day -]

ever yours
F.N.

9014/207 initialed note, 1f, pencil

Dr. *Bulstrode: Fred*

Dec 28/94

Dearest I am so sorry to trouble you again I think what Fred wants to know is "whether *the Memm.*" or at least "a part of it" "*might be inserted in the Appendix to their Report of this year's Bucks Sanitary Conference?*" "*What would you say to this being done?*"

I cannot say anything to this - "Isolation "Hosppls " being in the opinion of many **even** wiser than !!! merely an excuse for doing nothing Sanitary - But it is hard

to say this to Fred who has worked
so hard - ??

Dr. De'Ath You have not heard
from him, I suppose, this morning -
I really felt so uneasy about him,
after what you told me, riding home
by himself in the dark that I thought
I would ask you whether we might
telegraph to him to-day. What would
become of us if Dr. D. were to fail?
We should never be able to drink
milk again -

Mrs. Liddell Would it do to write to
her c/o Mrs. Max Müller
where?

in Oxford

[I can't lay my hand on Mrs. Liddell's
letter - It was a country address]

what a trouble I am to you? your F.N.

9014/208 initialed note, 1f, pencil

Dec 29/94

Dearest - *re Dr. De'Ath.*

My sister always told me that Steeple Claydon
was the most gossipy place or within the
4 corners of the sea or the octagon of the earth -
& not to put *anything* in a Telegram -

Hence my dilemma - I was afraid to telegraph
straight out to Dr. D., for fear it should
be put in the *newspapers that he was 'hors
de combat'* - And he telegraphs he can't
understand. Edmund is so kind as to
offer to send a Telegram - Shall I say

simply: "Do not trouble about my
Telegram - I write by post."

Or what?

I am so afraid he might come
over -

ever your F.

Excuse my stupidity

9014/210 initialed note, 1f, pencil

Where, oh where can I meet that
lovely bull-dog? O happy farmerine.

Dr. De'Ath told me he was coming
 to-day (Saturday) - And if so
 at 3? I hope for your sake he is
 not coming - Is he? If he is, I
 shan't be able to see any one
 Only a verbal answer, please
 F.

9014/211 unsigned note, 1f, pencil

[2]

"Covers only" a snare for an unwary bird
 "Commode pan, with wire handle" Wire handle
 no use to take hold of - it waggles about -
 one must regard the housemaids' feelings -
 & especially poor people's - When ~~you~~
 they the *pans*, *not* the feelings are emptied in W.C. - or privy -
 would they not waggle about?

[3]

reasons

I hope you will excuse my criticisms
 I feel rather as if singing

'I do not like thee, Dr. Fell

'The reason why I cannot tell
 &c &c &c

Boxing Day
 1894