

Hawkhurst

Hastlehurst

Wednesday afternoon June 9th
1869.

My dear Brothers

I much fear my letter's being too late for this mail, for in one from Wilhelmsen this morning he tells me to post mine in London by 6 this evening, / he wrote thinking me still in Parnassus / so I fear I have been mistaken in thinking that the steamer only leaves Southampton tomorrow the 10th - it was my impression. How sorry I am shd this really turn out to be the case. I cannot say for it is too bad that my dear fellows shd not only receive no answer to their letters (wt have not yet reached here as I see the mail only reached Plymouth yesterday) but no letter at all. I do not fear that you will feel prejudiced abt us as you will see us mentioned in other letters, but will conclude the truth that thro' various unforeseen circumstances mixed up with a good deal of poor timing & its consequent incapacity effect, we have nipped the mail.

I will try to give you a short resumé of what has occurred since the 24th ult when we last wrote

knowing that the news will be welcome even should it reach you a fortnight too late, & in our next letters we shall I trust be answering your much looked for ones which probably appear in Princess St tonight & be forwarded to me here or to Wilhelm at Oxford by tomorrow morning. When dear Uncle Henry came to London on Monday & so kindly wanted to bring Edith & myself back with him that afternoon I at first refused, particularly wanting, as Wilhelm was out of the way in another direction, to remain in London this week on acct of the incoming & out going mails. But when I found that the only alternative was postponing our visit here until after Miss Campbell's it was thro' it nearly a fortnight later, probably just as we should want to be going to Germany, the only best thing to do seemed to me to come at once. Of course I was very glad to get out of London, more thankful than I could say, for since the weather had turned warmer during the last days there I had been feeling so very weak & poorly & so utterly unfit for all the necessary little matters for Wilhelm, Edith & myself

that I quite feared whether something like a miscarriage would not come to lay me quite on my back & that I decided above all things, especially for their sakes. The fresh air & quiet here, together with the comparative rest, & all their love & kindness, have made me feel much better, i.e. much less ill, tho' still weak & feeling fit for very little. If there was only a good maid yet at all whom I could trust with Edith, I believe I should be on my back all day & do nothing. I believe I have lost the chance of one of the Kilton maids who Aunt Anne kindly told me of, by not writing to her sooner to try & engage her, but I was too foolish to do so. I find that if I see to even the necessaries for Wilhelm & Edith I am no strength left to take her out with letters or do anything or even keep good temper myself. So thro' at first I had decided not to try for a maid on acct of all the extra expense it cost, it seems now that it will be a saving in the end can we find upon a right one. But to go back. Thursday 25th - Aunt Diggins & Barbara called with Lucy who had travelled with them at Aunt Carr's but they did not appear till so late that I had been obliged to take Edith out, so we

missed, wh I was very sorry for as At Lizzie seems to have really wished to see us.

Tuesday 26th I went & appointed to let Carry & she sent for me & let me back after abt 1/2 an hour that when she went for her drive, she was quite kind poor thy burden than in old times & that I apologized for not feeling fit to see Wilhelm. One can quite understand in the weak nervous state she is in her shrinking from seeing any stranger. She seemed in terribly low spirits poor thing, but I am glad to say at Chen this morning ^{was} had good all of her ^{now} from Coulston where she is staying. The change seems to be doing its right work poor dear thing. I trust she will not go back to South St yet awhile.

That afternoon (I left I at home with her an. Martin as the latter had a cold poor fellow - found to go out) it grew finer so I took Edith to St James park & feed swans, et al to her gl enjoyment but coming home & rain began & we went on acting - sweetly all night so that Thursday 27th I was out an extraordinary monkey awaiting the Dr. Wilhelm had come to find a nice German

one he had known in old times a friend
 of Phillips more especially, & Hermann
 Weber, but had to receive Sir Charles
 Lyell who called on Wilhelm but was
 too blind I hope to mistake me for a
 Hollentst as I have been the proball
 result ed he have seen a little plain.
 Aunt Harriet Ethel also came to see us,
 Lucy happened to be with us as was often
 the case dear child, she was asked in
 taking Edith for a prowl or doing anythg
 she ed for me while I was poor, -
 Sir Charles seems a dear old man. So
 brave & outspoken. At Harriet libel abo
 tered, kind but constrained. Ethel looking
 a little older but quite her old kind self.
 Dr. Boeber came late that evening & game
 me quinine. I liked him very much
 He stayed having a long talk with
 Wilhelm alt Phillip - them all.
 Friday 28th face still bad but breeze game
 boil breaking it began to go down.
 I forget alt this day. Think nobody called.
 Wilhelm still not well. Dr. Boeber again with
 whom had long talk he tells me to be a
 little careful for precaution agt mis Ear
 cage.

Saturday 29th I only remember Lady Lytle
's calling. She was kind & courteous, asked
with interest after Wilhelm who she had not
yet seen & let a card to ask us to an
even party there next Thursday. I went with
us on off credo.

Sunday 30th Wilhelm took Edith to Mr Norris
Kya in the afternoon. His wife & daughter
were very kind to her. They both seemed
to enjoy the experience. I busy all
of day that I was fit with the voyage
wash clothes but with very heavy
cold ^{some hot at at} coming on. It turned to Norway
bark in the night.

Monday 31st I was in bed. Wilhelm & Edith
Edith & Edith & Edith go to R. then
Mr Fisher & Julia coming the latter going
off to see University Hospital. Wilhelm at
at Carrys & meet at Julia. Emily
at at leave the former with me who
was most kind & whom I amused
as well as I & our bed with photo-
graphs. At July looked in by &
be latish to see. Was very kind
poor thing. To me she seems

greatly altered. So much older &
plainer & in some ways sadder
but otherwise just her old in-
fluence self. Emily waited in
carriage. ~~for of course~~ for know
of their little boy of course.
Heber came later & told me to take
great care for a few days it is not to talk
more than I help at it.

Tuesday June 1st

Wilhelm coming at 1/2 past 11
to Wilhelm at home to see him. I was glad
of my being poorly as it made them see
a little more of each other. I got up late
& came down a little while before he went.
In afternoon Heber here, whom I asked to
give Wilhelm something as his cold still hangs
about so with this relaxed that making him
feel so weak & unfit to think or do
any poor fellow. While he & Wilhelm
were having a long talk the Edmund & Mary
came, I saw them in our little room
& presently Julia too came in whom
Mary & Edmund had not yet met. So there
was a lot of talking & a general fun
in it Wilhelm presently came to
join & they carried off Julia to

see their little den ^{in Baywater} & have tea with
them. From them we first heard
of Dorells marriage. Poor Aunt
Hamadake. (He told us later
himself in a letter to Julia it was
for me to read also)

Wed 32. If Edith were allowed out
for a little promenade at noon (I had not
been out before since that day week).
Wilhelm to take W.D. down old & other
matters & take care. I forgot the
rest at that day. They left Alma Terrace for
Thursday 3^d to look in on us.

I forgot. Oh Wilhelm went in
the evening to the Lyells. I did not do so of course.
He rather enjoyed it. But this Sir Charles
Blondnes did not get introduced to Lecky
& several others who he would have liked to
see & to whom Sir Charles meant to have
introduced him. Lady Lyell seems to have
been very kind & friendly. We had been
asked to the Bursens, on the previous
evening but Wilhelm had 3 webbers and
wife not ventured to go. The Lyells
were much nearer to us. Weber

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said also that a party at the Bunsens
was not worth running any risk for
being a stupid thing credit. They had not
called on me in person merely sending their
carriage card on the Monday 20
Wilhelm felt perhaps the less eager
to go. He looked a very dear real
little boy in his new blue suit.

These parties are at 10 o'clock.

Friday 4th Left late of course & a generally
unsatisfactory day in consequence Wilhelm
took Edith to the gardens but they were out.
I on a solo shopping prow - to Hamilton.
at least this was one of these days -

Sat 5th A very busy day. In Hamilton
in afternoon to buy cloak pattern cake
at Carrys shop to alter it etc. I forgot if any
one called I am to Weber whom we visited
when Edith & I took a little stroll into
Regents park towards evening. Beginning
to be warmer weather.

Sunday 6th We went to lunch at the Bunsens
where Wilhelm had called on Saturday.
A very pretty place - the people civil but

I sh^d not much care to see them again.
Edith behaved very well to y^r great
comfort & looked nice. It was warm
fortunately so I w^d go in my blk & white
Lama that you gave me dear Louie
& At Carry's Julia's shawl. Otherwise
I have or get no dress like warm dress
The King of Prussia has been my con-
stant wear since Sandy till that
day as I d^d been too poor to get any
th^g else. It has not been money (for
At Carry gave me £25, dear At Charles)
for these purposes so very kind, but
the not really fit to see all th^g for
self. Edith & Wilhelm are got
put tidy in the few days.

We walked home across Park then drove.
I think Wilhelm finds Ernst Bunsen
too a y^t owl. It is Georg who is his
own friend. He is subsid however.

Monday 7th Wilhelm to start by 9.30
for Oxford. had only decided to

finally on Sunday Oredo so I up at
4 to pack his th^g et al. w^h I was
only strong enough to do y^r relays &
so had to allow myself such an
unconscionable time at. Had
been too dead tired the Sunday w^t
to do any th^g. He had already packed
his books photo et al.

Then dear Uncle Henry appeared at
11.30 just as I was dressing. Then
it was settled w^t to return with
him in afternoon by 4 train. So
he gone I was too fatigued to rest
till dinner. Then Port packed et
al like lightning from 2 till 3.30
& then off barely in time to meet
H^r at Charing X. Had even to dep^u
landlady to write to Wilhelm & tell
him we were gone.

You can think of dear fellows
how that at one I do nothing but
to bed. tho too tired to sleep much,
& yesterday the unpacking case of

With a needful note to Wilhelm
a dog breed up prevented any
any in the way of writing to you,
of course had I known that it
was possibly the last post day I
shd have sent one line & an en-
velope of enclosures. but you see
how it has been. I can't seem
any more there happy to be only
this one 1/2 - tramp in house.

Wilhelm in his office rec'd this morning
wouldn't when thinking me still in
London say

I may have time to write tonight or to-
morrow to the Cafe, otherwise tell me
how I am situated. I shall send any thing I have
to you tomorrow morning. They must be posted
in London before 6 P.M. Please send her
whatever newspapers you think she will
like - also Macmillan's. I do hope he got
a note of Monday night from here telling
him of our movements before he wrote
again & he may have sent direct to
you daily. I came away in too great
haste to bring the newspapers or any
thing otherwise I did

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not forget them or 3 dear dear
brothers. Goodbye 3 darlings
I am longing for news of you
more than I can say.

Edith is getting stronger daily!
truth & keeps well. More letters
popping out & in. Weber too says
no leaning & all day in fresh air
if possible. I am so glad of Art Carr's
presence to you two dear fellows, it will
have in so handy I trust. For I fear
you will have found some things
come very heavy. Hermann writes he
is better. It is Commemoration wk
at Oxford so he is in the thick of
everything. He is ^{virtually} with Max Muller & we
have the in lodgings as they are full.
Goodbye 3 dear Sam & Louie.
your own most affectionately

Fernina C. Bleek.