

Will you enclose this scrap to Cousin Joseph
when you write.

Allahabad. May 26th /77.

5548

My dear Mamma

I only posted my
last letter yesterday, but this week the
mail changes from Saturday to Wed-
nesday, on account of the monsoons,
so that I have not much time. Would
you send Aunt Susan 10/- and ask her
to order and post to me "Hours of
Thought on Sacred things" by James
Martineau. Longmans - 7/6. I think
the 2/6 will be enough for postage. There
is no hurry so if you like to read it
before sending it, you can do so. I am
asking C. Smith to send £5 out of my
nest interest, to you, for anything I
may want. John is so pleased with
that other book of Martineau's that I
want him to have this. We are now
reading Ruskin's Lectures on Art de-
livered at Exeter in 170. I had not heard
of it before, and we enjoy it very much.
I am also reading for the first time The
Water Babies. How full of rich humour
it is. We are having a little run of dinners
again now. Four gentlemen come tonight
and three tomorrow, and four more on
Wednesday. I do not trouble myself much,
however in the way of preparation. On
Monday we are going to have some people

to lawn tennis as well. We generally manage
to get a quiet game two or three times a
week and it does John a great deal of
good, being the only real exercise he
takes. I think it would be such a capi-
tal game for Mr. Harcourt and the
boys. Mr. Harrison is going to the hills
for his holidays, we shall miss him very
much. The three houses round ours
are all empty now. There is no one near
us except Mrs. Dally, the church clerk's
wife. This makes our garden perfectly
private, there being no road past it, but
that which leads to Mr. Harrison's house,
but we feel rather lonely sometimes.
However if we did want help at any time
Mr. and Mrs. Dally are on the spot. Sir
Robert and Lady Stuart have decided
to go to beyond for their holiday. I wish
we could get away for two months, but
I see no chance of it. If anything con-
nected with these wars should prevent
me from coming home next year, I
should go away to the hills. I would
not risk a third hot matter in the
plains, for it certainly does take away
one's strength very much. The heat is
very severe now, more so I think than
at any time last year though it has not
been so continued. The mosquitoes
now are a perfect worry to us, I think
the coolies must have pulled the

pushtals badly last night, for this morning
I counted fifty six bites on my left
arm only. You may imagine I did
not get much sleep, and I am feeling
very used up today in consequence.
I hope it will be settled for Robert to go to
Cambridge or Oxford for his medical
studies. It will be such an advantage
to him all through life, and he will
be able now to take in so much more
than he could have done a few years ago.
Is it settled yet what Norfolk is to do. He
will be quite a young man when I come
home again. You never see an English
boy or girl here. They go away at four or
five, and come back ready grown up.
I forgot to say in my letter yesterday
that I received the paper with Miss
DeLison's letter, and the lecture by Dr.
Carpenter. I hope when you get home
you found the house all right and
comfortable, ready to settle down in for
the summer. I daresay Anne would
be quite proud of being in command,
and getting it ready. Do you ever hear
of Miss Masterman? Is she still living,
I have not heard about her for a long
time. In the Freeman a fortnight ago,
I saw the death of Mrs. Dushy, 81. The
widow of Mr. Dushy of Kington. She died
at a place called Kewington. What
a treat it would be to see an English

village and country lanes and hedge-
sides again. It seems to be years and
years ago now since I was surrounded
by anything else but bungalows and
compounds and palm trees.

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87 Wilfred Street
London S.W.1.

Kansamma has been very busy again
making preserves. He has made some
of the Jumpy men mango, which is very
like apple, only with a stronger acid, and
he has been doing some mangoes too
cut in half, for dessert. I must bring
some of his chutney when I come home.
I daresay it will keep any length of
time. They use mango or tamarind
instead of apple, and different Indian
spices. What stores of condiments Mrs
Horsden has, to be sure. She says Mr
husband is very particular about his
food and will never have the same
dish served to him more than once a
week. You can imagine what a variety
the Kansamma must produce when
four dishes are always sent up for break-
fast, as many for tiffin, and double as
many for dinner. Her storeroom is just
like an Italian warehouseman's shop,
and she keeps an exact account of every-
thing that is put in or taken out of it. I
feel quite small to think of the scribbling
way I do my housekeeping, and yet I am
more particular than most people here. John
sends his love to you and Mary, Catherine and I mine
and I love
20th Oct Eliza