

5566  
Allahabad. Jan 12<sup>th</sup> /77.  
(probably 78 - not and 1876  
new year)

My dear Mamma

I did not begin my letter last Sunday, and the consequence is that I am driven to the last day with it, as I have had no time all the week. I have not been so busy, however, as to forget the anniversary which was just gone. Last Sunday I spent the day in writing a little account of the Native children's treat, for Mrs. Knoss to send to the magazine of which Mrs. Knoss's father is Editor. We had another children's treat last Thursday, for the United Sunday schools, they had a little service in the church, then tea in a tent, and then a magic lantern to wind up the evening. Mrs. Knoss and I were all day arranging things, cutting up cake &c. The last treat, a tea which Lady Cooper is giving to our city children, comes off in about a fortnight, and when that and the Bishop's visit are over, I shall say my prayers and be thankful. The beautiful cold weather

lasts still, we have now then a shower  
of rain, which is always followed  
by a great fall in the temperature.  
The alterations in the house are at  
last really begun. The south side, where  
the additions are to be made, is now  
unroofed. I have had to divide the  
dressing room by a curtain, as we had  
it at first, one half is kept tidy for  
cellars by the other end we have to use  
for taking our meals in and stowing  
away the furniture. It is a pity, all  
this should have come just at the  
time of the Bishop's coming, when we  
shall have two gentlemen staying  
with us in tents, but we are so thankful  
to have the prospect of a little  
extra comfort in the hot weather, that  
we are ready to go through any amount  
of discomfort now. They say it will be  
done by the 20th of March, but I don't  
think it will. We shall then have a  
beautiful long airy dining room  
and a good bedroom beyond it  
for guests. The side of the house which  
we occupy ourselves, is left quite  
untouched. I wonder how long we  
shall stay in this place, to benefit

by the alterations. I think if John gets  
through four years in such a cold  
noted place, he may reasonably apply  
for a bill of divorce. I shall be dead then  
we know for certain about Cashmere,  
and I hope too, we shall get a holiday  
together for a reasonable time this  
next hot weather. The land north is be-  
ginning to tell upon John. He has  
felt it more this cold weather than  
he did last, and the longer we stay,  
the more it thickens round us.  
He had a nice little trip to Jellison  
leaving on Saturday and getting  
back on Wednesday night. It did  
him a great deal of good, but there  
has been a great prof of water since, to  
make up for it. When this conference  
is over, we shall get a little rest. We  
have to go to the ground "at home" this  
month, and I am busy now getting  
a deep done up for the first of them. I  
am determined I will not spend  
a farthing over it, and I think I shall  
manage to make a decent turn out.  
I have got some valuable hints from  
Mr. Peterson, who has brought out a

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quantity of very pretty deep caps, bought  
 from Louisa. It seems now that caps  
 are worn for the fullest deep, ~~etc~~ is a very  
 convenient arrangement for me. I  
 have made up quite a supply of them  
 out of materials I had already by me.  
 We are losing some of our nicest people  
 out of the station just now. Mrs and Mrs  
 Kempton leave in March. He is Director  
 of Public Instruction. His sister's husband  
 is a Mr Judge, who has a school at Melvern  
 Wells. His father is a clergyman of Castle  
 Bromwich. I have seen a great deal of  
 Mrs Kempton lately, as they live in the  
 next house to us. It is a great enjoy-  
 ment to go in and see her collection  
 of things for taking home, especially as  
 I hope to do the same thing myself, on  
 a small scale, before long. Mrs Land-  
 rose has promised to get me some  
 Deller pottery. You can only get it at Deller's.  
 It is really very pretty and quaint looking.  
 Mrs Hall is getting me another tea set of  
 that pretty Ayrshire black ware, and  
 a lady in Ledwith is getting me some  
 little China jars, which are to be had for  
 almost nothing in the native bazaar  
 there. I shall leave this now until  
 your letter comes. It should be here this evening