

Lindenhans, Freiburg
July 30th 78.

My dear Kelly

AL 3680

Your mother
left this morning, but I only gave
her a big lump of my love, not
any letter for you because I was
afraid it might get too stale
before it reached you through
her.

Thank you very much for yours
which I received with feelings
of genuine pleasure and gratitude
since it had escaped my memory,
that you owed me one, and
that I might have resented
your silence if I had thought
of it. However you see I
have a humble and grateful
disposition, quite ready to
forget your misdeeds and

acknowledge your statements.
I have thought of you a good
deal all this while, and heard
about you too. I felt sure of
your sympathy for with my
good luck in getting the appoint-
ment at Bedford College. It
is so much better than anything
I could have expected, both in
point of salary and social position
besides the great advantage
of being able to live in London
near my friends! I cannot
tell as yet how I shall like
the work, because the nature
and province of my functions
has not yet been very clearly

defined. You know it is quite
a newly created post, that is
partly to grow out of the
individuality and capacity of
the person entrusted with it.
The proposed reforms in the college
are in connexion with it, since
there is to be a preparatory
department to fit in with
the more advanced studies of
the professional department;
and the management of this
preparatory part will be en-
trusted to the care of the
"Mistress of Studies".
You see the position is going
to be a very responsible and
difficult one, especially

with regard to its relation to
the Professors — since, if the
two parts are to be well connected
the Mistress of Studies must have
an eye to both, form the
missing link in a way,
and yet take care not to
overreach. I was afraid to
undertake the post in fact,
thinking it would require
much more experience and
learning than I possess, but
the Committee members have
been very encouraging and are
of opinion that the task
requires qualities distinct
from learning and experience

for which they are kind enough
to give me credit. I hope I
may not disappoint them.
The only thing I can do towards
fitting myself as well as possible
for my new duties, is to get
some information about the
mechanism of German schools
and then to study the working
of a good English High-
school for some time.

I have begged Miss Clough to
ask Miss Buss whether she
will let me come to her, and
in case she agrees, I shall
go back to London in the be-
ginning of September for that
purpose. — If I do eventually

get into my work, that is, if
I feel equal to doing it; ^{well} I know
I shall like it very much
better than mere teaching,
such as I should have had to
do at an ordinary school.
Then the position is an excep-
tionally good one for a beginner
like myself, ~~because~~ since I am
to rank as a colleague with
the Professors at Bedford College.
It will be very funny to be
essentially a colleague instead
of a rival of Mr. Wholstenholme,
and to have access to his lectures
as a critic — for as he has
expressly wished to teach

German in the Preparatory Depart-
ment also, he will come under
my jurisdiction there!
However I intend to be particu-
larly careful not to interfere
with him, if I can help it,
since he might easily feel
suspicious of me as a rival.
I feel quite abounded by the
amount of reading you have
managed to combine with
your household duties, or
pinning Enclaspia! You
must have risen with the
sun and burnt the midnight
oil to boot. Fanny, that
I have not done any instanc-
tive or amusing book since

I come home, except by way of
reading to papa, who, I am sorry
to say, is in very poor health.
I was doubly glad my appoint-
ment at B. College gave him
so much pleasure - it seemed
quite to revive him for some
days. The worst part of it is,
that I have to leave home again
so soon, but perhaps I shall be
able to go over at Home.

But now to your own business
my dear Nelly. I have not
the slightest doubt that you
will do splendidly at Home
in spite of these last weeks' inter-
ruptions, and then it seems to

I am writing to my father
 about the matter of your
 publication for you, arising
 from what I hear that there
 is a great chance of your being
 not only allowed, but encouraged
 to accept the honors offered to
 you and become a member of
 the Cambridge Science
 Society. I am so
 glad to imagine your delight and
 joy in sitting in this post
 cannot help wishing you
 that you should accept it, though
 my mind about it will be
 just the other way. Yet after
 all it is right that everybody
 should get the work that he
 can do best. I will
 send you a letter by
 mail, but I trust you will
 be able to get it for them

~~For~~ ^{by} having undertaken a special mission before in a right spirit I always predicted you would be a distinguished woman some day, and I begin to feel very pleased and proud of my powers of divination!

I am sure you enjoyed your trip to Cambridge and that you had very satisfactory results in bullying Mr. Balfour.

But I admired your courage in using that word and setting about the task so coolly.

I had such nice kind letters from Miss Clough and the

Kennedys - also from poor old Tovey! But on the whole I am glad not to go back to Cambridge. I felt tired of the life rather last time, and did not like the general tone much. I think I really want more intense work than I had there and intercourse with a few more mature minds though the juvenile nonsense has its great charms at times. However I am ungrateful enough to get tired even of the best jokes when they are served up every day - they seem no better than mutton at last - and gymnastic performances can only

be thoroughly appreciated by
 commissaries or participators, I
 believe. Still I shall never for-
 get what a happy year I spent
 here in 74.

I suppose your anger about my
 want of discretion has quite eva-
 porated now, if it ever existed —
 so I will not take the trouble
 to try and exculpate myself; but
 I must humbly beg your pardon
 for the horrible scrawl I am
 treating you to. It is late at
 night and I very tired with
 a days' dress making; therefore
 you must excuse me. The kids
 her love to you, and so does mamma.
 By the bye, the former has a great