

Timberly - Lindenbans  
Febr. 24. 78.



AL/3677

My dear Kelly

I do actually feel quite overwhelmed  
and with gratitude for your  
kindness in taking so much  
trouble for me and writing me  
such nice, decent and long letters,  
when you must be so hard up  
for time. But providence will  
reward you, and make you come  
out with a good reward at least  
in the end, which will be a  
great triumph, viz. the shortness  
of the time and the sacrifices  
to domestic duties and friendly  
offices. - I have just been reading  
Homer's Odysses and cannot

think of you otherwise just now  
than as *die Finnyer Frau*,  
and that is the way in which we  
talk of you here. She ~~takes~~ <sup>has</sup> a sort  
of clandestine admiration for you,  
and likes to hear about you, though  
she will never commit herself to  
approve of the higher education of  
women. But she can never hear  
enough about Nonham and the  
select band of distinguished female  
students there, however what she  
approves most of, is the fun and  
the illegality of some of our  
rather your proceedings. In  
Miss Pincann she takes a particu-  
larly tender interest from the fact

of her having sat in her winter  
sleeve, with her legs turned outside  
Facts of humour like these, recon-  
cile her to the serious aims of  
the establishment partly.  
She has had some fun herself this  
winter, partly skating, and partly  
dancing; and now she has joined  
a quadrille costume that is  
practising twice a week for a  
ball on the 14<sup>th</sup> of March —  
officers and young ladies, which  
she enjoys very much, especially  
as it seemed doubtful for a  
while whether she might indulge  
herself with it, on account of  
papa's health. Fortunately he is  
getting on satisfactorily on the

whole, though his left hand is still  
inoperable, in spite of its giving  
symptoms of reviving under the electric  
currents.

Thank you very much for the detailed  
account of the chemical experiment;  
we had not met with one, before <sup>and</sup>  
mamma and I <sup>and I too, for that matter</sup> were ~~acquainted~~  
with your scientific terms.

The description of the vivisection  
operation was also very delightful  
from the tone of genuine rapture  
that ran through it. It sent us into  
fits of laughter, that you regret  
so touchingly my missing the heat  
of seeing this beautiful specimen!  
O Penelopeia, what a Doctor of a  
scholar you are! I can so well  
imagine your beaming face and



*Handwritten signature or name.*

*Vertical handwritten text on the left side of the page, possibly a postscript or a separate note.*

...when you would have  
"viva voce"  
...idea, how refreshing  
...with such inputs  
...where people  
...officers or other  
...sometimes I give  
...wholesome little shower-bath  
...independent satire, which she  
...does not resent and enjoys on the  
...  
...see much of your brother  
...society of his own  
...to that of ours;  
...sometimes shaking  
...to make an impact  
...of him for you, such  
...appears on the ice and in

the ball-room - Now that my father  
is getting better, I have made some  
time for myself, and do generally get  
the mornings for my own work -  
reading and writing Italian. I translate  
Bacon's Essays into Italian words, and  
read the classic authors. I am also  
going to have lessons from an Italian  
so as to feel <sup>quite</sup> sure about my pronun-  
ciation, though of course the latter  
does not come into play at the exa-  
mination. But I should like to  
know my subject as perfectly as  
possible for my own satisfaction.  
On the other hand I shall not worry  
myself about the Anglo-Saxons, which  
- at this distance - I begin to think

a bit of a humbug. Nobody speaks  
it, nobody cares about it really,  
and the people who wrote and thought  
in it more than 8 hundred years  
ago, really were so exceedingly simple  
that they can hardly expect to be  
read. Apart from the examina-  
tion - test, the subject therefore is  
really of very little importance.  
I shall send you a little book,  
that I found exceedingly amusing,  
and that I think you will be  
able to appreciate too. I am only  
sorry I cannot read it out aloud  
to you before a select but admi-  
ring audience. I hope you will  
perform the office for Miss Rich-  
mond and Miss Peters, who will, I

fancy, be able to enjoy the fun too.  
Thank you so much for lending me  
your bon, and packing it too, dear  
Nelly! You ~~was~~ I expect it by to-  
morrow, since I got the announcement  
of it yesterday, and shall write to  
Miss Peters very soon after.

By the bye how do you like her and  
get on with her. I suppose though  
you have not time to see much of her.  
I gave 5<sup>s</sup> for Miss Piddan for the  
Nat. Literature she got for me in London  
and which cost only 4<sup>s</sup>. She forgot to  
give me back the 1<sup>s</sup>, but now I think  
she will have spent more for the other  
book she got instead. Miss Peters will  
however settle with her, if she has not  
yet done so. Good-bye now, dear; I