

Stonleigh. Park Surrey.
July 8th 1886

My dear Anna

Have I replied to
your thoughtful, kind & most
acceptable letter with words of advice?
This constant moving so suddenly
changes the current of our thoughts
that I am hindered, & letters receive
get into the depths of oblivion amongst
a heterogeneous mass of everything, as else
as at this moment one cannot enter
this room because it is being cleared
out. It will not however be overdue should
I thank you a second time for I really
am very grateful for your kindness,
for altho' you tell me how quietly you
accept your much labour I know you

must have passed through an unusual
 amount of toil & so it was all the more
 kind of you joining me to buy a share
 of your time — more so than I can do
 to you today as Mrs. & I are asked to
 go to Liverpool to lunch with Bella &
 who is only there from Beaumaris for
 the day. So go back to the time of leaving
 Mrs. Williamson's, when Mrs. & I parted
 for a time, I may briefly sketch my move-
 ments. I was met at Edinburgh by the
 David Kemp's & got a Cordial welcome
 from them. I was perfectly charmed
 with Edin: wh. was looking its very
 best, & during the week I was there I re-
 visited a number of its interesting points.
 On July 2^d I went to the Dr. K's Villa,
 who has always been my favourite, & was
 most affectionate in his welcome. Her

³ house is a Contrast to the one in
Sergeant St. wh. is large with immense
rooms & high roofs. While my Lodge
is an old fashioned two story Dutch
house but with a charming piece of
ground around - pretty lawn &
old shrubs. This I have had a delightful
ast. living out of doors, as they have just
invented what they called an out-of-doors
room before this front door. After
one week spent with them I went to
Dunbar to spend a long day with Tina
who, let me tell you, is not to accompany
us to Canada as she has lately been ill &
the family agree that it wd be safer for
her to be near them all for the present. Willie
too is engaged & not disposed for travel
at present. They are both much to be regretted
with. Tina feels so lonely & homeless & her en-
gagement has no more prospect of Consummation.

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as he is only a penniless student: a foolish
affair it appears to me, but at present I am
bound to keep it private as part of the family
don't yet know of it. I then proceeded to
Broughton Ferry & found my sister Marion
as active as she was two years ago but look-
ing much older. She has seemed very comfortable -
her son Alfred is prosperous, still unmarried
& they live happily together. As I must there for
only four days I took no trunk but returned
& slept a night at Dry Lodge & left on Tuesday
morn'g for this place. Met Eva at the div. station,
all well, but still wish her colour than I like. This
as before I find a noisy, restless atmosphere.
This afternoon they have a tennis party & we
must hasten over to the President. I do as every
day some time. Papa we hope to see here by
Sat: when we shall talk over how our
time is to be occupied for his holiday. At
present do for as little plans or wishes
are concerned all is blank on my side.

The Craigs seem really glad to see us
 & wish papa to stay for some time, but
 as I have said I await his decision.
 # Rankine's willingness to go with us to some
 quiet nook will greatly influence both
 papa & myself, if he still abides by what
 he said to me in London.

I quite rejoice to hear of Bernard & George
 having a holiday? together. & of Will having
 had even a little Cherry from the
 monotony of office work. I trust their
 plan of going to Sault au Recate may
 prove useful to them all. I am sorry
 for Mr ^{Mother} family & I tried hard to find a
 half day to ask some of the young people
 to come to us, while in London, but a
 pre-arrangement of that kind proved
 all but impossible. Should we go again
 to London I hope to be more fortunate.
 If Mary cd be spared & money found I shd
 like very much to ask her to spend next

minute with us. but I fear she is the
 stay of her mother & sisters. There there is
 another claim upon me — My poor sister,
 Mrs. Cligham, has just lost her last son.
 he had gone to Australia to try to push his
 way there. took cold & no doubt neglected
 it — it is a crushing blow to them as they
 are very poor & had looked to him as
 likely to aid them.

You are doubtless shaken down into
 Mrs. Mery's & I hope you find them
 pleasant Merys, with all the children well
 & happy — the big boys, I am sure, is delighted
 with the freedom & bustness of the new world.
 I was amused to notice one of the Con-
 trivancies for the amusement of Ellis's boy.
 They have fenced in a little square of ground
 & put a foot or more of Cham Sea sand
 over it where he digs & builds Castles to his
 heart's Content. I think this not a bad hint
 for your town garden. But here I must
 stop.

Roxbury - Cambridge
 1881

Stop as the heralds of the Clock Mill, move onward
So not, Eva a lazy thing? she sits reading while I write
With all best loving good wishes that you Bernard &
the Children may enjoy a peaceable pleasant summer. I remain as ever

Yours loving

Thomas