

5672
See Hollis. May 7th/85

My dear Husband,

I am able to send you a little more of a letter this time, though we are still much pressed and very anxious. I think I never sent through such a period of inopence as when I wrote last week. On the Saturday previous to that Thursday Mamma suddenly lost her power of speech, viz, Dr. Kenner said, to the living way of a small vessel in the brain. Herle came again the following day, he said it was probably the beginning of the end. Then the question was, what was to be done about Lillian, as it was arranged for Mil. to take her to Paris on the Tuesday. It would be best, he thought, to leave everything for the present, as Mamma might perhaps say any time. So I wrote to Will Liddon, saying we were obliged to put off the going. Then on Wednesday, Mamma had rallied a little, so then we determined that Mil. should start with her on Thursday, as it seemed very important for her

to leave the time in Paris just now, whilst
her knowledge of French is good. So I re-
packed her trunk, which had been un-
packed, and they started at once on
Thursday afternoon. In the evening
Mamma seemed so much feebler
that I wondered if I could telegraph
to get them back again, but I never
left on giving her digitalis and brandy
and she rallied again. I had a most
onionous time all Friday and
Saturday, for at one time I did not
at all think Mr. would see Mamma
again alive. She got home at seven
on Saturday, and I think the satis-
faction of seeing her helped Mamma
to rally again. Dr. Haines said she be-
came last Tuesday, that she seemed
better again. She has not recovered her
speech, but is quite conscious and
comfortable. We never leave her for
five minutes, day nor night, and
she has something very low down,
so you may imagine that Mr. and
I, who are her sole nurses, have enough
to do, but we have managed very
well so far. I should be thankful for

Mamma's sets, if she were at rest, but
she is so good and patient. Most of the
time I sit by her, holding her hand in
mine. She seems to like that, feeling
it is a means of communication
between us. I think the end cannot
be far off now; indeed it is a wonder it
has delayed so long. You will be glad to
know that Mr. brought home a very
good account of Mlle Tallon, the home,
situation, manner of living &c and
William writes saying she is quite
comfortable, and is sure she will be
happy, as they are all so kind. It is
possible Nora Joseph may be there for a
month before William leaves.
Mabel is using her endeavours to be
useful, and I have no doubt it will
be a good thing for her to be alone for
a time. She seems to have a taste for
cooking and I find she is able to
make the pastry for us, which will
be a great help now that Esther, who has
taken the cook's place, has to wait on
Mamma. Mr. and I take turns
in attending on Mamma during
the night, and Esther sits with her

whilst we take our needs. Ilian will
be very pleased to have your long
letter. I shall send it to her today.
They say we are to have peace, after all.
I hope it is a well founded peace. As
there is a good hope of your coming
home soon, you will begin to think
about getting up your things. Bring
some all tools, tablecloths, knives and
forks, please, for they will be very useful.
It is vexation about the pottery being
walked off with. I wish you would
bring Esther a dress of that brown melidea,
I think they call it so. She is a good
girl, and is truly valuable to us.
Our sister and niece are to come and
stay with us for a week, by and by,
which will be a great treat. Noel is
busy at school, working well and
cheerfully. He all send our love.
Here is a letter from Ilian, and
I will enclose hers to me, if there is
room. I cannot write more. I'm
tired. But I have really
nothing to complain of, in the
matter of health. Yours lovingly
E. J.