

Ailsbury Arms 5695  
Marlboro' Decr 12/85

My dear Husband,

Here we are at  
Marlboro'. He arrived at half  
past two, leaving left Malvern Park  
at ten. After more than a week of  
uninterrupted rain and mist  
we awoke this morning to unclouded  
sunshine, and it has been a  
cloudless day. Which will take us a  
good amount of Noel's success. He starts  
his examination tomorrow  
morning at half past nine. On  
Wednesday, no, Thursday, they begin  
at nine. I wrote a month ago, to  
engage rooms here, but I shall have  
to sleep out. Noel has a bedroom with  
another boy. All is pleasant and  
comfortable. We sit in the coffee room.  
There are several clergyman and  
a lady here, and talking is going on,  
as you must see an incoherent  
letter. I did not let you half told of  
our delight over the cases. Those  
three pieces of silk and the ruffs  
are very delightful. I like best full

a large dark coloured vase of por-  
celaine, roughly painted with birds.  
It is such a thoroughly Eastern  
thing. The red pottery came in very  
poor condition, but I presume to say  
the black is almost all smashed.  
I can however mend it up again  
with care. Some of it is very pretty,  
and if I place it in a suitable light  
the damage will not show much. I  
am writing to Mrs. Dalby by this  
mail, to thank her, but I really am  
not sure whether or not it is a  
gift. I like that bamboo spill holder  
very much. I wish you could see  
how effective it looks on the shelves  
over the sideboard. That sideboard  
is an addition to the dining room  
since you were here. It is a quaint  
piece of old oak upon which I have  
had brass fitting put, and it is  
quite in harmony with the rest of  
the furniture. That lovely brass vase  
from Benares stands on it, upon  
the carved drappery, with goblets  
and plates on each side. It is  
quite an imposing sight in your

entrance to the dining room. I had your  
letter this morning, before I started.  
I hope you will have a good time.  
Poor Miss Theobald has not made  
much of a fight. Do get all the different  
sorts of stamps you can, for the children,  
both bill and postage stamps.  
Lilian is as much interested in the  
stamp collection as Noel. She and  
Mabel have their last history lecture  
today, and next week comes the  
examination upon the course.  
Mabel has really worked very well.  
You should have seen Noel's delight  
over his room. It really is a little  
gem.

Thursday. We have now been going on  
with the examination for a day and  
a half. It closes this afternoon, and  
tomorrow morning, at 8.10. we leave  
for home. I do not know whether the  
result will be out by the time we  
leave. I shall be glad to be met at  
home, for it is exciting and caref-  
ing here. So much depends on  
keeping Noel punctual, and seeing

that he does not take what disagrees  
with him. The first night I had to  
have a bed out of the house. It was  
quite comfortable, but I did not  
have one single five minutes' sleep  
the whole night. There was a loud  
clock just outside my door and I  
heard it strike every hour, from  
nine to seven. Then I got up. Last  
night I was able to be in the house.  
He had to be up at six, to give the  
boys coffee and see them off to  
the school at seven. Mr. Clapham  
and I have been over the school  
this morning. Noel will go, in  
any case next September. I have  
seen the Bursar, with whom I  
have corresponded before. He is  
a pleasant man. He went to  
the Chapel prayers last night. I  
am glad to have seen the place  
where Noel's school life will be  
passed. I will give you more for I  
have rather a headache, and no  
wonder. Next letter you will know  
the result. What I would  
Ever your loving  
G. 8217