

March 6th 1861.

22 Manchester Sq.

Wednesday

Dear Emily

AL) 2915

Thanks for your letter.

I have been waiting to send Miss Blackwell's letter, but it is still at Aldeburgh. It is a very delightful letter, both as to style & substance. If you would like to show it to any one, (Miss Fadden or Miss Richardson, ^{or Miss} would ^{see it} in any case) you are quite free to do so. My Father was very much pleased with it, & wanted to show it to Mr. O.H. Smith, but this would not do as Miss Blackwell mentions Mrs. Ludlow's illness and her fears of its probable continuance. Will you

~~for~~ forgive all slips of pen to night? I am very tired and cant keep from them. Miss B's advice has modified my more immediate plans a little. I mean to try for entrance into the Dissecting Room, as soon as I am ready to work there, & postpone raising the question of admittance perhaps for another year. Mr. Nunn has the control of the Dissecting Room, & I hope it will be possible to get there; this will give me ample work for the whole summer, with other side studies, & at the next winter session I shall try for admittance to the chemical lectures & laboratory, which will be

The small end of the wedge for the lectures generally. This plan will take more time than is usually spent over the educational course, but Mr. Platt says that this is always too short for working students; it is fixed for the benefit of the majority, who won't work at all except under the urgent pressure of impending examinations. I am very much struck with the extraordinary ignorance of some of the students; one, in his 2nd year, did not know the healthy heart sound the other day. I felt so tempted to patronize him & explain them. I am studying nearly the whole day

now, as the lessons with W. Plastritt
are pausing, in consequence of the floor
of his room being up & my refusal to
read Tacitus standing on a plank.
I am glad to have some extra time
to grind away at anatomy. I want
to be ready for the D. B. by May, when
the summer session will begin. The
students are away during April, &
I shall visit the wards in the afternoon
then & make up to the Physicians.
The Museum Reading Room is such a
jolly place, the air is so pleasantly
warm & fresh, & I am sure that has
a great effect on one's brains. I go there
almost every day for Quain & Tacitus.
What do you think of the system

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of reading books with translations?
I am trying it now, and at present
I think I remember the new words
as well ^{as} enter into the construction
of the language more clearly than,
when puzzling over it with dictionary
only. Of course I always use a dictionary,
finding every new word & testing every
new use of an old one; the only sus-
-picious thing is, that the translation
system is a very pleasant one, saving
no end of time & worry, and perhaps
handing to the vice of rapidity ~~of~~ in
me. But I cannot see what good
is derived from the time lost in
puzzlement, especially as with only
going to Miss Drewry once a fortnight

the obscure passages get forgotten before
I see her. Jane has been in to night,
very tired at first, but rested by
watching some with the children.
Dorothea is growing very quickly, &
we have flourishing accounts of Adam.
Did I tell you he went to Aldeburgh
the day Dorothea was christened.
Some of the other children will go after
Easter, & stay there while this house
is painted. My Mother got very much
better before she went home, she
stayed a week longer than she
intended when you saw her, & was
no end better for the change. I am sorry

Punch has pitched into your poor
Bishop again this week, as you report
him to be penitent. I ~~can~~ can very
well imagine Mr. Fox writing faithful
letters to him. I do hear a good deal
about Essays & Reviews from Mr.
Pacitti; I am afraid the fact of
their being considered heretical com-
mends them to him, & to many. He
praises their spirit very much, and
it is hard to define clearly what one
thinks of in unfettered Enquiry,
or how it can be united to the reverence
which one feels to be all important
in seeking for truth. I am glad to hear

a good account of Miss Snowdon.

Tomie has just come in to wage
my going to bed. So good night.

Yours affectionately

E. Barrett