

11, Holles St. Cavendish Square  
 Rankine & P. & O, London. August 13. 1866  
 visit to old house  
 like palace

My dear Anna

Your letter of July 27<sup>th</sup> —  
 written after you had heard of the  
 Cable to Mill, assuring you of our safety  
 was received last Monday. It made  
 me quite sad to know that you all  
 had suffered so much anxiety about  
 Rankine & me being in that Portsmouth  
 accident, but long before this reaches you  
 you will have received details from our  
 different points of view, altho' naturally  
 links may be wanting that will only  
 be supplied by mutual questions & answers.

In consulting as to the need of calling  
 to you we decided that it was im-  
 probable that names wd be given  
 to the newspapers, & that the accident itself

was not likely to be mentioned in the  
 press cables to Canada, so that it was  
 impossible to send a short <sup>private</sup> cable without  
 alarming you. It was such a mercy  
 that neither papa nor Eva were there.  
 The former was busy over his address &  
 Eva had not returned from Stoneleigh.  
 It was also one of the marked providential  
 arrangements that we had arranged to go  
 to the Redoubt. It was so quiet & the air  
 so sweet, otherwise I believe I should have  
<sup>had</sup> more after ill-effects from the jar on  
 my head - now nothing remains, to  
 remind me of the accident, but an  
 occasional stink in my elbow & the upper  
 joint of my thumb wh. has the tendon  
 racked or broken & that only pains me  
 when I use it too long - in short is  
 not worth mentioning. Rankin's wound  
 has healed "sweetly". He asked jakingly,  
 nearly a week since, if I wd pull out the

3  
The stitches for him, when the honours  
of my first sight of his wound came  
back with such force that I have  
not dared even to look at the scar.

Poor dear fellow he went down to  
his ship, with all his baggage, yes-  
terday. I went over to his lodgings to  
help him to pack, it is not however our  
very last sight of, as the Mr. Canales &  
we three are going together this afternoon  
to inspect the "Cathay". I take afternoon  
tea with him to-day, & he returns with  
us to dinner & finally sails tomorrow.  
I believe he returns to the P. O. simply because  
he sees no other favourable opening. I had  
a short confidential talk with him yesterday  
& discuss how much he gives for a home  
& friends. Leaving the "Easmanis", where  
he had adorned his Cabin I made it a  
kind of home was very painful to him, & gets  
day routing out again was evidently a  
very great trial to him & I comforted him

into a display of affection that can I  
 never be forgotten. He has taken the  
 precaution of procuring some testimonials  
 before leaving England, so that should  
 any desirable hospital appointments occur  
 in any of the British Colonies he wd be  
 ready to make application. The best of these  
 are in India & Ceylon but of course pro-  
 portionately different to the rest.

We intend to remain here until the  
 19<sup>th</sup> when we have accepted a pressing  
 invitation to spend four or five  
 days with Mrs Braune - the widow of the  
 gentleman who died in Montreal at the  
 time of B. K. meetings - She lives now in  
 Warwick & that is near Bewdley where  
 Mr. Mout lives & where we spend a week  
 before we go to Birmingham. Looking  
 back I think we have been guided to  
 divide our time very suitably & now if  
 all goes well & we are brought back in  
 health & safety there will be very reason-

for much thankfulness. We have enjoyed wonderfully fine weather & if not wise we ought to be.

we spent a delightful afternoon <sup>on Monday</sup> by the kindness of Mr & Mrs Francis

The Clergyman who visited Montreal last winter & belted there on music.

They live at Chelsea in an interesting old palace which is fitted up & furnished

with appropriate old family furniture & is by far the earliest & best example

of old style interiors of any I have seen Lord Bunsen & his <sup>lady</sup> Edwina

were invited to meet us at luncheon. The Carriage was sent to fetch us & put

at our disposal for the remainder of the afternoon, so we drove through

Batavia Park - the finest of the London public parks - it was truly beautiful.

I and I then took the chance of paying some visits that were in that district, (bracketing paper with a

6  
a book that had been presented to  
me by Mr. H. to take home as he was  
going direct by Amherst & he quietly  
left it in the huss. Today we have a  
note from Stettin's yard to the effect  
that the book has been recovered & we  
will get it by press & personal application.  
Eva is at work just now trying to finish  
a tea-cloth she is working for R. I too  
have some finishing touches to give to a  
wale-pocket, for you know we have  
to part from him on his birthday so I  
must write <sup>me</sup> more, except to apologize  
for omitting to acknowledge & thank  
you for the photo of Conrad & Ruth. it  
is very good, but funny to see the resem-  
blance Ruth shows to Edith: an unexpected  
development. I am glad the Redpaths are pleased  
with the Cottage. you mt. give my love to Mrs &  
Army. With all kindest remembrances  
to Bernard & love to all the children. I am  
as always, your loving Mother  
over to inside page.

P.S. # are just finished writing a note to Nathalie  
in which I have told her to write & tell you  
if we are to depend upon her returning to the  
College. I have named the 16<sup>th</sup> Sept as the date  
at which I should like her to be there. I have not  
mentioned Ellen's name as she might make her the  
objection if she does not wish to come to us. I have  
no alternatives to offer if she fails us. The only thing that  
I should wish to avoid is giving you trouble & have  
therefore asked Nathalie if she knows of any one suitable  
for washing & bedroom work to secure her for us.

H.