

AL/2326

Sydney

April 18/62

Please to
return to Miss
Nightingale
9 Chestnut Hill
W.

My Dear Miss Nightingale

Sorrows, trials, ~~and~~ bereavement, affliction and family ~~trials~~ prevented my writing to you on the success of your great work, and the general appreciation you met with; influence thus gained extremely valuable and becomes a source of strength for future usefulness to yourself, as well as stimulating to others - We have long been familiar with the services of the Society, but your stepping forward when you did, was doing an amount of good they could not accomplish by themselves; always labouring against strong prejudices, this Cross you were not called upon to bear; your position was independent and consequently above pecuniary remark or suspicion

I have received this letter from Mrs Charles Matthews & think it very interesting to me. I have not time to answer it but I think it very interesting to me. I have not time to answer it but I think it very interesting to me. I have not time to answer it but I think it very interesting to me.

your friends were powerful. British
sympathy was with you; British approval
gave you power which you nobly used,
heeding not the prejudices that follow
woman's work, thus proving that where there is
an earnest desire to do good, God permits
and supports those who are kind and good
and anxious to enter his school and
watch over his children, and as He is
just in all his favors and impartial
in bestowing Honor. He does not
select from any particular Church or
creed his servants - when under
great suffering I sat hours without
speaking, I used then often to think of
you and the great good you were
allowed to do; my own views and
thoughts on some points may perhaps
not have intruded on others; a lover
of peace and hating war, viewing
it as murderous work and a disgrace
to civilized nations, the many
being sacrificed for the few. yet I
have a strong and resolute assurance
that if the hand should oppress

unjustly myself or others. I could,
pardon me for saying it, if men
ran scarce ~~at~~ ~~in~~ in the cause
of right, fight against might. I
would consider my own life my soul
gloriously expended in protecting
the privileges England now enjoys.
I feel that I am something like
Franklin's Quakers who strenuously
worked for peace, but if freedom
was to be trampled upon, they were
ready to fight, so if a war is to be,
our great blessings struck at and
periled, I think you ~~assure~~ ^{might} discover
in your Hospital an old friend
who had joined the Regiment of
Volunteer Broad Brims, - honestly
telling you my own feelings and
thoughts your work appeared to me
one of extreme and great national
importance, - you have brought to
the Cottage and Palace a knowledge
of the details and horrors of war -
you have led mothers to think of

England's slaughtered sons - Fathers
to ponder, and sisters to consider -
By ~~the~~ you have raised the mantle
of Glory, and made known that
suffering, is suffering, and to die is
death; The Lambs that cover the
dead can no longer conceal the
terrible responsibilities of war; you
have done more than the Peace
Society could do; you have aroused
a spirit of enquiry, and by the
sympathy that you have thus excited,
the moralizing and salutary power of
Public Opinion will follow the train
of Royalty, and act as a straight
jacket on designing Politicians and
ambitious Monarchs; Sovereigns are
being educated now not by the Court
they live in, or the Statesmen that
surround them, or the fixed opinions
of by gone days, but by the deep reflecting
and powerful moral mind of the people.
The self respect, the self control of ~~the~~
England has been lately beautifully
manifested, and the growing religious
power

power of her people will increase until national differences and disputes will be settled without the national slaughter of our brave Countrymen, - The vast opening for the development of the persevering industry of our people which is extending in every direction, must, by increasing the value of the Labourer, make war more expensive and difficult; No one has perhaps thought more and watched more intently the value of labour than myself, and I feel certain when the sea-tariff restrictions are cut, and the political trammels and clap taxes that are stumbling blocks in the way of a man's getting 'a fair days wage for a fair days work' are removed, that better paying employment for capital and labour will be found, and the thriving and happy conditions of the masses would be such that soldiers would not be obtainable at less than five shillings a day; - when honest hard working men get paid, as they ought to be, war will then become too expensive; our large money holders would see they could get a higher and safer interest for their money

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by uniting with Labour, as I have before
remarked, I do believe a better Peace
agent could not be found than by developing
the industry and energy of our people -
Capital in the hands of a few is a very
active and
dangerous war agent, and every new field
opened for British industry helps to
destroy this monopoly -

What a sad loss we sustained in
the death of our esteemed friend
Lord Herbert Lee, what a good and
great man he was - his death is a
great loss to the nation I have read with
gratified feelings and satisfaction every article
penned in his praise, I love to follow him in
thought from the day I knew him, there was
such a hearty earnestness in his manner
such a willingness to help - he was ambitious,
it ~~was~~ true, but his ambition was to be
usefully employed, - working and toiling
for others he forgot himself - there was no
silly vanity in him - no petty feeling - he was
as eager to carry out the views of others as
his own when he saw the object was good; I
well remember one wet cold morning seeing
Lord Ashley and Sidney Herbert, - they were
returning from a visit of charitable inquiry
at Whitechapel; it was with them none
O'Clock Lord - who was in company
with a Gentleman, who was speaking to

one, was the first to observe them, and
looking with something between pity and
contempt, said to his friend, "look at those
two mendacity tickets"; thus it always is, that
the best of men escape not the censure of some
cold hearted, narrow minded calculators
of the world; such men as Lord Ashley &
Sidney Herbert are never in life fully
appreciated - how such men are
miserable when they die; circumstances
having given me great opportunities
of knowing them, I often thought, that
would, when they died, be much miserable
by our rich and powerful aristocracy,
they have done so much - laboured so
hard to establish a link of sympathy
between the poor and the rich by their
generosity and active benevolence; they
tempered and subdued the prejudices of
the poor against the rich; they were the
two best educated men I knew; they
sought knowledge where knowledge is
to be found; they were well stored with
the knowledge such men gain from
receiving, what is called a good
education, but to make that
knowledge useful to others they read
men; to judge rightly of measures they sought
truthful and practical knowledge; no
man was too poor for them to visit, no
house too wretched for them to enter

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Cellars and attics - mines and Ships were all
sought out and examined; ~~with~~ long journeys were
nothing; I do believe they walked more and went
farther to try and alleviate the sorrows of others
than they ever did for any personal pleasure;
Sydney Herbert's manners were as you know
of the most winning character; his benevolent
spirit made him in manners a Gentleman.
I was with him one morning on business,
and he proffered me, although he had a
pressing and important engagement ~~that~~
~~to~~ ^{to} go that morning to see a ship, I
was anxious to secure; when the door was
opened to go out; a poor miserable looking
sickly woman handed him a letter - he
had not a moment - in his hurry to be
off he had dropped his glove - the instant
he saw that poor creature, and taking
the letter, without any sign of impatience
or hurry - or one word about engagement,
he courteously handed her a chair,
and in the most gentle and collected
tone, said, "how fortunate I ~~am~~ feel me
gone out" - he went to a table at the
far end of the ~~study~~ room - read the
letter - wrote a check - put it in
a blank envelope - told her ^{To Bank -} to take
it - and rushing up stairs, brought his
faithful and sooty helper to listen
to the wail of woe - calling the
same morning on the Lady Pembroke
I found him there paying her a hurried

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visit, and as his mother rose to
accompany him to the door - his fond
parting - her rumpled collar - his joyful look
as he went down stairs, ~~not~~ turning back
for one more look - it was a beautiful sight;
Lady Pembroke saw her loving son's conduct
was appreciated, and with a full heart -
a Mother's pride - a Mother's joy - she said,
"Sydney is such a comfort to me, he is always
thoughtful - he is so good"; his domestic
affections were beautifully strong, and his
own happiness seemed to make him
very anxious for the happiness of others. -
there was a tenderness in his sympathy
that made him quickly feel for the
trials and sorrows of others, some of

his letters to me are really beautiful.
On one occasion when speaking ~~more~~ of
an unfortunate class, he said, he thought one
great preventive was neglected by Parents and
Guardians, that if young Gentlemen had a true
knowledge of the misery of that class, it would
on generous minds at least have a restraining
effect, and that as a Parent he should try to
give them a knowledge of the woe and misery
of such unfortunates; I should like to
know how his fond wife bears her great
Loss - tell me all about her children.
I remember I thought their eldest
daughter very delicate - I trust your
health is improving, and that I shall not
weary you with this long letter, but now
that I have sat down to write to you,

10) ~~So~~ many things press on my ^{mind} that I wish
to say - at any rate, your bundle of Hand
letters now before me will no longer reproach
me with my silence -

Great sympathy has been shown here toward
our Beloved Queen. The demonstration on
the Death of the Prince Consort was respectful
and general; ^{on} the night the news arrived here
I was passing a Low House where there is night
dancing; on a piece of paper posted on the window
was written, "No Dancing to night the Prince
Consort is dead" it struck me as a very
prompt and ~~touching~~ touching compliment -
like paying a tribute to virtue; in our back
streets I noticed children playing, many having
black ribbon tied on their sleeves, girls going
to church and school with Black Gloves, -
sevent girls with Black collars the day after
the news, Bonnets trimmed with Black Gey
or Lavender were general amongst a class
who promptly acted on their own feelings, -
I even noticed Gardeners going and - Hawkers
going about the streets with their carts had
on their hats a piece of crape - these little
things show a deep feeling for the Queen a
strong attachment, a concern about her
that must make her feel she reigns
through the Love of her People, and that
distance does not destroy the Love of
Monarchy - It was only by the Mail
previous to the Prince Consort's death that
I received a letter from a friend of

mine, Sir Daniel Cooper, giving me a very
very interesting account of Wellington
College, and the great desire the Prince
Consort had in pushing on the ^{work} ~~work~~ and
the earnest anxiety he manifested in
making it a first class College - what
a National ~~man~~ loss the death of such
a man is - I feel a very deep interest
in the education of this Gentleman's
family, as I expect he and his family
will all return here - you may remember
he was knighted for his munificent donation
to the Crimean Fund, with the promise
of £1000 annually while the war lasted, nearly
all the Gentlemen who have gathered
wealth in this Country, and all except
him who have received Honors from her
Majesty live in England, the intention
was, ~~to~~ I believe, to attach them to this
Country; instead of this it has attracted them
to England, ~~and~~ rich Squatters can manage
to draw their incomes from this Country by
the aid of agency, but the property of Sir Daniel
Cooper is of a very different character
being principally city property; ^{the}
Waterloo Estate, ^{near Sydney} gives him an income
of Eight thousand a year; this fine
estate was left him by his Uncle,
a colonial merchant, well known
in

