

The Hollies.

Oct. 1st / 85.

My dear Husband,

Your letter came very early this week, on Sunday morning, the day before Noel's birthday. It was well it came on that day, for he had a quiet time for reading his own portion. He was not able to leave a holiday, but he did his preparation at home on his birthday evening, and he had an rather array for supper, and afterwards he sat up for half an hour alone with me, as it is probably the last birthday he will spend at home for some years. In your letter to him you mention football. I thought you were in favour of his playing it, for when some three years ago, I wrote to you about my objection to it, you said he must play some game, so after that I let him join for it. He seems very

seems to do him good, and Dr. Hague,
says that for a boy who is not very
strong, football is better than cricket
as it does not involve standing
about when heated. The exercise is
kept up throughout the summer. But
you will settle it all with him when
you come home. I have had a good
deal of anxiety lately about the
scholarship question. I have not
been able to get a nomination, and
I have just written to the Bursar to
ask if there will be any vacant ones
this year. If there are not, he will
not be able to enter, and that will
be a great disappointment, both to
him and to Mr. Douglas. I shall know
tomorrow or the day after. There are
generally a few nominations not
disposed of by their owners, and so
placed at the disposal of the Council.
I hope he may be able to get one of these.
He is much better in health now.
He has been for some time. That
visit to Alford seemed to set him up.
He goes to school tomorrow week and

I am very busy getting all his clothes
into order. William becomes a help to me
now, in these matters. It is a great relief
to know that the pain in your head is
better. I hope you will soon take a
trip to Darjeeling would do you good.
I hope by this time you have been able
to test it, and then you will soon
have done with Calcutta. You say
nothing more about the Archdeacon
business. I think you did wisely
in declining that. You need rest
now, more than additional labour
and responsibility. The four cases
arrived last Saturday, and Noel
and I had a great business unpacking
them. The Customs had saved us the
trouble of cutting the tin. William and
Mabel were out to tea, and only got
home when all was unpacked. I
paid £4.10 for agency and railway
expenses, which I thought was an
excessive charge. The bearer had
put in a quantity of things, damaged
waterproofs &c which were not worth
the cost of carriage. Noel was delighted
with the gift. He has got all the books
dusted and arranged on new shelves.

in the schoolroom which I think
will henceforth deserve the name of
"study". It is almost lined with books.
About Alethea, you miss the point
of what is my real grievance, namely
that she set my authority aside, and
put hers in the place of it. I solemnly
charged Silian not to speak English
for more than a certain time. Silian
told her aunt this, and her aunt
said she could not allow the restriction
and insisted upon Silian talking
English all the night, which was done.
This, and no other, is the matter which
you sister has to set right with me.
But as I said before, this, as well as
many other things, is now with me
a matter of dull repetition.

The children are very much interested
about the books, many of which will be
useful to them in their lessons. Silian
goes on Saturday with Flora Joseph, to
have a French afternoon with Mrs. Peary.
Maribel seems to be fond of history. She
does not read many story books now.
It will be Silian's turn to write to you
next week. Mamma sends her love to
you. She becomes gradually wester.
Will you address and post the enclosed
to Mrs. Knox. Your loving Gp.