

Feb. 16th 1861.

W. H. Saturday

My dear Emily

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I intended writing to you directly after the evening at Blandford Sq^{re}. but there always seems something more urgent than letters to be done, so that they get put off till the leisure, which is always some way off.

I enjoyed Mr. Davies' party very much; seeing Mr. Maurice in some kind of private life was very pleasant. He & Mr. Jurney talked together for some time & I stood as near as I could & took in the sight & sounds to my heart's content.

There was nothing particularly interesting talked about I think; the party

was too large for that, but perhaps it is the sociable, less earnest side one chiefly wishes to see after being familiar with the other in books & sermons. Mr. Hughes was talking a great deal about the Bible Corps & its officers. The Macdonalds were there. I talked to Mrs. Macdonald for some time & thought her very pleasant. She seems so good & unpretentious. She asked me if I intended going to Mr. Maurice's Bible class. It is a new class, to be held at his own house, every Tuesday afternoon. He had sent her a card of invitation that day. She thinks

it would be easy for me to get an invitation if I wished to go. What do you think about it? It would be very nice, both for the teaching & the personal acquaintance, but perhaps it is more right to keep to my special work, as there is enough of it to claim all the time, and also as I am able to go to Vere St. I feel more & more engrossed in this work, and there is so much change in it that other rest is not wanted. On the other hand, one feels as if everything would be aided by studying with Mr. Maurice. I was introduced to Lady Grompton

and saw the rest of the family. Miss
Crompton is very attractive looking, I
think. You will hear of Miss Proctor's
illness from Jane, I was sorry to
see how worn out she looked yesterday
after going there. Sometimes it seems
as if the constant struggle against illness
on Jane's part could not succeed much
longer; though I believe she has a great
force of resistance always helping her
to keep up. I enjoyed seeing Miss Blythe
for a few minutes yesterday. Tomie &
I called on Mrs. Drewry on Thursday. Tomie
was very much struck with her pleasant
originality. She thinks her as original.

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as her daughters & much more
attractive. They were very nice and I
thought some would feel this through
their external oddities, but she does
not seem to have done so very much.
We have also engaged calls with
the Nuns this week. I should like
for both our sakes, that some & James
should know all the people I am
most intimate with, & the Nuns are
so cordial to me simply from my work
that I think they must be nice.

With love

Ever yours

E. Barrett