

The Hollies, April 10/85.

My dear Husband,

You see we are at home again, and very thankful I was to get back to the comforts and conveniences of The Hollies, though we enjoyed our little trip very much. I more than ever think in retrospect it would be to have our own little "Noel" somewhere so that one could go away for change without the inevitable bother of being in a strange house with other lodgers. Noel, I think, is all right again, better than he has been for some time, and full of his usual spirits. He has been doing some Latin this morning, and is now making a sketch of some daffodils for the L.P.C. He begins school on the 25th, ten days hence. I think he will be very glad to be in full work again. Mabel does not get rid of her cough, though it disappears in a leisurely manner. She takes time for that, as for all other things. I believe she will be much better for going up regular lessons. She will find plenty of interest and occupation in the house and garden, with a little

travel and music every day. Elian
is now getting ready for Paris. He and
Ni C. start on Monday week. I hope it
will all turn out well. The lady seems to
be just what we could wish. Aletta expects
to be in Paris the second week in May,
with Hilda & Muriel. I hope their stay
will not interfere with Elian's study,
as Madlle Tallon says, everything depends
upon her determining not to speak
a word of English whilst she is there.

As soon as she knows the importance of what
she is doing, and the effort I have had to
make in sending her, to say nothing of
expense. He found Mamma very
nicely when she came back. Everything
had gone on comfortably, and the ser-
vants had done their best. Elian en-
joyed her week at Clevedon. I brought
them all home by way of Bristol, where
we went down by steamer to Lumbland
knowing to see the shipping, and then
to St. Mary, Redcliffe. Met a wonderful
church that is, quite a young cathedral.
I enjoyed the shipping very much.
There were two fine dinner-tables, repasts,

just ready for starting, one began to
slide in most stately fashion down
the river whilst we were there. One board
for Geneva, too, started whilst we were there.
We went on board a Cork steamer, and
went into the cabins, and soon we just lit the
candle I came down in. It quite made
me long to take a voyage in her. Well, my
time may come. Met pamphlet "Best
and Colchester" is deeply interesting. It
seems sorry for people to deck themselves
in purple and fine linen, and fare
sumptuously every day, when such
lovable misery is the outcome of their
wealth. More and more think that the
accumulation of wealth necessitates
misery on the part of those who have to
slave for the money matters. And yet
rich people think it is quite enough
if they give a few hundreds for the relief
of those whom their luxury is debasing.
One thinks of Eurasian vice and misery,
and then wonders what England has really
done for India. Met a store of experience
you are laying up now. It must have been
very interesting to talk to that young
Nasab. If he loves simple living and

just thinking, he is not far from
the Kingdom of Heaven. So the Carter
really coming home? If so, he will come
to see us. But how strange not to visit
until he is married and can bring
his wife. I have written to Henry to send
the books to Mrs. Dodd and Mr. Beresford.
"Mr. Sufferer" has been copied into one of
the American papers. It was sent to me
this morning. I bought the very
loveliest little piece of Sevres ware
pottery at Clevedon, a rare, dark green.
Noel is copying it now with his daf-
fodils. It makes a really artistic
picture. He got one or two nice little
statues at Clevedon, which he will be
able to finish here. Every week we are
hoping to hear the issue of the Bedmole
Gleanings. If you don't start upon your
long haul, you will not need to visit
so many remittances!! You see I look
at it from a business point of view. But
I shall scrape along somehow. Mamma
sends her love to you. I am feeling much
the better for the fortnight's change and
rest. The weather was fine and we
spent as much time as possible out
of doors. Ever your loving E.