

My animal the Kemp's drove me a Circuit
 of 18 miles around the City, taking in all
 the best points of the outer suburbs. The
 day was beautiful & the trees & grass in their
 fresh early green & as the panorama passed
 on, from little locks & hillsides to ~~scaly~~ ^{scaly} dells
 then a new view of the Queen of Cities, then the
 back ground of the South with its distant
 Mountains all I have seen before sank into
 insignificance - I re-fell in love with
 dear "Auld Reekie": this drive caused my
 enthusiasm & next day I started to explore
 the Princess' Street gardens ascending to the base
 of the Castle, next to the Canton hills where
 we saw a beautiful sunset & lovely sunset
 effect wh: garqued the near hills & sharply
 defined the distant ones against the ^{hazy} sky.
 The following ^{day} ^{morning} I walked the length
 of the Canongate to Holyrood & passed an hour
 examining the historical rooms there - a long
 afternoon at the Exhibition & another at the Botanical
 gardens.

Yesterday I gave the afternoon to pay visits
 & a dinner party in the evening fills up the
 programme. Ella, like all the others, promises ab-
 solute repose at her house with what usual-
 remains to be seen. I have however felt so
 well & strong here that nothing I have done
 has much excited me. I thought I should miss Eva
 so greatly but I have not done so in any unpleasant
 way & she seems to have had a cordial welcome
 at the Hills & to be enjoying her visit there, & I am
 sure I rejoice at her holiday amongst young people
 it is most unfair that she should be tied to me.
 Emma's intended visit to Canada is giving me
 some trouble & pain. Knowing, as I did, that
 she had had an illness that on return I, before
 broaching the subject to her, asked one or two
 of her sisters if they thought it quite safe that
 she should venture so far away from them all - they
 expressing themselves doubtful of the prudence of
 such a step have spoken themselves & since she
 is taking it so to heart & is so dreadfully disappointed
 that I am not only sorry but find myself in a
 great dilemma - having got to have my talk with
 her

4 but as Mrs Kemp thinks decidedly that she ought
not to go I do not think I can assume the responsibility
of all the trouble it ~~will~~ had to. So I must try to be kind
but firm. It is not easy without betraying the confi-
dence of Mr. K. & the others who naturally do not want
to be upbraided to fall upon them — however a little
trouble now is small compared with possible after
results that ~~will~~ come if she accompanied us to
Canada.

I was delighted to hear that Bernard & George were
going to have a trip at the same time & earnestly
hope that weather & all else that may tend to its
being an enjoyable one may prove auspicious.
By the way I had been writing after receiving this please
send my best good wishes. I had gladly write to
E. this week but as usual time fails. I shall be
very glad to when I know that you & the little ones
are safely at Metz again. I know that you here
had a most fatiguing time & after we return
you must have a rest & some little relaxation
we shall have long talks about at home affairs
when papa comes. especially if I succeed in getting him
to go to some quiet corner in Wales or elsewhere for a
few weeks after the land. I had Rankine join us as
he said he ~~will~~ do & he I hope will draw me
closely together as two you know is better company than
three. I do not wish to muck or paper about R. indeed