

Berlin, Potsdamerstr. 39
Nov. 15th 03

My dear Nelly

AL/3819

It was pleasant
to hear from you ⁱⁿ propos of your
protégée M. Teslog, who by the bye
has not yet called on me. Of course
I am ready to help her as much as I
can, but I am afraid my introduction
will only avail her for private schools.
For Public schools she must have an intro-
duction from some official English
authority, Schoolboard or Education
Department. However I will say how
far any personal introduction can be

of service with Professor Bychgram,
the head of the "Königliche August-
Schule" here, which she ought to
see by all means as it is the best
prototype of a German "Höhere Mäd-
chenschule" with "Lehrerinnen-
Seminar and Gymnasial". Please
attend.

As you do not give me Fr. Petzsch's
address, I shall have to wait for her
call anyhow, before I can do any
thing for her.

I am very glad to have good news from

you and can give you the same from
us. She is extremely busy with her
jewellery. I do not know whether I
told you that she has taken up that
branch of artistic handicraft and is
achieving success in it. Just now she
is getting several clasps and bracelets
ready for the Artists' Xmas-Exhibition,
besides some orders she had for Xmas-
gifts, and then she is to send in specimens
for the Exhibition at St. Louis.

As usual we expect my sister Gaily
at Xmas to stay with us till March,
and her son Eusebius to spend just

the holidays at our house. The Victoria-
Lyceum is going on just as usual, viz.
satisfactorily, though we are having
fewer courses of lecture before Xmas than
customary. That however is not our chief
work, nor the serious part of it. After
Xmas Miss Borchardt (whom you may
remember from Cambridge) is going to
lecture on English Men of Letters and
Novelists of the last fifty years at the
Victoria-Lyceum. She is really very clever,
but has grown monstrously fat, so that
I am afraid, there must be some serious
organic degeneration at the bottom of it.

Am 3819
cont

Nov 15 03

You wind up your letter by saying
, perhaps we shall meet next year
but I am afraid there is very little
chance for it if you adhere to your
plan of going out to South Africa.
Otherwise it would be pleasant to
arrange a meeting, let us say in Switzer-
land. I am going to make a change
in my holiday-arrangements, i. e.
remove them over into autumn,
so that I may have the chance of staying
away till September at least, and

could in that case travel in August
instead of July. I always hope to
induce my sister Ellen to come with
me, but until now all my endeavours
in that respect have been baffled by
her conviction that she cannot possibly
leave her house and garden for a couple
of weeks in summer.

It is so long that I have seen and
spoken to any of my English friends,
that I feel quite a longing to meet
them again. Writing is but a sorry

make-shift, especially with such
lazy correspondents as you are and
as I am becoming. And yet there
is such a number of things I should
like to talk about with you.

I suppose there will hardly be
another exchange of letters between
us before Xmas, so I may as well
wish you a pleasant holiday-time
now. There may be sad recollections
about your family-gathering this
year, but with so many young and

prosperous people it can never be
quite melancholy.

She begs to send her love to you,
to do I, and kind remembrances
to your sisters.

Yours affably
Alice von Cotta.

P.S.

Should you have a vacancy for a good
German servant at Easter? My
aunt's excellent Bavarian servant wants
to try her fortunes in England.