

Jan 6th/84

Nothing of special note

Acc. 1443

Dearest Mother,

I was sorry to find from a note by George gave me the benefit of, that you took all our little woes so much to heart; one does not like to conceal these passing events & yet I so completely forgot - them directly they are over that it is quite hard to feel they are harrowing & all long after they are over - I was sorry to have such a hard account to give of myself last week, if my head was so stupid that I fear I may have given you the idea that it was worse than it was - for though I had a couple of really sick days I had not nearly so much pain or trouble with my bosom for the fever helped to dry up the milk & I got some sufficient medicine from the Dr. who prescribed it in a few days - & as I was ill, I took the opportunity of having a few days rest in bed before resuming the thread of daily cares. Poor baby took the reparations very hardly, & lost flesh & temper & sleep - really but now she begins to cheer up - & speaks about into all kinds of mischief though she has learned from her own to throw herself into naughty little tempers, on every small cross to her whims - I never knew so much complaint of sickness, especially

all forms of sore throat & cough
& cold - the latter diseases & others
in Griffin town have all been
flashed wh - has made a general
back-water in all the drainage
I fancy Eric & Edith have colds
also but - but I hope ten or three
days will remove these. Did I
tell you that Dr. Murray has had
quite a sharp attack of dysentery
while Prof. Campbell has lost 2 children
by it - Dear Mrs H. Scott seems very
delicate I met her at lunch very
Mrs Cassels before H. was & thought
her looking very ill, since that
very severe weather has set in
is confined to the house - she is full
of plans for her moving in spring
to her new home in Dr. Leonard's
& has a lady - help - this winter who
is so far a success -

I found that Mrs McCaul
was urging W. to take the superintendent
office of the Sunday school at - sending
H. so wrote him a note privately
confidential telling him my view
of the matter & referring him to
the duty of the newly married to
love each in Dept -
hope that little matter will be
left for W. certainly wants to be
more care than necessary at present

Eric is making great strides
towards manliness - I gave him
a pair of braces for Xmas & we
have arranged to send him to the
gymnasium this week for he
is too much of a dawdle - I want
a little soldierliness put into
him - Mr Barragane was delighted
to get another son of our family
he has had a son little boy there aged
3 years - I don't care about sending

Edith, as she is a child, that w^d over-
exert herself on very slight-persuasion
& she has not been vigorous ever
since that bad throat she had in
summer. I think it must have
been of the nature of Diphtheria, but
she has improved amazingly in
mind & manners - almost never
shows that dreadful temper she
used to have. I really tried so hard
to be good, she is almost-unusually
good for a child.

Mrs. Linn told me to thank
you for a remarkably interesting
letter & she w^d write by & by. - Miss
Barber has gone back to the country
still suffering from the country
shock, weak ankle, it was most
wonderful that she was not killed
on the spot. - Dr. Hunt has just
been involved in a R. R. accident
w^h. gives him a very fine
conversation, no one was killed
but two cars completely smashed
& a good many hurt. - Hunt had
splinter taken out of his cheek &
a piece of glass from a small scalp
wound, while his hair was filled
with broken glass. - Capt. Adams
was badly crushed - of the engineer
with bruises & scratches. - the others escaped.

Mrs. J. H. W. - has been very
miserable, on the rope for the last
fortnight she has to be exceedingly
careful of her diet, & though she
lives by rule she every now & then
has some liver trouble w^h. usually
winds up with severe & prostrating
diarrhoea, difficult to check, & then

she is quite laid up -

Thank you for his last letter from Rome, this week we shall hope to have fuller accounts of it - Mr Denlopf's mother, aunt, sister & her fiancé are spending the winter at Florence at the Hotel ...
forget - he said every one knew it - he was so sorry that he did not know you were going there, he wd so much have liked to have you meet them at Rome - a Mr & Mrs Jones are friends of Mrs Penhallows & come Decent - The Press seem very anxious to know whether they are to be fixtures here or no, & naturally as the house question wd not soon be settled to & they wd like to be in time to entertain in Aug - he has written a paper about it - & looks anxiously for the reply - Mr Gibb wanted me to write some article about Japanese trees for him, & when Mr B said he cd not well do so without referring to books & plants in Boston Mr G - at once gave him a check to go & do so so he is going fr. Thursday till Sunday next - week

Talking of houses I think Mrs Shelton will probably want yours as Mrs Blackadder has a nice promising little daughter & no doubt very advantageous will be required for both - I believe Mrs Beck intends to return to Paris

I met Mrs Keppard yesterday (Saturday rather) she had fallen near to Ellen - I was much concerned as to what manner of woman she might be - always regretting the marriage

you & the delights she enjoyed there, & complaining of all she had received her - Mrs K - wanted to know if she was indeed in the land - I did not say so to her, but I doubted it myself - she certainly has no mind at all at the ash upside down one - In any case you will likely have her fly to your arms whenever you return

The little book enclosed was the N. man present - that Edolite promised papa - she mislaid it - I was much grieved at its being too late for that festive season, but it will come in well with the other hieroglyphs that he will be studying - News from Egypt seems very unsettled I fear you will not manage much of a trip there, I wonder you did not go to Valletta first - but I suppose Egypt might have been worse again by that time, it seems very disappointing that a wish so long cherished by papa should be so checked in the very time we had looked for its fulfilment.

The weather has been bitter here for the last few days - low zero most of the time & windy - Florence feels it, but W. has got her a few caps - wh. she appeared in at a 5^o of ten the other night - for she declared no wrapping & make a very - not warm enough. She ought to have proper under suits - & warm grey - she has warm upper garments & has got drawers to supplement

I advised Canton flannel knickers
but W. said dressers ^{is caught in frames then quite all} so she is all
add & mess, & feels the weight of her
clothing troublesome that is a ^{trifle}
An example of a dutiful wife. I don't
think it wd have occurred to most
women to consult their husbands as
to the sort of leggins they shd wear.

Shall I send you a waistcoat
then as wd it be better to have the
skirt made & sleeves, & have the body
completed here. I wd get a dressmaker
to cut it - of thin cotton. I dare not
not be such a mistake I shd think

I wish you all a very
Happy New Year & that you wd all
gather health & strength in ever
increasing ratios as you go on. I
hope you wd carry your non-
chopping principles into Egypt; I shd
think the bazaars there must be
most tempting if you can manage
the "It is Naught" of the bazaar, that
we hear is so necessary.

I was told a few days ago
that Florence was by far the prettiest
woman at Mrs Balclutha's reception.
I was not there as it came in my
sick week. Jane seems to have
settled down there for the present
wh. will insure you getting in
cooking stove & crockery again in
fair order - wh. will be a mercy!
Love to papa & Eve.

Very affectionately

Anna

Many thanks for the gloves which will
be most useful as well as ornamental

Bernard.