

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 -

**[7:344-45]**

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.

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. Higg'n'  
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

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

not in FN's hand]

I have been so extremely careless  
as to lose Mrs Coks. 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.

9012/43 unsigned letter, 2ff, pencil

10 South St                      July 29/88

My dearest Pop                      You are very

good & forgiving - I have  
never even answered your kind  
& generous invitations - But  
your kindness will know why.  
You yourself would have  
'commanded' me to stay here.

God must always have us  
(in work like mine) not only  
to the day but to the hour  
& the minute - I have to  
deal with people who, living  
¼ mile off, 'can barely spare  
an hour. This has been  
chiefly on India &c.

Nevertheless I *hope* to come to your dear face  
about Tuesday or Wednesday  
week, August 7 or 8.

I must wait to see Miss Crossland who is not yet returned from her much needed holiday - This is necessary for the interests of peace, for Miss Pringle will be gone on her much needed holiday.

[Miss Pringle<sup>1</sup> always says:  
'give my love to Lady  
Verney': & sometimes:  
'Claydon was the place where  
I first recovered my sleep' ]

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  
revivified 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?

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

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.

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  
   Bucks  
                         *Emily Baker*

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,  
and meet 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't go overdo yourself, 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 ~~little~~ 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.

9012/69 unsigned letter, 2ff, pencil

10 South St                      Dec 23/88

My dearest Pop

    Your box of funny little

Japanese toys which are  
very knowing is come - And

I return my best thanks -

Some are gone already to  
my Godson -

I am very much concerned  
indeed about Sir Harry's  
little accident, which sometimes  
has consequences that are  
not little. But I hope he is  
very careful. Indeed he  
must be. Please let some one write  
                                    about him to me.

For 3 weeks I have been

intending to write to him  
about Mr. Glyn's request  
that I would write something  
(about District Nursing, I  
think,) for his Periodical - &  
to say that I am so very  
sorry not to do anything that  
Mr. Glyn asks, but it is  
really impossible

    We have not had such an  
anxious year as this since 1861 &  
it will continue into next year.  
The Army (& Indian) Medical School  
& ~~the~~, much more important, the  
Army (& Indian) Sanitary Comm:  
are both at stake - And  
nothing sways nobody but

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 cold 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

"enjoyed his journey" (Miss Acland  
to whom I telegraphed writes)  
"& slept better than he had  
"for some time & looks so  
"well & vigorous as to delight  
"our friends the Heathcotes -  
"In spite of the cold, he has  
"just gone to Altnach by steamer  
"(2 hours) with Miss Heathcote.  
"We go on to Milan tomorrow -  
"& to Genoa on Monday.  
"I will send a card to you  
"or Lady Verney from Pegli -  
"We much long for good news  
"of Sir Harry"

Dearest, may God bless  
you both - And he does  
bless you -  
                    ever thy

F.

My kind regards to Mr.  
Calvert, please -

9012/81 initialed letter, 3ff, pencil

10 South St                      Jan 6/89  
My dearest Pop I hope to-morrow's  
morn will bring as good an  
account as we have, thank  
God, had lately -  
To-day is the Feast of the Epiphany  
    - I am so fond of it and of  
the lines:  
"Love is thy gold: thy service a  
    gem  
"Bring these to the Babe of  
    Bethlehem!"  
I heard last night from Sir H -  
Acland from Luzerne. [I think  
I told you that I telegraphed to  
the daughter, because I knew you



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

change.  
p. 53 - her last words  
to the fishermen, written  
by her to be read to them  
after her death  
    how striking! How simple!

9012/93 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil **[1:394]**

10 South St                      Jan 27/89

Dearest    I fear you are  
    very suffering.  
Louisa Ashburton was here last  
night, enquiring after you -  
You know that she has  
cataract in both eyes - But,  
alas! She has gone to an  
American female quack -  
who promises to cure her -!!  
I am bound to say she  
looks better - & sees better -  
But oh! the risk -  
    I was so thankful for  
Morey's Telegram last night.  
    If there is anything else  
I can do, you are bound to

tell me -  
But would you not let Dr.  
Benson write a report to  
good Sir Andrew Clark, who  
has taken such an interest?  
Aunt Mai's funeral was very,  
    very touching - The  
school-children & many of the  
poor people made nosegays &  
posies & wreaths of wild  
flowers. "very nice & rather  
"pretty". The children lined  
the path we know so well -  
    The poor young ones - I  
mean her grandchildren - hardly  
know how to bear losing her.  
She was such a centre to their

love -  
Do you ever hear of Ellen Tollet?  
I like to think of Miss Pringle  
with you for a little -  
You have been so good in  
    writing - I hope to hear

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~~ <sup>le</sup> 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                      F Nightingale  
a fillip  
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,



of devoting himself to it -  
his honesty, his forgivingness  
~~his~~ & flowing from all these  
his power of putting forward  
a subject. He is one who  
has learnt much from life.

Lady Dufferin is in London  
& called here last week - I  
was not able to see her -  
But she said she would  
make an appointment for  
this week -

Sir John & Charlotte Clark  
call here to enquire after Sir  
Harry. So does Louisa Ashburton -  
Mrs. Stewart is with her

Very anxiously awaiting news  
about "The Lark" tomorrow  
morning - how good you  
have been in writing -  
ever yours & his

F.N.

I was glad of your American  
correspondent -

9012/123 initialed letter, 2ff, pencil [3:419]

10 South St Feb 18/89  
Joyful account of your yesterday,  
my dear Sir Harry, brought  
by Maude - God be thanked!  
If you can have good days as  
well as good nights -  
to Mr. Calvert I was saying:  
"For so He giveth His beloved  
sleep" - And Mr. Calvert said:  
'if you read that interesting  
'passage in Psalm 127, "So",  
'that is on the principle of the  
'two first verses "He giveth  
'"this beloved sleep" - The principle [His?]  
'seems to me to be the connecting

'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

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.

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.

June 4/89

Could you kindly send word *what hour* the Division is? ever yours  
F

No. 4

[3:421-22]

A dove came to my window at 3.30 a.m. & said: God  
is giving the Holy Spirit to-day F.N. [end 3:422]

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

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 ~~4~~ 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 -

~~Me~~ & 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-ful 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* ~~he~~ 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 ~~30ty~~ 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

porridge at breakfast, &  
sometimes whole meal bread  
which I send once a week;  
this is very efficacious.  
I do not think anything  
of your "not hearing what  
"is said at the opposite  
"side of the dinner table;"  
that is a very common  
slight loss of hearing; & I  
really feel convinced that  
that sort of " **not seeing straight**  
quasi-giddiness  
you complain of, is owing  
to insufficient nourishment -  
& **not to deficient action of the**  
**bowels. Nourishment always relieves**  
**it. Deficient action of the**

bowels is caused in you not  
by too much but too little  
nourishment - Anything that  
sets the liver going is what  
is wanted - Chewing whole meal  
bread & butter, or meat in a very  
small quantity *very slowly*  
and *without* artificial teeth in,  
& *putting out* the unchewable  
or indigestible bits, is one  
way of rousing the liver to act.

Then *why don't you use*  
*the INJECTION?* Hunyadi water  
is good; but makes the motions  
too liquid -

If you like those apples,  
let me send more -

[You sent *me* grapes -  
for which many thanks -]

Consult Mr. Morey on these things



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 ~~is~~ 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 &amp; 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 "Erbswürst", 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 enquiry about [1:818-19]

*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 -

[end 1:402]

ever your  
old Flo

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.

9013/68 initialed letter, 2ff, pen, black-edged paper

July 26/90

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

Dearest Margaret the beloved

Many, many thanks  
for your note.

I am so glad about the  
"damsel or two" who  
are to attend Sir Harry

In answer to your kind  
question, I propose,  
please God, to go to  
him, ('Doctor or no Doctor',)

ON THE 5TH.            You will have a  
   houseful before  
   that

I trust that you will  
be "spared" at Rhoscolyn  
"to the end of the month"

I will do my very best  
to replace you with  
Sir Harry, tho' that is  
impossible. And  
perhaps we can catch  
another "damsel" or even  
a man from "20th to  
"end of month"

Yes: if you could spare  
me half an hour  
"before leaving town", I  
should be so thankful.  
Could you settle your  
own time - any time

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 Parlt.

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.

9013/84 unsigned note, 1f, pencil [India]

Sept. 1890                      last page              to Dr. Badhuri  
But far be it from me, far would it have  
been from Ld. W. Bentinck, had he been  
alive now, not to see that 60 years have  
brought about the necessity of a very  
different government for India - and in  
the measure in which England acknowledges  
& acts upon this, not ~~fre~~ reluctantly but  
with sympathy, will it be well for  
England & for India - I was deeply moved  
by all that was said between yourself & Mr.  
Dadabhai Naraoji & myself

9013/85 initialed letter, 2ff, pen, black-edged paper

Michaelmas Day  
Claydon House, {printed address:}  
Bucks.                      {arch: ?1890 29 Sept}  
My dear Sir Harry  
Now do be good -  
You were so good  
yesterday in not going  
to church last night,  
because I "forbade" you  
Now I "forbid" you to  
*get up to-day* - I  
forbid, I request, I  
beg; At all events  
you must not *leave*  
*your room* to-day  
at all. I "forbid" it  
You have a very

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  
Steeple Claydon, Bucks. Winslow,  
Bucks.

Claydon House,

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 pocket hdkf, *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  
 overflowing 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 & Oliver")

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 Serpient 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                  Claydon House,  
Steeple Claydon, Bucks.                  Winslow,  
Bucks.

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 Claydon House,  
Steeple Claydon, Bucks. Winslow,  
Bucks.

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, if it 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.

~~How~~ 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  
worriting 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



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

a wreath to put on Parthe's  
grave on ~~Saturday~~ Easter Sunday  
And I sent down to-day  
to Wellow Church-yard  
for Easter Sunday a  
wreath & cross for my  
father, mother & *her*  
who has now joined the  
Resurrection fields of the  
Eternal Love -  
by Louis Shore Smith

    You know that Harry  
Bonham Carter, scarcely  
recovered himself, has lost  
a boy pure, bright & dutiful,  
a boy of great promise, at  
Winchester College. Both  
father & mother were with  
                                him -

They feel it deeply; but *how*  
they feel it is sublime -

    You asked me to write down  
for you the events of our  
Lord's last 24 hours of life  
here, as far as the hours  
can be ascertained -

    And I now do so -  
God bless you & give you  
        a happy Easter  
        ever yours & *hers*  
                        F.N.

Please thank Dr. Morey  
    for his welcome note  
You are now on the General  
Committee of the International  
Congress of Hygiene &c

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 thank 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 ~~filed~~ 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 ~~filed~~ 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 Tones 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.

Bhownaggee (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. Bhownaggree 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 Bhownaggree* 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. Bhownaggree'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. Bhownaggee's*

Mr. Dadabhai Narrajee men more

Mr. Bhownaggee of the

rank &  
intelligence

(Ed.20.,8.91)

of Cabinet

Ministers here  
mutatis mutandis

{with necessary  
changes}

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. Bhownaggee 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}

*Periodicals to be ordered by Mr.*

Sunday at Home

John Webb

Leisure Hour

if approved

Punch

Cottager &amp; Artisan or

Good Words

"chamber's

miscellany" {not F.N.'s hand}

Quiver

British Workman

~~Draughts~~

are these to {not F.N.'s hand}

Graphics

be ordered every  
month?

---

The game of draughts

to be ordered -

if approved

Bill to be sent  
to F.N. at 10*Young England*

South St

I forget what this is

about the bill? {not F.N.'s hand}

chiefly for boys

*not very good* {not F.N.'s hand} English

Illustrated

Magazine {not F.N.'s hand}

|

|

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. Miln 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. / 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 Ellen 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"

II (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 Rowses" -

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.



Burn Dec 1/91  
Dearest Margt. I have done your behest  
about to Sir H. on about the Claydons cottages -  
Without quoting Dr. De'Ath, I dwelt particularly  
1. on water-supply 2. - drains & privies  
3. cottages wanting repairs -  
I did not dare to say 'New cottages' -  
I reminded Sir H. that he had kindly  
said to me 'he wished to see Dr. D. Would  
he like Dr. D. to report to him?' He was  
most kind - said with his usual quickness

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~~ 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 Quainton 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 -

*Quainton* - 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  
Quainton & 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.

9014/23 signed letter, 1f, pencil

10 S St                                      May 21/92

Dearest blessed Margaret

When the child is asked  
which food it will have:  
it says Both -

So I say.        both  
*both* "to-day" & when you "come  
"again" may I see your  
face?

"En route" may it mean  
3.15 or 3.30?

ever your loving

Aunt Florence

9014/24 signed letter, 2ff, pencil

10 South St                                      May 25/92

Dearest blessed Margaret

I am so very thankful that  
the affair of Steeple Claydon  
is to be settled so, we hope,  
satisfactorily - [Otherwise it  
never would have been  
settled at all -] & so grateful  
to you for telling me.

== It is a good omen.

I had made a vow that I  
would shut myself up this  
week in order to do some  
work. But who should  
turn up yesterday but - Miss  
Brooke Hunt & Miss  
Calder? Miss Hunt I did not

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, ~~Dr~~ 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 -                      Shall I expect her  
about 4?

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 -                      Shall I expect her  
about 4?

9014/47 initialed note, 1f, pencil

Sept. 30

{archivist: '92}

Dearest Margt

*Naughty Sir Harry*

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, & ~~o~~ 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

Lamport'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 ex~~ 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 -

[end 3:436]

Thanks for lovely flowers  
 - splendid Chrysanthemums -  
 How fares Mr. Higham?  
 God bless you - and He  
 does bless you -  
 your loving sister  
 F. Nightingale

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

that comforts her. He is  
 a man whom you so to  
 say *made*: You took him  
 as page boy, because he  
 was Temperance's brother.  
 And he rose to be House  
 Steward to Lord Lansdowne  
 in Canada, & was with him  
 during his 5 years in Canada  
 and Ld. L. would have  
 taken him to India. then  
 he went with Sir — Loch  
 to Africa. And now he  
 is House Steward to Lord  
 Fitzwilliam - And nothing  
 else would have induced  
 Temperance to let the  
 boy go so far from her -  
 God bless you - Your affecte

F.N.

[not FN hand written upside down]

Stevensn	Virginibus Puerisque	{to the maidens & the boys}
eight in one Vol		
across the Plain		
Essex		

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

9014/116 signed letter, 2ff, pencil

10 S. St                      Aug 5/93

Oh how I wish, dearest  
    blessed Margaret, that I  
*could* come to dear Sir Harry  
just when you so kindly  
ask me - But I am now  
immersed in business -  
some which has been  
put off owing to my long  
illness - some which † is  
pressing on its own footing  
    And I have so little  
strength -

    Then Shore has had  
a renewed attack in the  
I. of Wight where he  
went only for one week  
with his wife - He is come

back to Embley which  
they cannot yet let -  
And I have almost  
promised to go to them  
for a short time before  
they let it - but  
*that* cannot be for *me*  
for, at soonest, two or  
three weeks -

    I am so sorry I  
cannot fix a day, as  
you so kindly ask me,  
*yet* to come to Claydon -  
But you will see how  
it is - Thank you  
a thousand times -

    Aunt Florence's love  
to all the dear people.

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 fli 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  
Rhoscelyn 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 tyesterday -

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.

[end 10:714]  
[1:514]

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

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 in  
the *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.

[end 10:378]

May I ask to be believed

your faithful servant

Florence Nightingale

The Earl of Kimberley

&c    &c    &c

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 -

[1:609]

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.

[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 &amp; 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 Quanton'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 Borderers' 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 overflowing  
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 -

How good it is of you  
to make me so welcome -  
My Doctor with a grin  
appointed himself on  
Saturday evening to see  
me - That was to prevent  
my asking whether I  
might go to Claydon  
on Saturday -  
I shall miss dear Lettice  
which I am so sorry  
for - my best love to her  
    A Dieu Sweet Saint  
        ever your loving  
            F.N.

9014/175 signed letter, 2ff, pencil

13 Oct/94

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

Dearest blessed Margaret  
    How very very kind it  
is of you to write & do  
so much for the poor  
Wiggins' -  
    Lizzie is gone to-day  
via Aylesbury - which  
lands her close to  
Botolph Claydon - does  
it not? On the whole  
it seemed better that  
she should go - especially  
as the account of the  
good Sister was rather

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  $\frac{1}{4}$  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 254/94

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 Bellenden

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  
"Hospls " 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