

Little Bates

Aug. 7th

1885

Dearest,

I am surprised to find that I have come to the last letter I need to write to you, if you carry out your intention of sailing on the 10th.

I recall as you know is Charis's birthday, & she has received quite a number of little gifts wh. are spread on the little red table two or 3 odd china figures, a little jug - a nice basket 10^{cts} a tea watch, & a pretty work basket wh. mother got for her, a letter from Carpus & a card your joint book wh. much pleased her. I had promised them a hay cart drive, & the day being fine I sent them off after dinner with the two Amuses & two Keefpatt boys & Selvia Savage. I kept Boyrie, & for convenience paper had to go to the station for some baggage wh. Miss Brooks had lost so I went too, & that amused baby & was

far less tiresome for me
I had to go first & sadly enough
when I came back found
myself locked out - however
it did not matter much as
I went to mother's - The young
ones got back safely & seem to
have enjoyed themselves which
is a comfort - Baby was much
admired at mother's by the last
of the ladies of the "reading"
Mrs Boney went to see him
creep & stand up - I did so &
Miss Bracks looked at him
well, he returned the gaze
steadily, & then screwed up his
little nose & winked at her,
I never saw anything funnier
every one laughed. He really is
a wonderful child -

I heard lately more about
the death of Archie Taylor's baby
he, & Mrs A. Eudale's baby, & Mrs
Agoston's baby were all cut at St Helaire
the 3 babies took ill. Mrs Agoston
took hers at once to Calcutta where
it died, & the two others died
at St Helaire on two succeeding
days - did it not seem strange?
Down here we have had a
bad bout - a young fellow from

Walker, son of the lady who died
lately in the Gill Coll. As - came
down to stay with Mrs Ramsey
& took ill almost at once, for-
tunately Dr Gardiner is here (a brother
of the Dr G.) after a few anxious
days it was ascertained to be
Typhoid & a nurse telegraphed
for. She came but ~~was~~ ^{was} not
entirely incompetent, another was
expected tonight, meanwhile
poor Mrs Ramsey & Miss ^{Veran}
are worn out, & all the family
have been removed to ^{the} ~~the~~
other house. The case seems a
mild one & doing well.

Another very sad thing has
happened Mr Forbes has died
suddenly - he was found ^{lying}
lying in his room in a ^{profound}
fit - his wife away at Cacumna
was telegraphed for & had to
leave her baby just the age of
ours & rush up she found
him alive but he was never
conscious from the seizure till
he breathed his last. There are
5 children by his first family &
3 by this, the eldest a girl of 16.
Mrs Redpath is down &
with her Mrs Lewis - Eva has
gone to Cacumna for a week.
& Miss Brakes is about to present
mother's portrait - but she wishes
this to be a profound secret, I intend

indeed does not like it at all. The idea originated with George or papa, I do not know which. I hope she may excuse

If you have any small ideas of foreign or English plants bring them out, I had intended to ask you to make a small collection as you went on but forgot about it.

It seems not worth while to write at length when so soon you are to be back again, & you will be received with as little joy I can assure you dear,

I have had again a note from Mrs J. H. B. insisting that you are to live in France & cry for more needles if you have short

I hope you are planning to have a nice week down here with us all before we go to town & we shall look forward to it. I may feel great as a reward happy meeting, & a better life in the future than in the past that is much for us to talk over of importance as to the future.

all your
An revoir
Dear Aunt
I hope you are
well
I am
Yours
Aunt
I hope you are
well
I am
Yours
Aunt