

The Hollies. No. 5th/85.

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My dear Husband

It was a great relief to me to find, by your last letter, that you had got away to Darjeeling for a time. I hope the rest and freshness will quite cure the pain in your head. It is one of the things which I have set before myself, that I will one day see Darjeeling and the views again. I believe it will come to pass. It is fortunate that you can stay at Bellapahar, for there you are out of the way of the rush of people. You do not say where you intend to turn your steps when you leave Calcutta. I hope you will not run any risk in going to Burmah. Things seem very unquiet there. I shall be glad when you are safely home. I see that the Mubair has reached Jessore. I am writing to Mr Carter today, to say I hope he and Mrs Carter will be able to pay us a visit. I wrote a day or two ago, to the proprietor of the Hotel at Newborough, to make arrangements for Noel's going there.

during the scholarship examination which takes place on the second and third of December. I have heard from him this evening that he can accommodate us. If mamma continues as she is now, I shall let Mil. to come here, and I shall take Noel to the Seaman myself, as I know that much will depend upon his leaving proper meals, and being kept in cheerful spirits whilst the strain is upon him. If he fails, he fails, but I shall not be from lack of anything which I can do to secure his success. He should have to go to Marlborough on the Tuesday, and return on the Friday. It will be an expensive affair, five or six pounds, but still he gets a ~~nominative~~ scholarship or not, the nomination is a gain. I must, whilst I am there, make arrangements with one of the house-masters, for his board when he enters the school next year. You said something about Mr. Quinton writing to the master where his son is, but I have heard no more of it. It is rather a responsibility and a worry to have all these things to arrange for ourselves.

All the children are very well now. Filian has begun her lessons with Miss Andrus in preparation for the Oxford Senior. Mabel is working well, too, with her notes of the lectures which she and Filian attend once a week. Mil. goes with them. Noel had a treat last night in seeing the "Milkado". Mr. Douglas took ten of the boys who had passed a good mid-term examination. I went to see Mr. Douglas the other day, about the scholarship &c. He says Noel's fault is want of method and order in his house habits. His school work is very good. Sam. Padle is getting into training under Mr. Douglas, as he will be able to conquer his defects before he goes amongst such a number of boys. He seems thoroughly happy and contented at school. You will find him much grown and developed in mind and body when you come home. I see by the papers that the besta, which brings two of the cases, is part matter. We are waiting their arrival with great interest. I have promised the children that if Noel gets a scholarship, they shall each have a present

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out of these ~~cases~~ in favour of the
event; something which they can
keep all their lives. The boys of his
form too, must have a treat, but we
will not count our chickens before
they are hatched. Aunt Jane has been
here for a week and leaves on Wednes-
day. She sits a good deal in Mamma's
room, and that sets me at liberty to
be more about in the house. I have
been arranging in my own mind
what we shall do when you come, for I
do not mean Mamma's condition
to interfere at all with your comfort,
and it seems now as if she might be
for some months in her present state,
though we must always be ready for a
change. I shall take our good Esther
entirely as nurse, let her be day and
night with Mamma, except one night
or two when I will be in the room
myself. I shall then have an extra
young servant domestics, and all
will go on as usual. We shall occupy
the long bedroom, where we were before.
William and Isabel will have the guest
room and any visitors will be accom-
modated in Noel's room, which I will
have re-papered. He will only be here in
the holidays. I think all will go smoothly
enough in that way. Mamma sends love to you.
Love from
Louisa