

Thorney Abbey, Canterbury<sup>shire</sup>,  
June 19<sup>th</sup> 1863 -

Friday

My dear Mamma, 5739

We got here after a comfortable journey yesterday at 1.15 and found Mr & Mrs Burk waiting for us and very pleased to see us back. The perfect quiet and country freshness is a great contrast to the stirring London life of the last ten days. Both in their ways are very pleasant -

Yesterday morning I went to see after this Mr Henderson, and ascertained from the shops they dealt at, that they had left the place nine months ago to go into the country, one person thought they had paid all their debts and had lived in a very good house, I should think £40 rent at least, so they ought to have paid their bill. I should be afraid now there will be some difficulty in tracing them, and £0 is too much to be lost -

Mrs Burck had a letter yesterday from Aunt Susan, in which she speaks of seeing her in York, and persuading her to return with her to the Bermingham, so it seems she is coming as well as Mr Day. Mrs Burck said too that Mrs Clapham, she thought, was coming too, so we shall be as full as we can hold. I think Thomas Wilson and Atkinson had better postpone their visit till the end of the holidays, or we shall not know what to do.

I suppose we shall come home on Wednesday if we can get off, but Mrs Burck says Thursday would be more convenient to her. I should like to get back as soon as we can, so as to have the holidays before us. The country visit seems to have done Chie a world of good, I suppose added to Mrs Burck's kindness, and Mr Blackett's affair seems to have completed the

good work. She will have some spirit to work again now. Mr Blackett said she should not be too long getting another book out, as the public had been <sup>so far</sup> considerably impressed by this. He said he had no doubt in a short time she would have a position equal to Miss Mulock's. When we get home, and our company out of the way, she ought to have her time regularly to herself, and not to do her writing by bits in spare time. It is of as much importance now as the school itself, and ought to have room made for it. A few pounds in extra help or good servants or ready made clothes would be wisely spent now. I suppose Mr Blackett would clear at least £250 by "St Olaves," and would pay her handsomely for her next book. They both seemed to take unusual pains to please us. I suppose they knew it was worth their while to get a good hold of her

Mr Blackett said about fifty  
Mrs. were offered to them for  
one that they accepted. East Lynne  
was sent them, but they did not ap-  
prove it - That day at Calcutta  
was indeed one to be remembered.  
Everything was perfect, and yet  
we felt it was our true element  
in which we were moving, far  
more our own than that which  
we are dragged down by in York.  
We were right when for as many  
years we felt such an unconquer-  
able repugnance to the staid want  
air we had to breathe among the peo-  
ple there. After these ten wasted  
years of the best part of our life,  
now that our youth is dead,  
we shall begin to live - Mr  
& Mrs Blackett I know were trying  
to puzzle out what our real life  
was, but I do not think they made  
anything out. I dare say Mr B. will  
be coming through York before long  
and he wants to come and see us -  
then we shall have to mail  
Give our love to Papa. You will be  
glad when these next few days are  
over, all here send love & ones  
Mabel O. Sabers

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