

AL/1878

22. Nov. 1883.

Bedford College.

10.30. P.M.

My dear dear Father

Your letter reached me about 7.0 this evening when I was in bed with the threatening of a sick headache. The headache is gone but I have been in bed all the evening, & so have had long leisure to think over it all. I write to-night because I have a lot to do in the morning, & I want to let you know as soon as possible that after receiving your note this morning, I quite decided that in view of the time that I find I should have to spend, as well as the rest of the objections I would give up the acting.

At 4.0 o'clock for I had no opportunity

before, I told this to Lucy Morland (who is about the leader in the business) & one or two of the other girls, & the unanimity with which they received the announcement was not flattering to my vanity, but shows that they are not vexed in any way by my withdrawal.

Thank you very very much for your letter; I had no right to expect one at all so soon when I wrote so late. I will most certainly do

as you wish about dancing. Doubtless nearly all you say is true. I have ~~found~~ seen there few days that I am wretchedly weak, but you have shown it me far more clearly. I hardly dare say I will try to amend for

I have said that so often, but I see how lots of every day things in which my weakness shows itself & in which I must try to be stronger ~~can train myself in being stronger.~~

One or two of the things you say are a little too hard on me, I think, but the only one I ~~can~~ protest against is

that you say "I'll be so keen on these things". Indeed I don't think I am keen on them; only I wanted to tell you all at once all about it. Of course I think something about it as I said, but "keen on them" is far too strong an expression.

As far as immediate results go, that ~~fatal~~ letter of mine need never have been written, but I'm not altogether sorry ~~it was~~ since it has shown me what a wretched creature I am.

Again thanks to you & Mother for the letters & the trouble you have taken.

Your very loving daughter  
Helen.