

1860.

AL 12893

June 26.



Alderburgh

Tuesday

My dear Emily.

Thanks for the letters received this morning. I have had two hours' talk with my mother about them this morning, and the result is, on the whole, sufficiently encouraging. They naturally feel very anxious about allowing me to enter upon such an untried life, and they are greatly puzzled as to the motive which can influence me. I cannot make them understand how impossible it would be for me to live at home in happy idleness all my life. When I had said a good deal about this, my mother said that

I should go abroad as a governess, or take Miss Edgeworth's place with our own children, but of course, I protested against these suggestions, on several grounds.

Mother said she could not feel that it would be right to decide upon so important a matter without taking the advice of friends; but she added immediately, that it was of no use to consult people who were even more unable to judge than they are themselves.

I suggested that perhaps Father could call on Dr. Farr and ask him any questions he may feel most anxious

about, and this seemed to meet the case, for my mother has mentioned it once or twice since. I wanted them to let me go to London early to-morrow, but I am afraid they won't be able to make up their minds to this. I should like to come up at once, & then return with my father on Tuesday, he will go up on Monday. If I cannot do this, however, I shall go with him & return a few days later. I thought both Mr. Gurney's note & Dr. Farr's very kind. I doubt at all doubt about my parents giving their consent in the end, one great thing in my favour, is that Mother has evidently a sense of the

responsibility they would incur by refusing
any attention to such a wish as this, and
at my age. I put this as forcibly as I
could to her, and I found at once that
the same thought had struck her. I believe
they feel very nervous about either refusing
or sanctioning it, but as long as I am
very decided there is a good hope of their
coming round. It came out the other day,
that Mr. Octavius Smith had spoken well
of Miss Blackwell, but ill of the movement
to my father last year. Our having several
visitors now makes it more difficult for
me to get a decision, or to go to London.
I will write to morrow if I can leave on
Thursday. I do not know your new
address. My love to Jane. Yours affectionately
S. Garrett