

copy W5417/62.26

The Rectory, Ipswich  
Oct 7<sup>th</sup> 1866

My dear Mr. Willmott

I saw by your letter to Charlotte that I was expected to write on Wednesday, but time & my dear boy is a serious difficulty. I don't want callers, & cousins, & young ones, take up all the day, now I have arranged that no one is to disturb me, & I shall try to scribble a letter peacefully. Let me tell you I expect as long an answer as that one you wrote to Charlotte would allow, & pages, & all written by you, it was too bad that you should have been beaten in that

My dear Mr. Willmott  
I saw by your letter to Charlotte that I was expected to write on Wednesday, but time & my dear boy is a serious difficulty. I don't want callers, & cousins, & young ones, take up all the day, now I have arranged that no one is to disturb me, & I shall try to scribble a letter peacefully. Let me tell you I expect as long an answer as that one you wrote to Charlotte would allow, & pages, & all written by you, it was too bad that you should have been beaten in that

Cricket Match, it must have been  
a well watched game,  
would you like to hear a little  
of all about us, Monday eve  
we spent at Carries, & sat  
still, & were a little flat, next  
night we were at Mrs Rabington  
she is teaching the English cousins  
to dance, as Marian does not  
know how, is most anxious to learn  
before she goes back, so we  
dined Gaily by ourselves,  
& enjoyed it all the better,

Last night Carrie had rather  
a spiff shine although it  
was composed of two families  
the Reges, & all of us, Peter, Kate  
included, Mr Holland & Gwynn,  
we dined like fun left at 12  
& thought we had quite liked

on it, last week the girls & Schward  
all walked to the Peak & Falls,  
Miss Jennette brought some two  
Shakes in her Pocket, she  
imagined them dead, but  
on pulling out the Handker-  
chief they were wrapped in,  
to her intense horror, & the  
unutterable fright of every one  
they began briggling over the  
dining room table, they were  
speedily popped into salt & water  
& are now reposing in a bottle  
of Alcobbl, & are going to travel  
home to England. — It is  
nearly impossible to write, Hen-  
ry & the girls are all talking  
& it is perfectly impossible to write  
we are going into Hamilton  
at 1 o'clock & are going to call

on Mr Edward Astler, poor girl  
I am afraid she will repent her  
hasty marriage, for I don't  
know when Edward will be  
able to keep her, he does not  
make half the effort, I should  
have thought he would, & does  
not work a bit more than he  
ever did, & you know that was  
not much, Papa is quite  
amiable about it, & also is  
serene enough to me, but  
has said nothing, I shall let  
the matter drop until New Year  
when a limit for the affair  
will be fixed. We often wish  
you were here, & the girls are  
very anxious to see you.  
Marian sends her cousinly  
love, she is a very jolly girl