

Brankensen bei Alfeld ^aL. Sept. 4th 07.

My dear Kelly,

AL/3835

Yesterday I received your Illustrated Paper with all the lovely photographs of Rowdean School, including the swimming-bath, though alas without you as the 'Leaping Figure.' Thank you very much for having caused it to be sent to me. It was doubly welcome here in the country, where every new impression from the outer world causes an agreeable sensation. Besides it gave just the last necessary impulse to my letter, which I had intended to write as soon as I had returned from one journey and settled into quiet home-life.

I started from Berlin at the end of July and met my sister Götz at Cassel, from where we proceeded to Lago Maggiore to stay at a delightful old Italian inn (Aseona) for about a week. We had beautiful weather, which by the bye accompanied us on all our journey, only a little

Leo had at last for the place, though surprised by
delicious baths in the lake. Then we went round
the lake over to Ravens and thence by the Simpson
to Llan, from where we proceeded to Arolle, which
I think you know from going there in 1901.

I found the situation a little too high for my
lungs, but my sister enjoyed it intensely, going
to several glaciers. The air and the surroundings
certainly were very fine and we had changed on
a very nice hotel. Whom should I meet
there but a former Newnham-student, Miss
Creech, ~~from~~ whom I had heard as one of the
distinguished pioneers, when first I came to
Cambridge. She also knew of me through
the Kennedys, who are old friends of hers, and
so we soon became quite sociable, which
in fact seems to be her habitual attitude to her
surroundings. It certainly was interesting to me
to exchange notes with her on several points
and she lent me some amusing books while I
had to stay at home, not being able to climb

round about the place to the different points
de one. She however, in spite of her size and
weight, appears to be an excellent walker and
almost indefatigable. Can you tell me exactly
what her standing is in the educational world
or rather that of her school at Birmingham?
I came back here on the 26th of August
finding everybody disgusted with the kind of
summer they had in Germany. Hardly a day
without rain all over the country, and so it
goes on, making it almost impossible to gather
the harvest in.

I hope you enjoy your stay in Wales, in spite
of the dampness which is said to be the habitual
character of the place, and perhaps this year,
for a change, you get a dry time there.

I was glad to understand from your last letter
that the German pupil has proved satisfactory,
from which I hear, a friend of hers has applied
to be also received as a pupil of your school,
and then she will probably feel more at home.

1858

We are at present a very quiet party at the
"Herrenhaus", meaning us sisters three and
Ellert favourite son from Cassel on his
summer leave. But during our journey the
two families of Moritz and Leo Gaily have been
disporting themselves here and after our return
we still had some of them staying here another
fortnight. I shall return to Berlin on the
16th of September in order to get everything
ready for the winter campaign. It will be
a very lonely time, I'm remaining with my
sister Gaily and the lectures and classes not be-
ginning before the middle of October. You will
therefore convey a blessing on me if you make
use of the remainder of your vacation - leisure
to write me a long letter. But please do not
forget to put stamps on it. I had to pay the
double ~~postage~~ ^{amount} for the one before yours last
owing to penny postage. That is, I think, all
my news for the present, so, with love from my
sisters and myself, good-bye to you. Yours affectionally
Alex. Cotta.

1858