

Berlin April 22^d 96.

AL/3779

My dear Kelly

I never see Ed. This is his name. The etymology of my name is expressed by his name.

Many thanks for your nice
very letter with the manifold good and interesting
news. It was very nice of you to think of writing
during your Easter-holidays, but after all
no more than my due, for it was your turn.
You gave me a long account of us at Xmas, for
which I never received an acknowledgement.
Of course you have our very best wishes for your
great undertaking, which, no doubt, will be as
successful as the beginning, since it is but the
natural consequence of it and carried out by
the same persons, viz. with the same good sense
and energy, which are always at the bottom
of what is popularly called "a lucky hand".
Still there is always room for wishing good
luck, since circumstances and accidents have
a certain share even in the best-calculated steps.

Thus far I had proceeded with the British Lylo,
graphic Pen which you gave me some years ago
and which I had left unemployed until now for
want of suitable ink. At last I got some that
I was told would answer, but after all I find
the constant jerking it seems to require far more
trouble than dipping an ordinary pen into
an ordinary inkstand. So please excuse the
incomplete and the half sheet which had to
be torn off in the course of the experiment.
In return for your budget of good news I have
very little to tell of myself. The week quite
an ordinary winter, successful in so far as
the Lyceum was very well attended and my
mother got through without any serious ill-
ness. We were indulged in a little gaiety at
home, asking all those of our friends who
retain any claim to youthfulness to a small
dancing-party, en costume. Most of them

same in most charming and genuine national
 or historic dress and contributed to the enter-
 tainment in one way or another, so that it
 turned out a very pleasant evening. My
 mother remained present to the very last and
 thought it excellent fun. She has left us last
 week to go to Ellen's, where she will join
 her about the middle of May, when I hope
 to get my little friend's Miss Lent's com-
 pany for the remainder of the summer. In
 the holidays I want to go to the Savoy. Alps
 on the French side of the Lake of Geneva with
 her, unless she feels bound by a previous ^{engagement} ~~affair~~.
 I want with Caroline Peters to join the latter
 somewhere on the North German sea-coast,
 in which case I should spend my time
 at Brunsen. But there seems to be very
 little likelihood of Caroline Peters carrying
 out the above-mentioned plan. I suppose you

my father and the evening are drawing to an end. I shall be glad to hear from you.

know she has been in a state of utter de-
pression ever since the death of her mother,
which seems to exclude her from any kind
of activity or responsibility. I fancy it
must be something like your sister Dolly's
complaint.

You do not mention any summer-places
of your own, so I suppose you have not
formed any, and in any case I fear there
is very little chance of our meeting ~~any~~
where, since you have turned out quite a
swell Alpinist, going to the big hotels and
the high places, while I do not venture
on ascents and have accommodated
myself to a comparatively slender purse.

But in case you come over to the continent
at all, I wish you would manage to

presently and please let me know when you go in the summer -

return either by Hannover (Brunshoven)
or Berlin, so as to pay a visit either to
Ellen or to me en route. When I am at
Berlin by myself, I can so well accom-
odate you and should of course enjoy having
you with me very much indeed. You know
my holidays come to an end by the middle
of August, so that you would certainly
find me here by the time of your return,
or at Brunshoven at the time of your
setting out, in case I spend my holidays
there.

Are you aware that the German universities
are at last beginning to open to women?
Several of our Lyceum-students are hearing
lectures there, while they do their regular
work with us, and I hope this is really

*at the Berlin university

the beginning to an acknowledgment of
equal claims in case of equal qualifications.
Since last October I have added what
you would call Divinity to our teachers'
course of studies, and it is turning out to
be a most interesting subject even to me.
In connection with this new line of interest
I have lately taken to reading Robertson,
and am much struck with his peculiar
temper and spirit of investigation. There
is an almost painful hint of earnestness
in your English reformers — they are more
refined than most of our German types, but
they seem to want the robust and healthy
humour which settles the balance spiritual
aims and physical conditions of life. Some-
how a great number of your leading spirits
in education appear to me overstrained. But