

AL/3860

Berlin April 23^d 12

May Labuysersstr. 26.

My dear Kelly,

According to your letter from Grasse you will be nearly at home again by this time, so that my letter is sure to reach you there soon after your arrival. It was indeed a surprise to hear from you so far south, and I am glad your charitable errand led to a pleasant holiday in the end. Else by the way remarks, that you generally combine these two things in looking after your people abroad. But I understand that poor little Dorothy must indeed be an anxiety. Her age, or rather her youth, represents a critical phase for the disease in question; however your brother Stephen re,

covered thoroughly under the same circumstances, so there may be hope of recovery for her. I am sorry too for ~~your~~ ^{Mr} ~~Wells~~ ^{Reman} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~for~~ ^{for} ~~the~~ ^{the} Dolly's separation from her friend. All the other troubles of course were but of a transitory nature and you will quite have got over them by this time. It is not so with me, for though my general health is decidedly better, my foot continues to be a great hindrance, and I am not at all sure that it will not be a permanent one. There is no bone broken, but all the muscles strained and the whole position of the foot impaired. I am under massage treatment and have been ordered to wear a peculiar kind of sole

in my shoes, constructed in order to remedy or relaxation of the outer side, but it remains to see whether that will not turn out a greater hindrance than help. Of course any kind of forcing it out of the question for me, so that I shall have to accustom myself very quickly at Brunswick all the summer, where I ~~shall~~ propose to go immediately before Whitsuntide. As it happens, this glut of things suits the state of my purse equally well, for these several complaints and their cures have rather drained it, together with the cost of the removal and the rent of my new quarters. I shall try to improve my income next year by con-

vesting part of my capital into a life-rent
at a high percentage, and she can do the same
for her part after my death. The law has given
me some anxiety lately, as I had to remove
her to a "Clinic" for a slight operation,
quite innocuous in itself, but rather pulling
her down, owing to its cause and its conse-
quences. She is nearly right now, however,
and will quite regain her former state of
health, I hope, in the course of the summer.
She goes to Bunkersen at the beginning of
next month, and there we expect to have
several visits from relations and friends.
Since you wrote to me we have had two re-
markable incidents, the solar eclipse and the

foundering of the Titanic, which latter has excited a great sensation over here as well as in England and America. The predominant feeling of those not immediately touched by personal losses is one of indignation at the recklessness of all the proceedings. One good thing that will result from it is, that the safety of ship-passengers will be better cared for in future.

The other adventure in the ~~sub~~ celestial regions has been a very pleasant excitement, & ^{under the guidance of} ~~under the guidance of~~ ^{leading my own} ~~leading my own~~ ^{in fact} ~~in fact~~ for the sky was perfectly clear and one could watch the gradual passing of the moon -

shadows of over the disk of the sun with perfect
accuracy. What rendered it particularly im-
pressive, was the strange effect of the curious
duskiness and the dark shadows accompanying
ing the phenomenon. The birds in the Tiergarten
chattered about anxiously, uttering notes of
alarm and then, as it culminated, were re-
duced to utter silence. I fancy you must
have been in Paris or thereabouts at the time
in that case will have witnessed a total eclipse,
while here it was but a central one, leaving
a small crescent of the sun uncovered.
We are enjoying the loveliest spring weather
of late and the vegetation is much advanced
this year, the Tiergarten almost quite green.

I have come to the end of my paper and almost my subject makes no good-bye to you and love from yours affectionately
Edwin Ditcher