

5587  
The Hollies. Jan 28<sup>th</sup> / 81.

My dear Husband.

Firstly, I have received the 2<sup>nd</sup> parcel of the £5 notes all right from Mrs Robinson. The Bank shares are now sold. £500 is to be invested in a steam navigation company, which Clarence Smith recommends as safe and respectable, the remainder in North Eastern Railway shares. The company are now issuing new ones which the present shareholders will be able to take up at a considerable advantage and as mamma will have two allotted to her which she cannot buy up, Mr Smith says we cannot do better than take them. I think all the money will then be securely invested. Bernard Dawson, who witnessed my signature to the transfer of the shares, says there has lately been a failure in the iron trade and that the Sheffield Bank is one of the chief creditors. Clarence Smith says the bank stands well, but there is always a feeling of risk with unlimited liability companies, and we have to think done well to be clear of it. I feel much more comfortable now that the money is out. That I should be able to invest when I have finished this book will just meet up for the loss of the bank.



high rate of interest. I am working away  
now and shall finish all being well in  
March. I am very happy in my work,  
and have no feeling of being overbur-  
dened by it. My life is lived entirely now  
in my own home, and I cannot tell you  
the content and happiness in all have  
together, grandmother, mother, children  
and servants. It is truly a happy family,  
only we want you to make it perfect.  
The children have started to school again  
now and Maamma is quite well again,  
so that I have time for my writing. I enjoy  
this story very much. There is a good  
amount of thought in it.

I hope you are feeling more encouraged  
about your work. You know I do not attach  
quite so much importance as you do  
to the number of communicants, but  
I do think that the rush and hurry of  
society life in Allahabad is a most  
stouring thing for the better part of the  
people's nature. If one could but live  
a simple, natural life there, with leisure  
to come home to oneself and to God,  
that a good thing it would be. Let  
you are falling a little out of the social  
running, so far as dinners and  
dances go, is I am sure no affliction

to you, and will do you no harm. Now  
I do rejoice in my freedom from fashion-  
able life here. I can think my own thoughts  
and follow my own leadings in this quiet  
home life. You will sit a few quiet evenings  
now, and time to think. I am glad you  
have given Mr & Mrs Dally such a kind  
some present. We have now made a good  
return to them, so far as outward things  
go. For their true kindness and good will,  
one does not think of such returns.

I hope our good horses get well done to.  
Now well done for buter long served us.  
I hope you will see that they <sup>are</sup> good masters  
when you leave Allahabad. Had rather  
they were shot, than think that they had  
fallen into hands that would use them  
cruelly. I have written to Macmillan  
to send Mr Boddy a copy of Phoebe, and  
I have sent the photograph to Mr Tyson.  
I bought an album the other day, to  
hold cabinet photographs only. Our  
number of them had outrun our ac-  
commodation. We are having the  
sharpest frost I ever remembered, thick  
snow on the ground, pipe frozen &c  
But we all keep very well and com-  
fortable through it. I am sure you



would not suffer half so much as you  
think in an English winter, for there  
is so much comfort in the loose arrange-  
ments. He came last to bring down all the  
apples out of your den, to store them in  
the kitchen, because of the frost. They are  
very valuable ones, apples being so scarce.  
I send a good quantity to Henry Cottaine  
and our friends round about. I wish  
you could have some too, but your trees  
will surely yield by God's leave five  
times when you do come home. The chil-  
dren and I are reading Roman  
history in the evenings now. Noel has a  
very intelligent interest in it. I have set  
them to work now to write their own lives,  
everything that they can remember,  
from their earliest years. I have given each  
one a little book to write it in, and I  
shall take care of them when they are done.  
What a treasure these books will be to them  
in after years. Noel begins his - "I was  
three little children, that is just what we  
were, when we came to England." A promis-  
ing commencement is it not? They  
write very regularly in their pocketbook.  
That is a good habit for them. I hope they  
will have earned ten half-sovereigns  
by the end of the year.



Thursday. Your letter not in  
 yet. I see by the papers that the mail  
 has had a break down, so that may  
 account for it. I hope Mr Know  
 will arrive safely. What weather  
 for him to come home to, but the  
 frost does seem to be breaking  
 up now. He all feels very well,  
 in spite of the damp. Mr Body  
 never acknowledged the first  
 book I sent to him, nor has he  
 this last. I have not heard  
 from Mr Dymond either about  
 the photographs which I sent  
 on Monday. The children  
 have been sending some of  
 their money for tea free  
 dinners to poor children in  
 London. They get 3d a week each  
 now. See you lovingly &c.