

Letters from Juxon and Maria Jones and their family

In India and elsewhere, from 1851 to 1875



Edited by Sarah Harrison

The cover picture shows the Jones family in the hill station of Murree in 1865. Maria is seated on the ground on the far left, her arm around Annie, and Irene is sitting next to them. Bertram sits behind Irene with a girl between him and William. Minnie is sitting on the ground in the middle with baby Tom in her lap. Harry is in the middle of the third row, and his father, Juxon, is standing at the right end. Major Thomas Wright stands in the back row wearing a hat. Behind the European group are Indians, possibly servants who have accompanied the group to the flat area where they can be photographed. They have laid a carpet on the ground for the Europeans to sit on.

ENGLAND AND MARRIAGE

Further letters from Juxon Henry Jones to his mother during furlough from India, his marriage to Maria Stirling, and back to India as a married man, and babies...

Juxon Henry Jones arrived at Southampton from India in early September 1850. There are no letters but presumably he went directly to stay with his mother in Leamington. However it would appear that his heart was set on marriage.

He had first met Philip Roe Hockin, in India in 1847 and Hockin and his wife had lived at Hansie for a while so they would have known each other well. Philip Hockin's niece, Maria Hockin Stirling, born 8th September 1831, had lived with her maternal grandparents in Dartmouth since early childhood. Her father, Thomas Stirling, a Naval Lieutenant living on half-pay since 1815, had taken a job in the Coast Guard service in Kent some months before Maria was born. He already had four children and in a letter of 1st March 1832 he noted "our fifth is at home with Grand Mama who is doatingly [sic] fond of her.". Maria was recorded in the 1841 Census as living with her grandparents with her eldest sister, Mary, whilst her four younger siblings were living in Kent with her parents, and her older siblings were away at school.

Whether Juxon had been in communication with Maria before leaving India, and had deliberately not written to his mother about her, he appears to have gone to Devon about a month after arriving home as on 27th October 1850 he gave Maria a small book of common prayer with a clasp to mark their engagement to be married. She noted in it that it was given her by Juxon H. Jones at Dartmouth. He had put his name on the fly leaf "23 Oct Juxon Henry Jones, Bengal Medical Surgeon, Sidmouth", presumably when he bought it.¹

A marriage licence was granted on 14th December 1850 for them to marry with the permission of her father, Thomas Stirling, Lt. R.N., as Maria was underage. They married at St Petrox church, Dartmouth on the 1st January 1851. She was nineteen and was apparently rather tall and he was thirty-six and short.

1851. Marriage solemnized <i>by Licence</i> in the <i>Parish</i> of <i>St. Petrox</i> in the County of <i>Devon</i>								
No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the Time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
87	<i>January 1 1851</i>	<i>Juxon Henry Jones</i>	<i>Full</i>	<i>Bachelor</i>	<i>Surgeon.</i>	<i>Dartmouth</i>	<i>John Jones</i>	<i>Solicitor</i>
		<i>Maria Hockin Stirling</i>	<i>Minor</i>	<i>Spinster</i>		<i>D^e</i>	<i>Thomas Stirling</i>	<i>Lt. R.N.</i>
Married in the <i>Parish Church</i> according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the <i>Church of England</i> by me, <i>W. Hockin</i>								
This Marriage was solemnized between us,		<i>Engaged</i>		in the Presence of us,		<i>Thos. Stirling - S. Hockin</i>		
		<i>Maria Hockin Stirling</i>				<i>Francis Jones M.A. brother of the bridegroom</i>		
						<i>Edw. Hockin R.N.</i>		

They were married by Rev. William Hockin, Maria's maternal uncle, and Juxon's brother, Frank, was also present.

There are no notes on who else attended the wedding or where they went afterwards, but in the Census of 30th March 1851 they were with Juxon's mother at Clifton Villa, St James's Place, Leamington, where Juxon's sister, Irene, was also living.

By this time, Maria was pregnant, and the situation in Leamington may have been difficult for her as they left for Dartmouth so that she would be near the grandparents who had brought her up.

Warfleet, Dartmouth April 26th [1851]

My dearest Mother Minnie² & I arrived here quite tired, but in good health, yesterday afternoon. We slept at Bristol, which place we reached at ½ past 5 on Thursday & left at noon yesterday - Minnie³ bore the whole journey wonderfully well being only once took bad & that once was at the Exeter Station - During our short halt there I was running up & down the platform & in and out of the rooms & amongst the passengers like one possessed of the ---- begging entreating implor-

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ing someone to give me a glass of water. I got a few drops just as the train was starting, put a few drops of Spr. Ammonia on the top of the water & gave it to Minnie to drink. In a few minutes she revived & had no relapse the rest of the journey, tho she did get tired. We drove straight out to Warfleet & I had the pleasure of presenting the poor exhausted darling to her [c.o. adopte] parents⁴. She returned at night in Grandmama's Bath chair to our nice house, escorted by every member

of the family under 50 years of age. Minnie & I were to have dined at Warfleet, but she being if possible more exhausted than she was yesterday, I have persuaded her to remain at home with me - Grand-papa came in to see her & we have kept him to dine with us at 3 - his dinner hour, not mine. Uncle Wm⁵ likewise walked in. He is returning to Exeter, having visited Dartmouth yesterday for the express purpose of Xtening Percy's youngest child⁶. Percy & his nice wife⁷ made particular enquires about Irene⁸ as did indeed Grand-

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mama, papa, Uncle Burd⁹ & Edgar I won't swear to Edgar. You will be glad to hear that the dog arrived safe & well; not so one of my portmanteaus or X. I beg dear mother, that you will stop Irene's crowing!! It is very fortunate that the P. contained articles of trifling value, barring 6 shirts, for I am afraid I shall not see it again - At Gloucester I had seen all my things put into a van excepting the missing article, which I thought would follow its companions which were lying in one heap - When they were all stowed but one I got into the carriage & when seated, to my surprise I saw a porter walk close by

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where we were sitting with my small portmanteau in his hand. I immediately exclaimed "What are you doing with that portmanteau? It's mine & I am going to Bristol; please to put it into some van in this train." As I thought, he went immediately & put it into a van in front of the train - At Bristol I found it not though I made immediate enquiries about that day & the next. It is very fortunate that I put into it only a few shirts, shoes & boots & my 2 canisters of tea - Will you ask Irene, poor dear disconsolate Irene, to lock my sponge up somewhere that I may receive

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it on my return to Leamington - I left behind also a cotton towel & Hindostani Shirt in addition to other articles sent to the wash. I wish I had brought my umbrella - both of them I mean for it has rained hard ever since I left Torquay - My galoshes too are as requisite as water to fish for there is nothing but mud, mud, mud - The view (tell Irene) is just as it was when we were here together Our

house is most luxuriously comfortable, every thing being as nice as heart could desire - Mrs Hine¹⁰ has left for our use, her linen & plate, her nice servant & every

thing else that was nice - Tell Irene that I have just been to see the old house where Percy & his family & Mr Fred reside¹¹ - It is something like a house - much of the style & scale of my late lodgings, Mrs Foale's¹². As soon as we got to Warfleet we heard the church bells ringing in honor of Minnie's return! and this morning the ringers made their drunken appearance at my place claiming 2£ for their services on the 1st January!!! & this money having been promised them I must

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pay it, making 4£ for ringing Dartmouth Bells!! Wont I caution any friends I have from getting married at Dartmouth? Oh no! certainly not!! I saw Dr Cardew (whom Aunt Jem¹³ saw) at the Taunton Station - Minnie is just come in to say that she & grandpapa are going to sit down to their dinner - She is most wretchedly tired & weak, but sends you a very strong & dear love - You may guess by the hand writing that I am in a great hurry God bless you both - you dear mother & Irene - I am yr affecte son Henry

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Dartmouth May 19th [1851]

My dearest Mother

I have only a moment for writing & that I must devote to begging you to send me one of my hats which I left behind. You will have no difficulty in discovering the better of the two - It has a black or dark brown lining. Will you send for a 6d hat-box

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& pack it up & off in that. My naughty dog the ther [sic] got hold of my hat & amused herself with it for an hour, at the end of which it was difficult to discover what the article was - You never saw such a hat as she turned but that! Minnie's parasol my gloves & newspaper as well as the things that Flora amused herself with while visiting at Rock Cottage

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[on the side] Your affe. son Henry

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Uffculme¹⁴ June 16th [1851]

My dearest Mother I hope you are too well occupied to feel the want of notes from the idle members of your Family such as me, who have nothing to tell you but of the vain & frivolous amusements wherewith I am leading myself on to old age. I have got a new (Minnie jogged that 'new') hobby which, as Marianne says, I am riding to death. The hobby is fishing. This day last week I went over to Taunton to buy a fishing rod & tackle & from that day to this I have been out

fishing from morning to night. Today I am going out with a gentleman at 2p.m. which accounts for my being now at home writing to you
[on the side] I have caught 27 fine trout!!

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My journey to Taunton was full of interest. I rode there in Company with an old Indian friend Mr Cocks¹⁵, whom I since before met with while returning from Exeter Cathedral with Minnie - In Taunton streets I met an old fellow passenger Capt. Prettyman¹⁶, & my old school-fellow Mate. The latter I was exceedingly pleased at seeing - I recognised him in the street at the first glance, tho' I had not seen him for upwards of 18 years. I went to Marion's¹⁷ school & took her out with me all about the town. I went to see St Mary's Church in its renovated state - It is exceedingly beautiful but inferior to Ottery Church - I of course went to look at Tom's old house, but could not get in - A sadder looking ruin I have seldom looked at - All Canon Street

was of much interest to me. I am going to fetch Marion from school on Thursday when I hope to see more of the scenes of my boyhood - the bathing & fishing places &c &c We were rejoiced a few days ago at hearing of the birth of another little Patrick¹⁸. I am ashamed to say that as yet I have not found time to write to any one at Worcester.¹⁹ I was on the point of writing to you a few days ago about the newspaper. I recd. the 1st no. of it however on Saturday. I have not looked at it. Marianne has this moment recd. at letter from Sibella, who says she is going to Hamburgh, but when I know not. She has again asked for her pencil-case -

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which I gave to you for transmission to her. She was at Mrs Lunn's²⁰ - She tells Marianne that the Misses Veysey are coming here tomorrow. I have not seen them except during the adventure of the Whip, which you may remember - Will you be, or rather I shd ask, are you dear mother prepared for the announcemt. of our change for plans for the rest of this year? I am so entirely convinced of the unspeakable advantages & comfort to dear Minnie that will attend her [c.o.] being here, at Uffculme, during a certain eventful period that I have gladly accepted Frank's & Marianne's offer to receive her

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a few weeks before settling again at Uffculme. I am comforted beyond measure that these plans met dear Minnie's wishes completely. I mean more particularly the present staying at Uffculme & the prospective return to it. On your account too dear mother I am gratified, as the 3 or 4 last months of this present year would have brought you trouble & anxiety ill suited to your health & comfort. Early next year God willing, we will return to Leamington. I need scarcely observe that Marianne's experience & wondrous consideration & affectionate

kindness make dear Minnie's [c.o.] anticipation all that she can possibly desire. I don't know whether I shall be able to pay you a visit alone, but I hope to. Frank I understand will visit you on his return from London. We fully intend going to London this day week for a week or 10 days. I fear that Minnie will not be equal to all that the rest intend to do, but it is infinitely preferable having her with me to leaving her behind in Devon. I am happy to say that she enjoys here greater health & better spirits than in any other place we have visited since we

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were married. We have had wretchedly rainy weather the last week, which however is as little felt in this truly happy household. Minnie is quite enamoured of the place the climate, the Children, Frank, Marianne & all & every thing that she sees. We passed a very pleasant day at Tiverton last week & were (some of us) introduced to the acquaintance of Peter Robertson²¹ & his wife. I was much pleased with them. I have not as I said before written to Irene for which neglect I want you to make apologies. I have at length found an amusement out of doors so I am gone wild with it.

Minnie & all here sent their dearest loves

Yr affecte son Henry

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8 Tavistock Street

Covent Garden

June 29th Sunday [1851]

My dearest Mother Minnie & I are sitting quietly at home, resting not as you will immediately guess, from the fatigues of sight-seeing, but from the incessant pursuit of odious filthy disturbers of our night's rest. Yesterday Minnie staid at home to rest while the rest of our party took 5/- tickets at the Exhibition. We made capital use of seven hours which we spent in the Crystal Palace -

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I expected that we should be thoroughly refreshed by our rest to-day (including Minnie's of yesterday) but owing to incessant scratching, rubbing, groaning, getting up to light candles & inspect our clothes & bedding we had neither of us a wink of sleep last night. After 3 hours of such misery I took my pillow & threw [c.o. myself at] it and my poor weary bones on the floor, but alas! in vain, so I at last sat up, Eastern fashion on the floor & smoked a cheroot, while poor Minnie continued the pursuit of different kinds of

game. When it was almost broad day-light we made the bed anew & lay down in it & slept soundly till 11 o'clock!!! We came down to breakfast at 12 & found Frank & his partner gone. After breakfast we read together the Church Service & then commenced writing letters to you. We are both thoroughly wearied & take up our Jesus as a good remedy for fatigued spirits such as ours. You will not expect any attempt at a description of the contents of the Crystal Palace, but you will hear of our meeting with

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poor Sibella there with some surprise. She seemed exceedingly moved by our sudden meeting. She only shook hands with me & asked me of Minnie: to Frank & Marianne she talked for some few moments during which she whispered to Marianne "it's very absurd Henry & me quarrelling". She looked rather ill, but her agitation might have been the cause of her paleness - I have thought of our meeting ever since it took place - it has made me very sad. Poor Bella leaves England on Tuesday . At the Exhibition she was accompanied by the daughter of the lady she is going to visit at Hamburgh -

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While I was gazing at some beautiful objects Mr Wale²² interposed his ever welcome face & hand, exclaiming "halloa! Juxon!" His nice "fiancé" was with him. I sat down with them some few minutes only, as I was felt [sic] obliged to continue my inspection of ye wonders I came to see. The half-crown & 5/- days are the only ones on which it is possible to see the place in comfort, so I resolved to visit the palace on these days days [sic] & of course I feel bound to waste no time there unprofitably. On the 4 days when the admittance is only one shilling the throng

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of the commoner sort of people is tremendous & most intolerable, While yesterday it was all that the most fastidious could possibly desire - I never was in such close contact with so splendid a throng of grand & fashionable people - The place was cool, fresh & gay as heart could desire & we performed our laborious task with a zeal & assiduity undreamed of in our first visit The thermometer stood at 87° on that day in some parts of the building - In India a well-kept house never gets beyond 88°

We have as yet seen thoroughly only the side states of the Eastern main avenue, on the ground floor, & have taken a cursory view of the rest of the ground floor & about 1/2000 part of the gallery. Next Saturday I shall go with Minnie & on Friday too perhaps as the assemblage is select & few enough. By that time Irene will I suppose be with us for on Friday Frank wrote for her to come up without delay, promising to get her a bed-room in some house near at hand. You know dear mother of our intention to pay you a visit on the way back

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to Devon - Tomorrow week or Tuesday week I hope we shall leave London. I trust the multitude of our party will not alarm or bewilder you. After our visit to you we purpose going to Netta for 2 or 3 days. I wish I were back at Uffculme now, pursuing my favorite occupation. I have caught 48 good sized Trout - one above a pound, weighed in presence of the family, boys & servants! I hope dear Mother that my desertion of you & your house does not appear anything but a matter of necessity & I hope it does not give you ½ the pain it gives me. Let us have a line from you some day or other - I believe that none of our family have hitherto written to you or heard from you. God bless you dear Mother

Henry

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Warfleet Saturday 20th Sepr. [1851]

My dearest Mother I fear I shall greatly surprise you by the announcement of Minnie's confinement & the birth of a poor little dead girl. Before telling you the particulars of this sad event, I must assure you of dear Minnie's perfect ease & safety (her only suffering being the bitter disappointment of such an end to her many sufferings & many fond anticipations of being a happy mother. You know how remarkably well she had been up to the time when I last wrote to you, & so she continued up to yesterday morning. During nearly [] whole day she suffered from symptoms that threatened to end as they have done, but

at 10 o'clock last night, her suffering almost ceased & she dosed till about ½ past eleven, at which hour I went to sleep, having sat up reading near her bed side for the previous hour. An hour after I had been in bed I awoke & found poor Minnie still suffering & moaning sadly. I hastily got up but before I had time to dress, I found that her labor was so far advanced that it appeared likely to [c.o. take place] be ended in a very short time Having paid attention to her then situation I sent off for the Doctor of the family; he arrived at half-past 1 & in two hours poor dear Minnie's troubles were over. She slept very soundly many hours this morning & is quite free from all bad symptoms. I am writing this in her room & she, dear darling, has this moment said "give my love to Mama & Irene", I am most deeply thankful for the safety

of my much loved wife, & am happy to think that we have more reasons to bear contentedly the sad disappointment than most people could have - I refer to the journey to India, which we are so soon to undertake. I shall not write you a long letter, but before ending, I must ask if you have not yet heard from Bertram since his arrival at his new station, Harbour Grace²³. I do not like writing till I hear of his being at that place, yet I am very anxious to write to him - If you have any news from Sibella I shd be glad to hear it. As you may anticipate the event of this morning will cause another alteration in the time of our departure for India rendering it much earlier. I must write to Frank & Henrietta by this post & I have only a few moments in which to do it.

God bless you dear Mother - My best love to Irene - Your affecte. son Henry.

I have just read this missive & find 20 words left out -

Give the other pieces to Irene, please.

Tuesday 23rd September [1851]

My dearest Mother I fear that I have been somewhat negligent in not having written to tell you of dear Minnie's state - I am happy, most happy in being able to say that is very well indeed, having never suffered any ill consequences from her misfortune, & being now in a fair way to recover both her health & spirits - I received your most welcome birthday letter yesterday there being no post-delivery on Sunday. It was a most comfortable letter, and rendered no whit the less so by the intelligence it conveyed of the noble generosity of Mr Stowey²⁴ to Frank & dear Berty. This has been a propitious year to Frank, he having got rid of 300 or 350£ of debt. Berty will greatly rejoice

at the good news you have sent him - I hope now, dear Mother, that you will have some peace instead of incessant trouble on poor Sibella's account. I have just had a letter from Frank telling me that Sibella was with him. He knows nothing of her next step - What think you of the name of Philip Gordon Jones²⁵? I suppose it is given after Marianne's sister-in-law's brother!! The fine names of Capt. Robertson's²⁶ child have hit M's fancy. I think them very absurd. I had a cheering letter from Aunt Jim, with Frank's - She seems not to have suffered much by her attack of Cholera. I am much surprised at your not having heard from Bertram, for I thought that when at H.G. he would be able to write every week I can't send him my little presents until I hear from how [sic] they are to be sent & addressed. I have so often promised to write to Irene that I must do so now.

Minnie joins me in affecto. love
I am yr loving son Henry

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Warfleet. October 17th [1851]

My dearest mother I fear I shall sadly surprise you by telling you that Minnie and I will have to start for India on the 20th December - On account of a difference of 50£ in the Passage money I determined on going to Bombay instead of to Calcutta. There are besides other advantages in this step - we save 7 or 8 days' sea voyage, and when we reach Bombay we are some 200 miles nearer the Nort [sic] West Provinces than

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we should be at Calcutta - on our trip Bombay to Agra or Delhie we shall see & stop with at Nusseerabad²⁷ Minnie's Uncle Parr Hockin,²⁸ a Dr in the Bombay Service & we shall avoid Bengal, a country which I hate & in which I might possibly be detained should any Dr's services be any where required in or near Calcutta - Three days ago I wrote to enquire the amount of passage money we shd have to pay to Bombay & yesterday I received an answer stating that only on alternate months could we

secure passages to Bombay, in other words we could not go in January but either in December or February - Now February being altogether out of the question, as we have a long land journey on our arrival, I was obliged to determine on taking our passages for the 20th December. This sad necessity & decision overwhelmed the whole of this household with melancholy & tears yesterday, as you may well imagine. I felt it deeply myself, for it seems that we have but very few days to pass here, & I am grieved at the way it will

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shorten my last visit to you, dearest Mother. We have not yet decided upon our movements relative to paying our final visits to our friends, but I think it probable that we shall visit you as soon as Minnie is equal to the fatigue of long journies, which I trust will not be a remote period. I hope in about a fortnight - We talk of staying some 4 or 5 days in Exeter as thereby we considerably break into the great length of the journey from this place to Leamington - I had a letter from Sibella 2 days since but I have not yet answered it having been too much occupied to do so - She

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with elegance, [c.o. so I take another] with only half a line left blank, so I take another piece of paper. You complain of being incessantly bothered by people asking you for Bertram's address - [c.o. but] tell it me this once & I wont bother you again You directed the only letter I even sent to him - I have not yet sent him my little presents, & shall not do so

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until I hear from him again - You must give me the address soon if you please as I have already too

long delayed answering his letter. Again we send our love to all - Tell Irene I'll write to her next time - It is raining as hard as it can pour & has done so each day, since we returned here. Yr affectionate son

Henry

I got tired of the glass tube²⁹

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8 Salisbury Street [London]³⁰

October 27th [1851]

My dearest Mother I have just received the letter you forwarded from Minnie & her Uncle. I had intended going to you tomorrow to stay to the end of the week only, but the few [c.o.] words that you must have written in much sadness at my neglect of you, my good & affectionate Mother, have altered my purpose. I will pay you the promised [sic] visit of a fortnight - Do not think ill of poor Minnie, for she cannot help the sad & afflicting thoughts with which she is overpowered by my absence, & I must myself confess to as great grief as she suffers by our separation. It has made me quite ill - almost as ill as I have ever been, for my nights are passed in sleepless anxiety & suffering & my appetite & digestion are dreadful. When I was about to leave Dartmouth I was

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afraid to let Minnie run the risk of travelling, so I not knowing when she might be strong & having also pressing business to transact in London, came away by myself. Each night I have resolved on leaving London not being able to stand the separation, but somehow in the morning I found new [c.o.] courage & felt the necessity of finishing my business too great to permit my flying away from it. I am not equal to a longer separation than a very few days so I will return to Dartmouth tomorrow & at some later period of my sojourn in England pay you a visit, with Minnie if I can, if not without her - & then I shall be undisturbed by the longing to return which now so completely upsets my spirits & health. I can but urge the scripture authority for what is instilled into our nature "that a man shall leave his father & mother & cleave unto his wife"

for my painful separation from you. It wd never have happened but for the fussy nonsense that was instilled into Minnie about the awful business of a lying in - She was told that if [c.o.] she remained at Leamington "you would be sent away" - I quote the very words. I felt that if I had had the plague I could not have been less welcome in any place. Minnie went through all that women can go through & I am perfectly certain that there was no more discomfort, confusion, fuss or any other disagreeable than if she had merely had the tooth-ache - Having once gone past your house towards Devon there was no possibility, of our returning, & I assure you, dearest mother, neither Minnie nor I are at all the cause of our not having lived these past 4 months with you - Minnie & I will be unable to separate for so long a time as I intend to stay with you, so she must

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accompany. I paid a sad sad visit to Sibella for a few minutes - I promised to see her whenever I visited Exeter, but I fear I cannot do so. I intended, had we had the joy of a meeting this week, to have told you all that passed at our interview, but I must be silent on the subject, as I cannot write it - She still clings to her perverted view of the causes of the separation from you of the mode in

which it was carried out - She was most vehement in her grief, her upbraidings of all parties - She is in no way inclined to be reconciled to her present position & thinks only of seeing you - She said many times that could [c.o.] she but see you this state of things would not last an hour longer - I said I would tell you of her overwhelming grief at being separated from you & of her only wish being to see you again - I could promise no more than to tell this dismal tale. I can say no more on

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the subject. I went in a fly to Heavitree & while returning I overtook at the Turnpike Tom Norris³¹, who rode with me back to the town. I mentioned my having just seen Sibella & that she dwelt chiefly on the fact that her separation from her home produced all sorts of rumours as to the cause. of course as she pretends greatly to her disadvantage. I cannot help thinking that the worst of the rumours are of her own originating!! However, Tom Norris' reply was the same as mine to poor Sibella - His words were "Why, people will ask questions & the answers are & must be "oh! some incompatibility of temper -"" This I urged to Sibella did in itself imply the disagreement of two or more parties & that therefore she would not alone bear the

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the blame. She reiterated again & again the horrible injustice of all the blame being imputed to her, which is utterly impossible - but this I believe to be possible that is imputed wholly to the opposite party - her family; I mean by those who have listened much to her story - There is no doubt that, at times at least, she suffers dreadfully from the course that has been adopted, for her feelings are all those that are least endurable to human nature - the greatest more terrible torturers of poor human hearts. She can be cheerful at times as Miss Lunn told me that she had passed a most delightful evening at Anthony Trollope's³² - I had been invited to meet her, but refused for obvious reasons. I met Jonny Merrivale³³ by such a

chance - We had been together some minutes [c.o.] in the same shop & when he left I could not help remarking to the shopman that he was wonderfully like a person I knew of the name of Mr - "Merrivale is his name" was the reply so I ran up the street after him - He had been chatting some minutes when I mentioned my surprise at having just heard that Anthony was in Exeter when he [c.o.] said "there's his wife & boy" I went across the way to be introduced to Mrs T³⁴. when she invited me to dine with her & meet Sibella - I made a stammering excuse about its being impossible as I was just starting for London; but as I was parting from her I said so very cleverly that I hoped to see her & Anthony the next day - She did look

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very chilly indeed. Jonny was to leave Exeter early the next day, so I could not see more of him, his house being some miles from where we were standing. I fancy, dear mother, that my letter will smell horribly of smoke, but I came in very tired & a pipe is then my only remedy. It is just eleven o'clock so I must to bed.

Before doing so I must re-assure of my resolution D.V. to pay you the visit of at least a fortnight before I leave. Dear dear mother, why should you speak of our meeting for the last time being a certainty? You won't be Aunt's age when I return from India, if I live to do so. The greatest blessing that has attended my visit to England is that I have been brought to mind heavenly things - I wish I could say, more than earthly - God bless you dearest mother - I am Yr loving & affecto son Henry.
Dear love to Irene

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Warfleet, Dartmouth

November 5th [1851]

My dearest mother I took out an envelope & put a stamp upon it, with a feeling that I was about to commence a long quiet & loving cote (ang: chat) with you & Irene too, when all of a sudden my chair, my ink & paper, my equanimity were all upset by an irruption of Uncle Luxmoore³⁵ & - whom do you think? Tommy Stirling³⁶, Minnie's long lost brother, who has been abroad for several years. I must make my letter as comprehensive as possible as there are about five & twenty people

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in the house. I had a letter from my poor sister Sibella, which I think I may as well send to you. You will see by it that she will never cease to urge, by every influencing cause she can think of, the desirability of a meeting between you & her, & thereby a complete reconciliation & re-union with her family. She speaks, poor girl, of our having had a discussion. I scarcely spoke 3 words for she wd. not listen to me - She cannot listen to any thing that disagrees with her own perverted views of the subject. She kept up a tor-

-rent of invectives against all & each who were prominently concerned in effecting her separation. She will never sit down patiently under her present circumstances - never, never, & what prospect you have of peace, my poor dear mother, I know not. You cannot shut out of your heart your sympathy with her sufferings & so you must continue to be distressed bitterly by her communications to you. What measure you may adopt in course of time, to alleviate your sufferings, I know not; but I sincerely hope that you will shortly find some relief from them -

1

I know of no mode of alleviation & I will suggest none - The turmoil has vanished from this room to all parts of the house, so I may continue my letter in peace till it re-appears - I must first tell you of my plans - they are the same as my very first, when I was expecting to remain in England till January - We will remain here without disturbance from excursions, long or short, until the 1st or 2nd December, when we will go to Exeter & stay there 3 or 5 days & then go on to you to spend the remainder of our sojourn in England with you -

2

I mean to make our visit to you of the promised duration - viz 14 days, so I must make a little alteration in my figures in the last page - I must be with you on the 5th December at the latest - We shall go to Southampton via London & we ought to leave Leamington on the 18th because I have some business to do in London - only to drawing pay - & we must be on board the Steamer on the 19th although we sail on the 20th at 9a.m. We are fully occupied with preparations for our journey - I have purchased such a supply of glass ware,

2v

saddles, cutlery, a watch, linen (table & body) &c &c. I had such a gratifying meeting with George³⁷

in London - On Sunday week, past, we sat chatting together some 4 or 5 hours! I told him of poor misguided, deluded, (frenzied I may almost say) Sibella's reception of his letter which quite confounded him. Minnie, & I too, would have written nice long letters to dear Irene, but for brother Tommy!! and Uncle Lux. I shall have time - too, too little, rather, I should say - but

I shall be able to talk to you about a host of things when we meet - I have 4 other letters to write by this post. I had such a nice letter from Hansie, all about my old friends, house & former haunts - It was the one you forwarded - Minnie is so well - We walk every day without fatigue of any sort. I never knew her half so well - Did Granny & Granty know I am writing they wd send such sweet messages - I don't know

2

whether I shd have written an answer to Mr Thom's obliging letter - tell him please that I shall be happy to avail myself of his offer. I shall have no anxiety about my funds & my outfit will in India fetch shd. it be necessary nearly 3 times what I have spent - I must now stop dearest dear mother - Minnie sends her dear love & I mine to you both - God bless you dearest mother Yr affectionate son Henry
Nothing from Berty yet? (!!!!!)

1

Warfleet
Dartmouth
November 9th [1851]

My dear Sibella

I have performed this sad duty which I undertook when I saw you last. I represented to our mother your deep distress & affliction at your separation from her & also my conviction that you would experience no alleviation of your sufferings while she refused to see you & that I feared you could or would never cease to urge, by every motive that could be devised, her receiving you again into her house - But I see, with deep sorrow, that our poor mother dreads to think of your meeting her, & this dread has I am sure, been increased by each successive communicatn. wh. she receives from you - She begs me to endeavour to dissuade you from any attempt to surprise her by an unexpected visit, for that she would relish the meeting by every means in her power, the only result would be a most shocking & public exposure, which I hope you will not run

1v

the risk of occasioning - Could you submit in peace & with patience to your present separation, & cease to persecute her (I use her own words) I feel assured that you might look forward to a re-union at no very distant period, but your present mode of seeking it only tends to make it hopeless, impossible - You have no idea how much our poor mother has suffered on your account & of how nearly you have eradicated all the love she had for you - I do not at all believe that a meeting [c.o.] between you both would immediately efface all recollection of what has passed - Her feelings towards you have greatly altered & she is actually driven to entertaining thoughts of breaking off all communication with you & leaving to others the payment of your income, & even of making

your receiving any allowance conditional - ie. when you cease to persecute her - If our mother, who

loved you once as much as ever mother loved a child, is driven to think of such measures, can you conceive the effects of you letters to her? I fear, Sibella, that you have never thought of any person's sufferings but yr own; possibly, you never believed in the deep & agonizing suffering of our poor mother. I am certain that they have at least equalled your's. I feel that it is of no avail to write to you in this strain, for if words wd. give you patience, comfort or hope you wd. have found these in some of the scores of letters that have been written to you in the vain hope of affording these to you. Could you not, my sister, cease for a time to urge upon mother a meeting, at wh: all her feelings now revolt. It wd. be yr. best course to do so & no other can I suggest that will give you a hope of a final reunion with yr mother. You have acted very injudiciously in advancing, as a motive for yr. reconciliation, the evil reports of other, who cannot know the cause of your separation from mother & Irene. When I sat down to write to you I intended only to have said "don't attempt to surprise mother, or visit her without an express invitation to do so" but unintentionally I fear I have wasted these many more words. I am yr brother

Henry

I think it wd. be better for us both were we not to meet while I am in Exeter - What you call dis

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discussions cannot be avoided. If I visit you I cannot, with pleasure or benefit, sit still & silent to hear you inveigh against the different members of my family & apply innumerable bitter epithets to past transactions & the mode in which they were effected.

Best - [sic]

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[sideways top of page] Does Berty write but once a year?

Warfleet Dartmouth

November 12th [1851]

My dearest Mother I send you a copy of a letter which I wrote to Sibella last week & her reply with (the latter) I hope will give you some considerable comfort. It has given me much, and I have promised to see Sibella as often as I can while I am in Exeter if she will hold to her promise. I think her living somewhat alone will be greatly to her comfort & improvement. I think - I hope that Sibella will cease her persecution of you as a systematic thing -

1v

It is a day of great rejoicings greetings & tears here - it is Grannys birth-day - She is 73 - Our party has been an immense one for weeks past, some 10 sitting down to dinner daily. Tommy went yesterday & Uncle Lux & Sibella Stirling go tomorrow, when we shall again be a little quiet - Granny, Granty & Minnie send you loves & greetings

worthy of so great a day. We had tea made this morning in my tea pot - & used other articles of our Indian out-fit to give them a taste of home! I have been very busy for many days & weeks past. I have lately marked down 10 dozen articles of dress - I have been purchasing all sorts of things - My last purchases being tea-pot, cruit-stand & toast rack

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which are glittering on the piano. The list of my purchases would frighten you, but they [] all necessities & shd. I be hard up I can sell every thing at 1 or 200 per cent profit - I am in a hurry - Minnie's in a hurry - We're all in a hurry scurry. About 18 grand-children are munching ginger-bread & making such a clatter. Dearest love to Irene - Keep Sibella's letter & mine Ask Irene if she has the lamp scissors which belong to me. Yr affection Henry

1

Warfleet November 27th [1851]

My dearest Mother By mistake both my Evening Mail of the 21st & Uncle Lux's were sent off to you yesterday. The Captain keeps all his & so I wish you to return one of the two you received of the 21st - I am too busy to write much to you, dear mother, for Minnie & I both are packing up - & such a lot of things we have to pack!! On Tuesday next we go to Exeter where I fear we must remain

1v

until Friday. The reason is that Minnie has to see the Dentist at 1 p.m. on Wednesday & I don't think she will be fit for much any part of that day - She, & others too I fancy, always suffers a good deal from swollen lips, to say nothing of the torture she must undergo. So she must, you see, have a clear day on Thursday - On Friday we start for Leamington. While we are in Exeter I must pay a visit to Stowey, which will be almost

enough visiting for one day & I must go down to Plymouth for an hour or or 2 to see the Holbertons This I can do more easily from Exeter than from this, as it is a day's journey to the Railway Station. Tell dear Irene that we both send affectionate loves to her, but cannot write - We are packing for India. I have a sad sad week to spend here - such tears & such partings are seldom seen & seldom indeed is mortal loved as my dear Minnie is - Dear mother you know not

1

the blessing I have found in Minnie Were the flitch of bacon the reward of those who keep the peace for 100 years we I am certain wd. get it. We are rather too old a married couple to talk of love you will say, but I must nevertheless say that my attachmt to Minnie increases daily. Not the shadow of a shade of difference have we ever had, unless it be the foolish joking about Dartmouth to which you & Irene were witnesses - Tell Irene that I have had no fiddle for a fortnight - but that it arrived from [] while I was writing the top of the 3rd page God bless you dear mother Minnie's dear love - Henry

TO INDIA

The most likely ship that they took from Southampton to Bombay was the 'Achilles', a P&O paddle steamer, Captain J.W. Purchase, which arrived at Aden 14th January and Bombay on 23rd January.

1

Gibraltar 26th December 1851

My dear Mother We arrived here half an hour ago after a very tempestuous passage excepting yesterday - We have had head winds & seas & such weather in the Bay of Biscay, which has delayed us one day in our arrival at this place - I am writing while Minnie is dressing - nearly all the passengers are already ashore - I must devote only a few minutes to writing as we

1v

remain here but a very short time in consequence of that we have already lost - While I was at Southampton I intended to have written a letter to my neglected sister dear Henrietta, but I need scarcely say that I had not the control of my own time - Fancy my being well! the moment we got out of the Southampton waters we were in almost terrible sea, which upset the strongest

stomachs - Minnie suffered very little indeed, being scarcely at all sick, but she has never had any appetite & loathes all kinds of food; the consequence has been her complete starvation & she has got excessively thin - We think & talk of you every day & yesterday we particularly did so. Happily we had the most splendid weather all yesterday & our

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Xmas day was a particularly happy one - It was our first sunny [c.o.] day & our speed shame some rail-way travelling - Give my dear dear love to Irene - to Netta, George. I have not yet begun to read dear Irene's book. Minnie is now sitting by my side writing to Granny What did you think of Mrs Browett's³⁸ performance - We are exceedingly happy & comfortable our immense party 110 so jolly -

God bless you dearest mother

& you my sister Irene. I have so often thought of the pain our parting must have been to you both - We shall write from Malta or Alexandria. I find that I can make my journey from Bombay to my Presidency easily & in tolerably short time. You must tell Bertram that I was always waiting for a letter from him before writing & so from his delay I did not write at all -

Your loving & affectionate son

Henry

RETURN TO INDIA WITH A WIFE

Letters from Juxon to his mother

1

Loodeanah³⁹ April 6th 1852

My dearest mother I have not yet heard a word from you & only 2 days ago did Minnie get her first letter from Granny. We had the good fortune to escape Burmah - I applied for an appointment up the country & on the 5th of last month recd. orders to join the 58th at Hooshearpoor⁴⁰, 56 miles from this to the north. It is one of the prettiest stations in India, but from various circumstances I was induced to apply for an appointmt. the 7th Regiment N.I., in this Station. Here I have found my old friends Philip Roe Hockin & his wife Minnie's uncle & aunt - besides many other old friends & acquaintances. Moreover there is a very peculiarly nice set of people here. Had I gone on to Hooshearpoor I shd. have had another 2 days' journey, not at all desirable on account of poor dear Minnie's exhausted condition; there wd. have been more expense, and, as I at first understood, there wd. be no house for rent, but one for purchase, at a very high price too, upwards of 2000Rs We arrived here on Saturday 26th ultima & the very next day I wrote to the Adjutt General begging that I might stay here - Happily my request was granted & all the evils of expense

1v

travelling & going amongst strangers was avoided. I commencing house-keeping the Hockins will be of invaluable service to us, lending us many things which I could not purchase & without which I could not have existed - to say nothing of my living with them most happily & free of expense until our house is ready, which wld not before another ten days - Minnie has in her letter to dear Irene talked of the horrid depression & melancholy with which I have of late been afflicted on account of my pecuniary difficulties. Those guns & pistols have occasioned me as bitter grief as ever I experienced in the whole course of my life - I don't know where to get the 52£ which I am to pay for them - I have tried every scheme I could think of, even to the asking of private friends, & all in vain. Having to travel from Calcutta with only a small box for linen & clothes, I have left every thing I possess behind, without a prospect of seeing any of them for another month. I have tried to sell my watch but there are no purchasers in this almost deserted station - I have asked Native money lenders, but they have all lost by every transaction they ever had with an European & therefore will not lend me a half-penny - I have

offered the guns at any price when they come, but in no way can I get a half-penny in the absence of every thing I possess, excepting a dozen shirts & trowsers. What a pity it is that Fred Hockin⁴¹ did not accept of my proposition to return the guns when I was at Leamington! I made every effort in my power to sell the guns &c in Calcutta but I could get the offer of only 18£ for one gun & nothing - not a farthing for the others - My speculation has cost me in money at least 40£!!! The exchange is now again so unfavorable that I should have to pay 7£10 for a set of Bills for 52£. I do nothing but lay out money on their acct at every turn, on every move. The effect of these troubles on my health would soon have [c.o] been serious for I have suffered great anxiety about these things ever since I left England & for the last month I may say I have been utterly miserable. This present state of affairs need not cause you alarm of any kind, for I have many months to prepare for the other promissory note - many months of pay to receive, lots of things for sale &c &c

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The Burmah war⁴² has added 90£ to my difficulties for had there been peace I should have remained in Bengal, at Barrackpore or Dum Dum & avoided every half-penny of this expense - My journey has not only deprived me of every farthing that I had, but from being separated from my property & having been travelling for 3 weeks I have not been able to collect money to meet that promissory note. Every combination of unfavorable circumstances seems to have been formed to bring me into this trouble & shame. I have made a request of the Bank to advance me 50£ to be given without the usual innumerable forms, papers, declarations, Insurance &c which is now on its way to the Hills; If I am balked in this there is no resource - what will be the consequence to Fred Hockin I know not but I trust his rich Aunt Mrs Hine will shield him from trouble for one or 2 months when without doubt I shall remit the money. I cannot send more than this & dear Minnie's letter to Irene, so I must close my letter without any mention of our adventures during so long a journey - Up to Meerutt we journeyed most swimmingly, but from Meerutt to this we had difficulties enough, for we had the most tremendous storms & rain daily for the rest of our journey - Fancy dear

gentle timid Minnie being carried across roaring torrents at the dead of night on men's shoulders We crossed at least 6 streams deep & strong & at night too. I

would write more - I think almost hourly of the last Passion Week - God bless you dear mother

1v

Give my best, tenderest love to dear Irene - I am overwhelmed with business or Uncle Philip - or rather Roe sends his love to you & Irene!!!!!!

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Loodeanah - April 19th 1852

My dearest Mother I am so unhappy at getting no letter from you = not a word have I had since I left you at Leamington!! & Minnie has letters innumerable. Before dwelling more on this or indeed any other theme unconnected with business I must proceed at once to the matter of the Promissory note. From the first hour of my arrival here, at least as soon as I found I could not sell my guns & pistols, I felt assured that I shd not be able to raise 102£ so I immediately after my arrival at Calcutta, [c.o.] wrote to ask you to pay a part of it - 50£ - because my life was insured for so much above my debt to you - This request, dear mother, I have repeated in each of my letters, & in each I have assured you of your freedom from all risk. Before that falls due I shall be able to raise 200£ from property, loan & pay, which I shall receive in full before the time even approaches for sending the money home. You perhaps may be surprised at this statement that I shall receive my full pay - by September I shall - The fact is that I drew six months' pay in advance in England from 1st Decr last year - Notwithstanding my having done so I got 40£

1v

extra for 3 months of that period - [c.o.] my pay in England having 10£ & in India 25£ a month - When I reached Calcutta of course 2 months of the period had expired & 4 remained - Of these four they again advanced me the difference between Indian & English pay for 3 months upwds. of 40£.

This is customary after returning from Europe & having a long journey up the Country. When I went to the Pay Offices in Calcutta I found that my Funds Medical, Military, Orphan &c had fallen with arrears to the extent of 70£!!! I paid 40£ with the advance money as afore stated & have 30£ still to pay my monthly instalment of 5£ - My May's Pay will be minus the 10£ I recd. in England [c.o.] I tell you this that you may know how my affairs stand. They have been alarming enough I can assure you & for a long time I was dreadfully put out by my [c.o.] inability to get 50£ to send to the Agra Bank, to meet the promissory note - I asked the Bank to give me that too & to my surprise & delight I recd. the Bills by return of Post - I now have borrowed 202£ in this country & 200 I owe to you - My property & much of my savings will go to meet [c.o.] my debt to you & my debt here is paid

by monthly instalments of 10£ a month. I have been dreadfully alarmed [c.o.] my funds in hand should fall short having to pay 100Rs a month to the Bank, without at the same time getting any pay, but by hook & by crook I have been able to jog on capitally, having paid my way steadily & for repairs of my house & furniture & living & I have just bought a most capital poney for a mere song 80Rs. This last is the produce of my pistol - I now see my way clearly through my difficulties & by the time the cold weather commences I hope to have scraped together a good many rupees. Poor dear Minnie, who is so well, so happy & cheerful, & such a blessing to me - She dear pet has allowed herself to get terribly frightened at & in buggies so that there is not the least occasion for my getting a buggy - She says she will ride the poney. We got it only this morning. I am so fully occupied from morning to night that I cannot remain quietly writing for 3 minutes - I have been disturbed 50 times while writing this letter the consequence is that I have omitted

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all mention of the principal matters I had to speak of - The 52£ the copy of my promissory note & my letter to the Secy of the Agra Bank I send to you as possibly he might refuse a letter Bearing 1/10d & I cannot pre-pay it - Will you send the packet in a carefully sealed envelope to the Bank, as soon as you get it - I trust that yr 50£ has been already paid - I speak as at the hour at wh: you will read this - If you haven't paid the 50£ I know not what is to be done. From my not getting a syllable from you I know not what misfortune may have rendered it impossible for you to borrow the money. The consequence of my folly, if they fall on any other than myself, will visit poor Fred Hockin who was the innocent cause of all this really terrible trouble expense & anxiety - a hundred times worse than any I have ever hitherto felt in all my life time - I ought to tell you of my domestic life - We have got a very nice house for 1£ a month - Uncle Philip is our land lord - the house was offered to me for 13£10!!! & on my refusing he took it - You know that Loodeanah will be left without troops next cold weather. We live opposite to Roe & Julia & visit their garden daily - Till last Friday we had lived with them by which arrangemt we were saved every expense for 3 week's & more, besides I have till to-day had Roe's buggy wholly at my disposal - At any other station I know not what I shd have done. As it is & has been my destitution has

occasioned on one single evil - in any other place I know not what I should have done - I must cross my letter I find - In setting up in a station with a wife any one would say I could do nothing without one or two hundred pounds - I have done every thing with less than 20£ & a few things for sale - I must quickly finish my letter as I have 51 other matters to attend to. By the next (Southampton) mail I will write a long letter. When shall I get a letter from any of you? Had it not been for Granny's letters I should have been painfully anxious about you & dear darling Irene - Give the dear girl our sweetest dearest love - I have unfortunately left yr likenesses behind on the road. Fancy, dear Irene, we have been without our traps barring a few clothes for 6 weeks & we have not yet heard of their having reached Cawnpore - half way!! I brought with all my dishes, knives teapot &c

besides our old Leamington table cover which has been displayed two days on our table - God bless you dear mother & dear Irene - Henry & Minnie
I have just this moment sold my old watch for 8£!! my new one cost only 14£ Give our kind remembrances to the Pierts & the Wales if at L

I am posted to the 7th Regiment N.I.

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7th Regiment N.I. Loodeanah 5th May /52

My dearest mother I am commencing my 6th letter to you without my ever having received a word from you since I left home. Were it not, as I think I said before, for the letter Minnie regularly gets, twice a month, I should have been overwhelmed with anxiety about you - As it is I feel assured that had any thing prevented your writing, I mean any calamity, I shd. have heard of it through Granny - Still I am most uncomfortable about getting no news of you, of Irene, of Sibella Frank & Marianne & their family. I must get over the business that I have to speak about first. I am full of anxiety about the 50£, not knowing whether or not it has been paid - I trust it has. I have been in pecuniary troubles ever since I left Leamington till within the last fortnight or so, since which period I have been able to see a prospect of speedy relief - I shall be able to sell a great number of things to great advantage. I have already bought a horse or poney (for Minnie) & got a little pocket money by the sale of my watch & pistol & I got 8£ for my watch - I am offered 5£ for my fishing rod 12£ for my desert knives & forks - but I mean to ask 15£ for them - My guns will sell in the course of time. I am in hourly expectation of receiving all our traps - 12 large packages - they left Delhie 9 days ago, while I was fearing they were 500 miles the other side of it, for I never recd. any notice of their having reached Cawnpore, which the Agent promised to give me on their reaching that place. When they arrive I shall be able to commence my sales! & doubtless in a very few months I shall be able to raise 150£ or so. I am so happy at the dawning of relief from my dreadful troubles

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which have at times nearly broken my heart. In addition to the near prospect of getting lots of money by selling my property I shall for this present month of May get 36£ pay, though I drew my English Pay for this month in England - The readiness with which I can find purchasers for my things is quite cheering. Fancy my getting 15£ for my knives & forks & 8£ for my watch! My pretty, good new one has thus cost me but 6£!! I am recommended to ask 10£ for my fishing tackle, but I prefer a ready sale at 5£ I have innumerable other little things which will produce lots of Rupees. I hope you got the 10£ I sent 6 days after I landed in Calcutta & the 52£ for the Agra Bank which I sent on the 17th April, or 2 or 3 days later. You may imagine our delight at the immediate prospect of our getting our baggage. Minnie is longing for a sight of her little ship! I for the [c.o.] easy chair, the knife cleaner, the tool chest (very much required every hour of the day) the gun & 3 cases - We have made our house as comfortable as you can possibly conceive - At present our dining room is not ready, so we have in one room the beautiful cloth, so admired here!, our mats & pen-wipers &c - When the traps come, there will be added all the other pretty little ornaments, which here at least will not prove an incumbrance as we have three other large tables in the room. The large picture of Dartmouth & the Dart decorates the chimney piece & is so treasured & so often contemplated. It exhibits a thousand places where events of deep interest to us took place. On Sunday while reading the church service we think of those going down that road & to that church -

to the picture I am pointing - On one table is congregated all our beautiful dishes, tea-pot, toast rack & in a day or two will be added the cruit-stand & our splendid glass ware lamp &c. Our bed room is the sweetest, coolest most refreshing

looking place. Such a large bed we have, looking the picture & abode of comfort & coolness. Of course I am busied all day with putting blinds (which dear darling Minnie prepares) & making all sorts of arrangements. Don't I want my tool box! I have hitherto driven every nail (many scores) with my old hone! You cannot guess at our comfort & happiness in being at last settled in our own house - Minnie as Mistress & me as master. Dear Minnie, whose worth & goodness & love increase daily, feels so completely in her element, rejoicing in doing any of her little duties as much as she ever did in pleasure - more I mean - If ever there were two happy people in this world they may be found in No. 73 of the Loodeanah Cantonments - The order, neatness & elegance of our table - breakfast & dining - are quite unequalled & I am happy indeed to say that my precious darling help mate likes all the food we get here - The bread most beautiful & she is so fond of fowls, which people in this country eat to satiety We have had a very very long period of anxiety, about debts & journeyings & appointments and Burmah & therefore feel with tenfold zest our present comfort, peace, rest & prospect of release from our pecuniary difficulties - I have been so dreadfully worked with Report writing that I have not been able to write to other members of the family - I think that for the last fortnight I have written 7 & 8 hours a day & have at last come to the final report, which I have set aside while writing this - All this long stave is entirely devoted to my dear self & dearer wife, so I may now say a word about you - I want so much to hear of you dear mother, of our beloved sister Irene, of poor Sibella, of Frank & his family, of Aunt Jem - of Henrietta & of George & his great case/cause, the word shd. have been - I am very anxious to learn of his success. How Mrs Browett managed the sale of the last of the garments I wish to know - What you thought of our terrible fix at that time & many many other things I wish to know

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I don't know whether I told you of our happiness in living opposite to Minnie's uncle & aunt. You know that Philip Hockin & his wife were my old friends at Hansie. Our finding them has been a source of great comfort to us & more if possible to Minnie's family at Dartmouth - For the 1st 3 months we lived in their house & I had the use of Phil's Buggy both circumstances saving me from expense & great perplexity - Had I gone to Hooshoaspoor, without money, I don't know what I shd have done. I like telling you every thing in my domestic & foreign life. In one empty room I go to smoke & fiddle in the manner so sadly adopted at Leamington - I say sadly, because I shd. now rather have passed the hours wasted in the house keeper's room, with you dear mother - I often & often think how my hopes of living long with & seeing much of you were disappointed & of poor dear Irene, too, how little did I see & of Netta nothing! I little thought that I was going to marry & desert you. I have many many sad reflections about home - poor Sibella & that miserable Uffculme business & foolish old aunt Jem, but for whose interference it would not have been so bad, even if there had been any thing at all. Whether she suggested Marianne's chilling us out of the house I know not. Give dear Frank my love & Aunt & Marianne the same. I have a thousand times grieved bitterly at the sad events that took place at Uffculme: on Frank's account chiefly. You will see the papers & soon learn of our great success at Rangoon & Martaban - We have taken both places with the most trifling loss on our side - but the sickness is greatly to be dreaded - The sun alone has killed several Officers - Our loss in killed was below 30 I think. What a mercy it was that I escaped going there! Dear Minnie could never have survived it. I must tell you, in your ear, that in August next we expect an event of great importance to us two Dear Minnie is so well, that you could scarcely believe in her condition after her dreadful sufferings of last year - She never has had anything [c.o.] more than the slightest indisposition all along - "Shall we rile Irene, Minnie?" Kiss,

kiss, kiss, We send you both many dearest mother

[First and last page missing so no date. Possibly towards the end of May 1852]

tell you of the different things I have been enabled to do, thro the sale of my property - I have repaid the Agra Bank one thousand Rupees of the 1,500 borrowed - the Simlah Bank 432Rs of what I borrowed, to send home 51£ for the guns - I have paid all my arrears to the Funds accounting to nearly 800Rs! All these were compulsory payments; as when the money was borrowed & the arrears of Funds due, I was obliged to give the Pay Master instructions to deduct the sums, if I did not regularly pay them - By June I trust to have paid all my Indian debts & then [c.o.] the debt to the Leamington Bank will be rapidly repaid, by instalments from my Pay & by a loan - Another piece of good news is that I stand 13th on the list of Asst Surgeons [c.o.] & I shall be promoted by this time next year. The promotions average, for long & short periods, 12½ a year - So by this time next year, if I live, I shall receive double the amount of Pay which I am now getting - it will be 715Rs a month at the very least. With such pay I shall be able to get on famously. Just listen to the recital of what I have hitherto recd. as pay since I returned to India - I drew six months pay in England in advances! so for 4 months & more I recd. no Pay & during 2 months, Febry & March, I had no work having been in Calcutta & travelling to Loodeanah - The Pay Master deducted 200Rs out of 421Rs monthly & I had other debts to pay with the miserable pittance I received - We journeyed all the way down to this, our deductions & payments continuing undiminished until last month! Now that I receive all my Pay it amounts only to 346Rs & out of this I must pay 2 Banks upwd. of a 100Rs a month & live & dress decently - I shall be able, too, to pay for a horse & buggy in a month of two - Unfortunately I have never been able to get hold of 5£ to send you for the Interest of the 200£ - If I had done this I shd be happy, for I cannot attempt to pay off any of the principal - As it is, I never have a rupee in the

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house; & I can't help it - I am managing with wonderful perseverance to get out of my difficulties & trust that in little more than one year to be free from all. On landing in Calcutta, or 3 days after, I owed 540£!!! I owe now little more than 300. There - I think you have had a full detail of my unfortunate affairs. Did I know that you were out of trouble, I shd write you such a cheerful letter. Dear Minnie, for a great wonder, has just returned from a walk across the square in the sun & brings the news that we are not to move - The 37th goes to Midnapore - Everything is bright & cheerful about us - Many dinners & balls are on the 'tapes' - We continue our 2 walks daily on the pretty bank of the river & I think our example brings many more there - We are & always have been, the only people without a buggy & therefore we are obliged to walk. Dear Minnie (she sends her dearest love to you, Sibella & Irene) gets up almost in the dark to take our fresh, life-inspiring walk before sun-rise - She is better & stronger a great deal - a great, great deal, than ever I knew her to be & her spirits & love & tenderness equal her beautiful health. Now that we have at last got our boxes she is able to dress comfortably & decently! which she certainly could not do before. Our boxes arrived about 12 days ago after having been shut up upwds of 5 months & strange & wonderful to say not a thing of dear Minnie's was injured in the slightest degree, excepting that one dress had one stain upon it. Thanks are due to the beautiful trunks which I got for her. Reverse the above acct & you have the truth as to the state of my unfortunate property - Every thing belonging to me is utterly spoilt - My black boxes were completely wetted through & through I should rather say they were half full of water - nearly all my books were utterly spoilt - musical, medical & pictorial - amongst

the last The British Ballads" - All my boots & shoes were soot - as were more books - The ruin was dreadful & complete - In addition to this, the Steam Agent has charge [rest missing]

First letter from Maria to her mother-in-law

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Loodianah June 23rd /52

Very many thanks, My dearest Mama for my share of your two letters, they were great comforts to us, & your kind sympathy expressed for me at the prospect of my dear Henry's going to Burmah, I felt very grateful for - Poor, dear Irene seems to have been a great sufferer this last Winter from cold in various forms, I don't wonder at her being frightened at the attack in her neck, it must have been very severe; we were both much grieved to hear such an account of her - I am afraid she works too diligently in her garden & in bad weather; give her my best & most affectionate love & beg her to take care of herself; tell her that a great favourite of hers, my brother Waite⁴³, is going to be married!! perhaps he has already entered on that most melancholy state -

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he was to be ordained the early part of this month, on a Curacy in Nottinghamshire; the Lady Miss Phinn⁴⁴, has been known to my family for some time - Henry & I saw her for a few minutes once, she is a most excellent & accomplished person & very clever, & what is also a good thing, for a poor Curate more particularly, she has some property - I believe my eldest Brother⁴⁵ was married on 31st of Decr last, & is getting on very well indeed in the Pupil line - Dear Henry has had a great deal of arduous work the last month in consequence of Dr Turnbull⁴⁶ of the Sappers & Miners, having taken a months leave to accompany his wife to the Hills; & begged Henry to take his duty for him, & it was no light work I assure you for poor Henry, who has felt it very trying in addition to his own, I am thankful to say Dr Turnbull returned to-day.

I hope for Bertram's sake he will not be obliged to visit England, unless he is able well to afford it, but it would be no slight expense, with two children - I trust Emma & Baby⁴⁷ with Henry's little God-son⁴⁸ are quite well; when you write, will you give them my love, & the same to Tom, & Frank & Marianne - I am very busy making & altering Baby linen, I have still much to do for the dear little stranger, & am looking forward with much happiness to his arrival, for hope to have a little "Juxon Henry"; I am very well, only I am not able to sit up any time, neither can I write at a table, so I am always obliged to hold all my writing materials in my hand, which

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is not very convenient - Dear Henry has just gone over to the Billiard Table, he begged me as he went out not to complain to you very much of him!! - Netta's visit must have been long since over I suppose, the change I hope did her & the children much good, please send her & George my love - How glad I am you kept dear Henry's Military jacket; it went to my heart to part with his other things. - Our Bell Glass was broken during its travels so our Muff & Spoon⁴⁹ are not set up yet: fancy your taking such care of the little man⁵⁰! it pleased us very much dear Mama. - What painful accounts you give of Miss Sellon's⁵¹ establishment, & how very sad they are; I should like to see Miss Wale's Pamphlet; please tell us if anything

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more occurs for we never hear of it but through you -

The Pearts⁵² will not I hope for dear Irene's sake, be long absent from Leamington; how much I liked them all -

Our journey across the desert, that you enquired about was a most fatiguing one, it lasted fifteen hours & I felt more dead than alive long before it was over; Albert Smith's⁵³ account was a tolerably correct one, we were so tightly packed, that no one had room for both legs! & instead of being able even to cross them, we were obliged to put one on top of the other in a most uncomfortable manner; & after you were once in the Van it was utterly impossible to move one inch until you arrived at the next place for changing Horses; it was perfectly dreadful, the want of room; there were one or two better Vans, but being such a party all could not have them - As for Horses, there were four un-

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manageable creatures in each Van, they flew on just where & how they chose, kicking furiously at first starting, breaking their harness (such as it was!) & sometimes running away; you should see such & the accommodation there for poor worn out travellers!! I dont think it possible to imagine such a place - out of our 180 passengers not one could eat a single thing there, & we were twelve hours on shore before we were able to go off to the steamer which was lying three miles off. - And now my dearest Mother Good Bye, I hope we shall soon hear again from you, & that dear Irene will (Henry blotted poor "Irene") let us see her handwriting; With my best love

Believe me Your very affecate. Daughter,
Minnie Jones

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Loodeanah 25th June 1852

My dearest dear Mother Your last nice letter was a great comforter to me, having set at rest or rather dissipated those fears that had for months been harrassing me. The cheerful tone of the whole of yr letter made us both very happy. I will ask you a question that you may be enabled to answer it in time for me to act according to the answer. Would the Superintdt. of the Leamington Bank be happy to take a year's interest for the 200£ & 10£ to renew the Life Insurance for the year. If he would I will immediately send you 20£ which may prove to be a more convenient course to me than paying the whole sum before the end of this year. I have not been able to sell any of my guns & I don't expect to be able to do so till the cold weather is well established & all the arrangements for the continuance of the war are completed & people will have learnt what will become of them during the winter - I have made one rather profitable bargain - I have had thrust upon me by my old & dear friend Ross⁵⁴ an exchange - of his Rifle for mine with the payment on his part to me of 15£!! In offering my rifle for sale I have asked 40£ - Ross's Rifle is about equal in value. If I sell his at 25£ I shall still get my price for my own. Indeed I have insisted on giving him all that I get above 25£ for it. Whether he will consent I know not; but the bargain for exchange is finally made. You must know, dearest mother, that I cannot tell what my destination may be next winter & what difficulties I may get into by having to march. I have not yet written to the authorities to ask to be removed to some Regiment that will not march, but I intend to do so shortly & with a good hope of success. If I could make a short march only & sell my gun & shd. soon be free from my difficulties - Fancy! for this month of June I shall for the first time draw my full Pay since my return to India

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Dear mother, you do not know how thankful I am for your undertaking the, to you, novel &

somewhat alarming [c.o.] duty of being security for me for that additional 50£. My pecuniary difficulties are equally novel & more alarming to me, I assure you; but with prudence I hope soon to be released from them. I never was such a screw in all my life before. I have bought here but 2 common plates, having borrowed 2 or 3 of Uncle Roe; also a milk jug, cups, saucers & dish!! My watch paid for my pony & I have no buggy or 2nd horse. My house-rent is as little as it could possibly be, only 10Rs a month - I never gave less than 30 before, & have sometimes paid 50Rs a month. I never did live with any thing like so extremely diminutive an expenditure; but never was I so very completely happy & comfortable & every thing about me has an uncommon air of comfort & competence - The ladies who come to see us, commonly remark "Oh! how thoroughly English every thing looks!" We have for one rupee bought 2 sets of book-shelves which exactly hold all our books - all the pretty ones at least; & I am surprised that our stocks are precisely equal, in lateral measurement at least. Minnie's fill 2 shelves, so do mine - I suggested curtains being made to protect them from the dust, suspended from the same hook as that from wh: the shelves themselves hang & falling along the lines of string - This arrangement is novel & pleasing & answer their purpose admirably. They look like two little French beds - to-day I have sent the cloth Jacquenette muslin (!) to be died rose-color. This is the most disgustingly dusty place in the world - Five minutes after a shower of rain, if there is any wind the atmosphere is dark with dust & every thing in one's house is soon overspread with it - So our pretty table - the bookshelves & my writing table tis always covered with white cloths - This is of no consequence as no one goes about in the day time & we pass nearly the whole day in our bed-room - Minnie is obliged to lie down there & I am glad to do so - We can

can have but one punkah pulled at a time & I like Minnie to have the Tattie in [c.o.] her room, for it keeps it cool at all hours of the day & night. For the sake of writing, not letters but public papers I have been obliged to sit in the drawing room & Minnie is sitting with me, writing by turns on her knee on the sofa & at the table - While making our bed-room a sort of common room I have always written my letters on my knee as you generally do & a most pleasant way it is of writing. Dear old Minnie adopted the plan from my example & this is the only instance, for books in which she has written at a table - We had this morning a little rain & cloudy sky, for the first time for many weeks. We have had a trying time of it - I have always been anxious to know how my precious darling would bear the heat & I am glad indeed to find that it produces only discomfort & not much of that - The poor pet never complains of it - not a 1000th part as much as I do - Our Ice is an immense comfort to Minnie - We have in succession all sorts of nice things iced which are so beneficial as to save her from the worst effects of heat - I mean they refresh & revive her completely. Mango fool has been our daily food for the last month & more. Iced melons are my restoratives, for which I sigh & gasp as I ride home in the morning from my 2 hour's work - covered inside & out with hot sand - the grains of which are very large - Nothing but a high wind one wd. fancy, could raise them, tho' they certainly at all times fill the air. My ride [c.o.] is always in the very teeth of a Typhoon - (the proper word is Tophan) & I always have to hold my hat on tight with my hand the whole way - Only to-day I instructed Minnie to put on a very short & very broad piece of 'Elastic' which answers admirably - To go back to the Ice pail - we have a few grapes & peaches to Ice - I told you of my inability to get a buggy & of how fortunate it was that dear Minnie [c.o.] did not require one - For a month & more I have had the use of a Victoria Phaeton wh: is the very thing for Minnie - She is very timid in a carriage, & we have the horse led - and daily am I joked about not daring to drive from timidity - But for this drive Minnie would go to

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bed very unrefreshed & weary - Our neighbours are without exception the kindest & most obliging set of people I ever fell amongst - One friend has quite given up the use of one horse to us - Dear

Minnie is very well indeed, free from every uneasiness & discomfort - Writing tires her very much & she writes each mail dozens of sheets, she has so many to write to & neglects no one - She has been writing to you dear mother, so I suppose I need not send you her love - She was as pleased at the treatment you bestowed on the little mountaineer - I take a peep at you & dear dear Irene daily - on Sunday in an especial manner, for on that day I keep the case open - I have a good memorial of dear Fanny Bent in my little ship⁵⁵. Dear Minnie tells me of some lozenges, famous for Coughs, which you have found of great use & begs I will ask you to send some to Granny & Granty at Dartmouth, for they both suffer constantly from coughs. You won't forget this dear mother on account of dear Minnie & her dear parents I was so surprised & hurt to find that you & Irene so behaved to Lady Wale⁵⁶ - Did she wish to drop the acquaintance she wd. not have left her card upon you - Dear Irene might so easily be passed in the street without recognition, from trotting at such a pace! I am sure my friend Fredk will always call upon you when he is in Leamington - Through commensg my letter on the last day & thro' many interruptions I have not time for writing to dear Irene & what I wish to tell her is that she is to be installed as god-mother to our little offspring expected just about the --- the time you will be reading this - Fancy my old friend Ross having to me [sic] to beg he might be god-father & Only one of each kind i.e. one godpapa & one godmama have as yet been nominated. When it is decided whether it is an extra papa or mama that is required they will be called to the honor - Give dear Irene my best & dearest love & tell her that we often (in fancy) "rile" her - We are as merry as crickets - we are always [c.o.] joking & laughing & dear Minnie is as happy & as full of fun as she ever was when at the fullest. She threatens to tell you that now she even knows not when to believe me. We had a long consultation about how a beautiful fish shd. be cooked - where an unusual number of difficulties arose after each suggestion - With the hopes of settling the question I said "Minnie you had [sic] see the fish". I pointed to part of the wall where was suspended my artificial minnow!!!

God bless you dearest mother & Irene
Love to all at home & abroad - Yr loving son

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Loodeanah 23rd July /52

My own dearest mother I have this moment recd. an answer from the Dy Adjntt General, which has damped nearly every one of my hopes of escaping the dreaded march to Bengal. I must have told you in my last that the 7th Regmt (mine) is ordered to Barrackpore or Berhampore, both near to Calcutta. About 10 days ago I wrote to Coll. Chester the D.A.G. entreating him to save me from this threatened misery of marching some 12 or 13 hundred miles back to the place I so lately have left. He tells me that unless I can get some one to exchange with me I must march with my Regmt., & he observes that somebody else must be subjected to the same disagreeable march if I do not go; & who is that to be? I have one little, very little, hope or chance left; it is by applying to the Lieutt. Governor for any Civil appointmt; but here again, on reflection I begin to despair of success, because I do not think that he will take upon himself to remove a Dr from a Regiment which is on the point of marching. The Superintending Surgn. has most kindly undertaken to assist me if he possibly can. I am at this moment dreadfully depressed at my sad prospects. The expense of the journey I reckon at about 80£ having no tents, buggy or other necessities for the march. I must incur the great expense of 2 palkies - for Minnie & me & child - I fear greatly about poor Minnie's being equal to such a journey so soon after her confinement, which is expected about the end of next month, or the beginning of September - A sojourn in Bengal I dread for it is never at all cool

there - I always feel dreadfully oppressed in that Climate Could I have remained undisturbed for another year I would

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[c.o.] get out of my pecuniary difficulties - As it is I shall be most miserably involved - What unlooked for troubles I have fallen into!! Don't I wish I had remained at home another year? By coming out I have gained nothing for my two enormous journies will have cost me quite 170£ - There - I was bursting with that subject & have at length got rid of it - I heard from Fred Hockin of the sad & to his family alarming, consequences of my not having remitted the 52£ earlier. To you all, I fear, it must have occasioned anxious fears. I am still uneasy about that debt of 200£; but I can save you all fears & risk about it by remitting you 20£ for the interest & for the purpose of effecting another year's insurance, which I fancy the Bank would not object to - If it cannot be effected in my name it must be done in Irene's - by insuring dear Irene's life the expense for one year would be reduced from [c.o.] 5£ to 2£ - I sadly deplore the unfulfilment of my engagements, but could I have anticipated such frightful journies & awful expenses? The only thing I can possibly have to fear on your account is that the Manager of the Bank may be unwilling to lend the money for another year - but this I trust is not possible. Two pleasant subjects I have treated of!!! You will rejoice to hear that my dear good wife is wondrously well - No woman was ever better than she is & has been - anticipating the event with every happy hopeful feeling - You know that for the love we bear dear Irene, we have appointed her God mother & Bertram is to be God father if it is a boy - Will you communicate this to dear Berty - Dear Minnie wished & wishes to write to you & Irene but I fear I cannot give her room for her letters even were they written, for her packet to her own family is treble & will cost as much as I can afford; & mine I fear to increase to double & treble postage - Our letter must go via Calcutta, as the Mail by Bombay is to be sent via Marseilles - Our 2 letters will cost upwards of 6 shillings

I have written a sheet, similar to this, to Fred Hockin, which I want you to forward to Dartmouth. Now dearest mother I must talk a little about you & Leamington - I expect a vivid account of all your doings while Sister Netta & her large party were with you. I hope you enjoyed their visit very much - I grieve at your great loss in the departure of your nice & beautiful friends the Pierts. and at dear Irene's loss of them & of all her old walking friends. However I know that the visit of her dashing sister & her belongings, for the time, made ample amends but alas! they could not remain long enough for Irene - You do not speak of poor Sibella. I heard from one of the Hockin's that she had entrusted to them the charge of a weighty packet for transmission to me. She ought not to do that as it is virtually making them pay for it. They send as large budgets to dear Minnie as they can pay for & the addition of Sibella's letter will completely double the expense to them. I hope poor Sibella is not looking to me for any pecuniary assistance, for there is no one less able to afford it - I have been dreadfully hard up, but with helps here & there I have managed to get on very comfortably & to pay while I have been here 75£ of my debts in this country - 50 of the 150 I borrowed & 25£ of my arrears to the Medl. Fund. We are the people for getting out of debt, where it is not, as it appears [c.o.] to be, morally & physically impossible. Did I ever tell you of the wondrous kindness of many of our neighbours in supplying [c.o.] us' ever since we have been here, with horses & carriages? For a long time we have had a beautiful carriage & a pair of horses entirely at our disposal - It has been the greatest possible comfort & benefit to poor dear Minnie, as you may imagine, to get a daily drive in a capital easy carriage. It would have been a deep

[written on the fold: My old friend & [unclear] Ross has begged to be god-father & I could not refuse]

source of uneasiness to me had I seen my poor dear wife without the means of taking a drive & spending the whole days & nights without its renovating & cheering effects. Nothing but a carriage would suit her & such a thing could not have been bought for years to come. She will not be able to tell you of her goings on herself, but I will - She has found great & pleasant occupation in preparing baby linen, which is all nearly ready - & a wondrously great business it is in this country She reads to me every evening after dinner, while I smoke my cigar - allowed in India, you know. Talking of dear Minnie's expectations, I am reminded of the fact of her being the fourth lady in the Regiment who is in the same predicament - The Regmt is a most undesirable one & I have made no acquaintance with any member of it! Some I don't even know & several married ones we have never called upon! Unfortunate if we are to remain with the Corps - One is a tipsey fellow, another is a mope, another a shulker, [sic] & I never see 2 of them together - The Comdr. is an old woman - All such contrasts to the gentle manly, intelligent & most kind neighbours we have of the Engineer Corps, with whom I play at Billiards daily. One nice person there is in the Regmt. - a Mr Leigh⁵⁷ of Cullompton - he has a very nice wife, a great ally of Minnie & he has a sister living with him, called Minnie - a very nice young lady. With them [c.o.] our remaining with the Regmt. will be bearable - otherwise it certainly would not have been - God bless you dearest Mother - my dearest love to all - Irene, Netta George Frank Marianne, Tom & Berty - Of course poor dear Sibella Dear Minnie sends her dearest love, too, to all - Yr affecto. son Henry

Umballa⁵⁸ - August 28th 1852

My dear dear Mother

I sit down to write to you amidst a thousand cares & anxieties & harassing interruptions - I have much to tell you & alas! of nothing but sorrows & afflictions, labors & sufferings night & day for weeks past, & weeks to come. I have been obliged to employ every spare moment I could find [c.o.] in writing to poor Granny, endeavouring to break to her gently the intelligence of another sad mishap to my poor & suffering wife - I must tell you as shortly as possible our sad his [sic] history - [c.o.] several Regmnts. were ordered to go to Calcutta for embarkation for Burmah & their places have been filled up with detachments sent from all parts of the Country. Amongst them a Regt. was ordered from Berhampore & to [c.o.] take their place a Wing of the Regt. I belong to was ordered to march from Loodeanah on the 15th instant - August. Twelve hours before they marched I got orders to go with it.⁵⁹ This news almost killed poor Minnie: She could not think of staying behind, and as she was almost daily expecting her confinement you may imagine what were our fears from journeying from one end of India to the other in the height of the rains - & in this terrible month of August. I have feared for her life nearly every hour from the day the order reached us - the 14th instt. to the 24th when her awful sufferings were brought to an end by the birth of a most pretty little girl - dead of course. Her labor was over in 2 hours & a ¼ - Had we not in time reached the Staging Bungalow my poor poor wife must have perished too. She is now, I thank God, humbly & fervently, apparently past all danger - She has continued free from all unfavorable symptoms since her Confinement & I should [c.o.] now be comfortable but the fearful journey before us - nearly all the way back to Calcutta - to be resumed the day after tomorrow, through heat & rain, across a country completely deluged - The ruin inflicted on us, the perils & sufferings we have gone through I can disregard or forget, but I am utterly broken hearted at the prospects before us. We left our house at Loodeanah - with the furniture & amongst many other things our dear old chair which I

bought for Minnie, deserted - left to be sold or not - on the 18th 2 days after the Regmt. I got permission to escort my poor wife as far as Umballa, travelling in palankeens - We were exposed to the most

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terrific rain nearly ever [sic] hour of our journey. The whole Country was a sheet of water - The roads converted into the beds of a thousand torrents - In darkness, storm, cold & wet - without food we wandered we knew not where during a whole night. We were carried nearly the whole night on the tops of the bearers heads, who slipped & stumbled at every step, terrifying the poor gentle, tender Minnie out of her very wits - & endangering her life too - for a fall would have killed her, had she even escaped immersion in the water, which was often up to the men's waists - We were set down in the fields for hours while our bearers left us in search of shelter. We at 2 in the morning found a ruinous gateway, occupied by 30 natives & a drove of buffalows & there was room only for Minnie's palki, into which I crept for shelter from the rain which was pouring through the roof in 20 places - Without food or rest we at 5a.m. continued our journey thro the fiercely beating rain till eleven when we found shelter again I being wet through & [c.o.] every thing about me being the same, half dead with cold & hunger & exhaustion I was obliged to walk nearly all the way - often up to my middle in water - I am describing my sufferings - for I cannot describe poor Minnie's - Every anguish of mind & body she endured & terrors indescribable - We remained under our miserable shelter nearly 24 hours & then resumed our journey towards Umballa - not without more storms & the great dangers & difficulties of crossing a river, running at the speed of a mountain torrent. On Sunday night we reached Umballa - our journey of 45 miles having occupied us from Friday at noon - [c.o.] The whole of Monday I was doing all in my power to restore & comfort my poor poor [sic] - On Tuesday morning at half past 7 her pains began & at a ¼ to ten her pains & troubles on that account were over - She was all this time in great peril, but her life was preserved - I fortunately had the assistance of a most able Dr⁶⁰ who with his kind, humane wife, have done all that lay in their power to lessen the weight of poor Minnie's dreadful afflictions & bodily sufferings - She has been most comfortable & even cheerful. The lady has visited her morning & evening & brought her children with [sic] & bouquets of flowers. When I went with our poor child to the grave she came to pass the time of my absence with her. The Regmt. came in here yesterday & [c.o.] goes on again tomorrow & we must follow the day after, travelling as before in our palkis - To get to Seharempore⁶¹ we have 2 journeys 1 of 30 & the other of 20 miles - after which we may go if we choose only 10 miles a day - It is 12 marches to Meerut & 3 more to the place where we embark to go down the river. Our journey on the water will be of about 25 days. Once on board the boat we hope to have no more fatigue - but I tremble for the journey by land. If any thing should happen to prevent poor Minnie going on Monday I know not what I shall do -

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I must join the Regmt. on the 1st September. Fancy my poor poor wife, after having gone through such frightful sufferings & strangers, being compelled to run the risk of encountering them again before a week has elapsed since her confinement!! She is very low spirited to-day & was so yesterday the greater part of the day. In the midst of all these troubles, dear dear Mother, I have thought with pain & grief of the consequence in weakening my finances so much that I can send no money home. What I must do & what I hope Mr Thorne⁶² will consent to my doing is to send you 10 or 15£ to pay Interest & effect an insurance on my life or any other person's for 200£ for another year. This at least will save you from loss. By the end of September I shall, God willing, be at Berhampore & shall have plenty of time for remitting the money. I have left a great number of things at Loodianah hoping that some of them may one day be sold - Minnie's beautiful saddle, a

gun, my pet chair & all our furniture just as it was when dear Minnie & I used to sit there happily together - We have our expenses down the river paid for us, i.e. the boat hire, to the extent of 36£ but my losses from other things - the sudden evacuation of our house & this [word hidden by seal] travelling is [torn] terribly expensive. I incur great expenses in transporting my good & servants &c. I was fortunate enough [c.o.] to sell a gun for 35£ - my lamp & glass ware for good sums - but I am still in dreadful straits - not immediate, but prospective. I am obliged to write a long letter but I'm employing time which I would gladly devote to my poor poor Minnie, who greatly wants my attention. I will keep this open until we move again - I send you, dearest mother, poor Minnie's affectte love & mine to Irene Henrietta Sibella & Frank & his family we send the same. I have been to the the grave of our poor baby. The Clergyman & Dr (Tritton) went with me. It was a sweet pretty child, & had a form of head which I recognised as belonging to my family & eyes, not blue or grey, but exactly like mine. Dr Tritton said it looked like a child a week old - its little head so firmly formed & so fair - Poor Minnie had gone her full time all but a few days - less than a week. How much does my poor pet want her dear & good Grandmother & good affectte nurse! I am almost ready to brake my heart when I allow myself to dwell upon her sufferings & bitter bitter disappointment - I have not alluded to the comfort & consolation we feel in continual prayers to a merciful God who has preserved to me my poor wife - whom I love as much as ever mortal loved another being. Would that there were more instances of love, esteem & never varying peace & affection such as we are blessed with.

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Sunday. My dearest Mother, I am happy to say that the Corps does not march till tomorrow - On Wednesday we follow - I am indeed happy in being able to say that my poor Minnie is much better to-day & talks of sitting up a little as a preparation for the movements she must make on Wednesday - She is now writing to Granny, resting on her elbow - a most unpleasant position & one in wh: it is most difficult to write - You must please, dearest Mother, direct your next letters

to Berhampore - It is the first Station on the river above Calcutta - on the Ganges, not the Hoogley - I told you that we shd move by easy stages of 10 or 20 miles after our first - As soon as I have closed this & Granny's letter I shall read the Morning Service to my poor wife - You ask about our old practice of reading & having prayers together daily - We have never omitted it one single day since we left you & amidst our afflictions difficulties & labors the time so occupied has been to us both the happiest - almost the only seasons of peace & comfort - In our prayers we

always remember & mention you & all dear to us at home Did I tell you that we shd. reach our boats about the 15th September? At Berhampore I hope to have a little rest & peace & comfort - If the climate shd. agree with me I shall endeavour to remain in Bengal. God bless you dearest Mother & all my dear family Minnie's love & blessing accompanies mine

Minnie [her signature] & Henry - yr Children

[addressed]

Via Calcutta & Marseilles

Mrs John Jones
Clifton Villa,
Portland Place
Leamington Spa
Warwickshire
England

[stamped] 1852 15 OCT 15
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The Ganges River - 12 miles from Allahabad October 1st 1852

My very dear Mother Thus far have we come on our journey, without any more mishaps since I wrote last, though we have had pretty good experience of all the miseries which heat & rain can inflict on poor travelling mortals in this vile, brutal, detested country - I now thoroughly hate India, the service & every thing connected with either; so vilely have I been treated & so severely have I suffered in mind, body & purse. I feel I am making an effort to call up all my past troubles, for at this present hour of writing I feel happy, cool & comfortable - The sun is just rising & the scene around me is most beautiful & peaceful I am gliding rapidly on the broad bosom of the Ganges, towards Allahabad, which we may reach by breakfast time. Just at the moment the near approach of other boats (rivals) has set the rowers to work again & their vile style of rowing has jerked the strum in which I was beginning to write quite out of my hand & heart. For the last 4 days we have had constant rain which has been most welcome, although we have been unable to keep it out of our boat; for before the rain, the heat was so excessive that I feared the worst consequences from it - Poor Minnie's face bore a continual flush & her eyes were red & she complained more & more each day; while I was obliged to wear wet towels on my head all day long to save my senses. This is all past now & I trust we may have no more terrific heat - We halted 36 hours at the place we left very early this morning. It was exceedingly pretty & yesterday afternoon Minnie & I took our first walk - I may say the first since we arrived in India - She is very well indeed, I am happy to say & as cheerful & merry as ever you knew her to be - She has roused me from many a fit of deep despondency & proved herself the best, the most cheering, sweet & loving companion I could have found in this world. None of my prospects had the least hope in them, till she pointed them out. The climate; the Regmt I belong to; the ruinous expense of this journey (to say nothing of our sufferings & my continual anxiety on her account are enough to deaden all hope, all prospects of comfort & peace in me - But

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we have started a scheme, which has made dear Minnie quite happy, it is that as soon as we reach Berhampore, I should apply to be removed to the 44th Regt. at Dinapore - The Officers of that Corps I have seen, and they are a nice set; the station of Dinapore is better than Berhampore & best of all, they will go up the country this time next year. Notwithstanding the expense & horrid trouble of marching I must endure all to regain the Upper Provinces - I ought to talk to you about business before any other matters - The Mail leaves Calcutta on the 7th but I fear I shall not be able to get to Benares in time for sending a letter from that place. At Benares alone can I get a Draft & if we do not reach it in time I must wait, I dont know how long, before I send one by the following Mail - I suppose nearly a fortnight - I have tried to get a Draft at 3 stations which we have stopped at; but they all refuse to grant me one except on i.e. at the time of the receipt of my Pay. At Benares we draw pay. What I intend doing I must have explained in former letters - It is to sent you 10£ immediately to pay the interest due on the 200£, which I fancy must be under [c.o.] 5£; & to renew

my Life Insurance for 6 months with the other 5£ - This I trust Mr Thorne will assent to. From time to time I must send you such little sums as I can scrape together & renew at the end of the next six months, [c.o.] the Insurance for whatever balance may remain. I forgot to tell that I had no idea whatever that the money was to be repaid in six months. I was firmly convinced that it was borrowed for one year - Such at least was my intention when I borrowed it - You will have no difficulty in renewing or carrying on my Insurance. If I should not be able to send you a Draft from Benares I suppose that Mr Thorne will wait for another Mail, as I shall assuredly send the money 4, 5 or 6 days after leaving Allahabad; Our progress down the river is most uncertain - if the wind is contrary we scarcely move; if favorable we make very long trips

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But for this terrible journey I should certainly by this time have sent you a large proportion of the money I owe, for my outlay this last month - I mean since I started on this journey, has been upwards of 100£!!! Is it not sad that I should incur ruin merely by having to go so far down the country for no purpose whatever? There was no occasion for my going with this Wing & if the Commandant of the Regmt had known an iota of his business, he would have applied for instructions in proper time - As it was, a young boy, just married, at the very last hour, said that owing to the circumstance of his wife accompanying him he should apply for a Dr to accompany the Troops. This frightened the fool Comdr. of the Regmt & application was made for some youngster to accompany the Wing; but there was no time for finding one & the Genl. sent orders the day before they marched, for the Dr of the Regmt. to go. This is the shameful way in which I was kicked from one end of India to the other, without 24 hour's notice & at this dreadful season. Of poor Minnie's then condition I need not speak; but I may tell you that the news nearly killed her upon the spot. Such horrid despair I never saw expressed in human face, as poor poor Minnie then showed & must have felt. Our Commdr when sending the order he had recd. from the General, wrote - "This may occasion you some inconvenience!!!! I cannot remain in this Corps a hour longer than I can help, though I may have to retrace my steps to Dinapore an hour after reaching Berhampore. We pass Dinapore after Benares. We ought by this time to have been at the latter place, but contrary & violent winds have kept in back. We got on board on the 18th of September & Allahabad is not quite half way, so that we have at least a fortnight more of this wretched work - Wretched it is, though our troubles are such as are common to travellers in this [c.o.] country - What we have suffered most from has really been hunger - For 2 or 3 successive days we have had a very small fowl only between us, for breakfast, dinner & tea! I have really been almost starved since I left Loodeanah - I have scarcely had 6 proper meals - nothing but nasty fowls, which at

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at length I really could not touch. Our mode of travelling causes great difficulties in getting & cooking our food. At scarcely any place on the road i.e. on the banks of the river have we been able to buy anything - We do not stop excepting late in the afternoon when it is getting dark & my boat having half its hands sick, is never up with the rest till very late on. The next trip but one we were 6 or 7 hours behind the rest not arriving at the halting place till 20 minutes to 12 at night - We had exhausted all our provisions - we positively had nothing to eat, but the most diminutive little chick which I could have swallowed at one mouth-ful! No potatoes, and our bread sour & mouldy. Indeed we have been a whole month without potatoes - But the most terrible of all was the late heat - at night it was fearful. I sat outside the boat the whole night once; & poor Minnie I have found covered with painful, hot, innumerable swellings which you wd. have thought were produced by scorpions - I never saw such horrid sufferings from mosquitoes. There is a hasty sketch of the luxuries of the East! How little did I know what one might be called upon to suffer in this hateful

Country, before my late return to it! Not one day's peace & quiet have we had since we reached it. Our poverty, our difficulties & the uncertainty of our destination in this Relief of the Regmts have kept [c.o.] all things but our love & affection, as miserable as we could well be - Our real sufferings I have sometimes attempted to describe - My dear old pretty is asleep in the next room. Our boats are like barges or horse ferry boats, with a little cottage, occupying the whole deck, made entirely of straw & bamboos - It is divided into 2 little bed & dining rooms & 2 bathing rooms - It is all lined with white Cloth & looks very neat & comfortable. We have 2 tables & 3 chairs, 2 beds, a few boxes & 2 setts of shelves - The whole looks quite like a little cottage - Talking of traps can you conceive poor Minnie's discomfort in again having parted with all her worldly possessions excepting a little bundle of clothes! We took with [sic] two little tin boxes of linen, 1 pormanteau [sic] & 1 box - All the rest of our traps, 8 large boxes, we sent by the Bullock Train, which owing to the terrible rain has ceased operations for a month or two, & we have no chance of seeing our property for months to come & then we shall have to pay 10£ for the excessive inconvenience! It is most lamentable; but after our other troubles that is a light one. I meant to have said that our baggage ought to be on board our boats - Our dearest dearest love again Mother & Irene - Our love to all at home - We kept Henrietta's birth day - my dear love to her

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[Upside down at top] I shall write again doubtless from Benares. God bless you all. Tell Sibella that I wd have written to her but for my late troubles - Thank her & give her my love

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120 Miles from Calcutta - Berhampore November 4th 1852

My dearest Mother I am much distressed at not having received a letter from you on my arrival at this place, on the 21st October, because I was most anxious to know what was the state of your mind about the money due to the Leamington Bank. I told you in several of my late letters, that owing to my not being able to raise any considerable sum of money, I should send you enough to pay the interest for the past year & indeed my life for the coming one. After my arrival here I made every effort in my power to get a Draft to send you, but owing to the holidays which the Hindoos had at that time I desired the Agra Bank Agent in Calcutta, Mr M. Balfour, to send you the 1st of the set of Bills - The 2nd & 3rd have this moment reached me & one of them I shall enclose in this. You cannot conceive the anxiety that I have felt on account of your responsibility for that large sum. But for the unprecedented misfortune of my being ordered down the Country so soon after my reaching Loodeanah, I should ere this have sent you a large portion of the money I owe - My expenses during the month following my departure from Loodeanah exceeded 100£ I must do the best I can to relieve you from your difficulty. The 10£ I here with send will do to pay the interest & insure my life for another six months; or the whole might be laid out in insuring my life for a whole year & I will by the next mail send 5£ for the interest. Whatever course you may follow, I'll send the 5£ next month - The two hundred pounds you have in reserve for your 2 girls [c.o.] you may be called upon to pay, but it will occasion no ultimate loss to you or them, for I will pay ample interest, keep my life constantly insured & as, soon as I am settled, pay the principal. But I trust that Mr Thorne, with such security as he will have in my insurance, & while I continue to pay the interest of the debt, will not call upon you for the payment of [c.o.] it. Dearest mother, I fear greatly for your anxieties [c.o.]

about this harassing business, but I trust that you will be comforted by the steps I have taken to secure you from ultimate loss, & the plans for the future which I have suggested & will follow - You will be surprised perhaps at the expression I have used "when I am settled" - Can you conceive it possible that I have still further to go! but where I have not the least idea - Had I been a bachelor I wd have resigned the Service & have gone to the "diggins" in Australia⁶³, before I wd have submitted to the hardships & ruin to which I have

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so cruelly & unnecessarily [been] exposed - contrary to all practices of the Service, too, as [c.o.] it has been done. The half of my Regmt. was ordered down in the height of the rains to relieve the 37th at this place, who were to go to Burmah on our arrival - Three orders by Express, have been sent to the 37th while we have been here - the 1st directed their immediate departure to the seat of War; then an order came for them to march on the 15th November; & yesterday a fresh one arrived saying that their services would not be required at all!! There is room here but for one Regmt. so we must move away somewhere or other. At present by the bye, there is a second Corps besides the 37th - They too must be sent off soon, for they & our Wing are in tents having no houses, & in them the heat, here in Bengal, is frightful: besides, the cold at night is extreme - No one can imagine the feelings of despair & disgust, with which poor Minnie & I are overwhelmed at this unmitigated persecution & cruelty - No one in India was ever so shamefully treated; & the circumstance of sending me, the Senior Medl. Officer at Loodeanah, with a Detachment from one end of India to the other in the Rains, is an unprecedented act of injustice. It is very probable that they will not allow me my full pay, which I am at present drawing because of my being with a Detachment - If so I shall hereafter be retrenched some 7 or 800Rs: for the other half of the Regiment cannot reach this in less than 2 months from the present time, supposing they come here; & if they halt any where up the country, we should be still longer reaching them - In either case I shd lose 16£10 a month for some five months - If we have to move now I must get Tents, horse & buggy; but how or where I know not - I left my horse un-sold at Meerutt, but it could not reach me under a month & a half - We cannot perform any part of our journey in this part of the world as we did our recent one - in Palankeens from Loodeanah to the River & the rest of the way in boats - Here we must march, with tents & riding or driving each stage. I wonder I have not lost my reason & gone raving mad with the endless & apparently insuperable difficulties that I constantly surrounded with [sic] - I wrote to you on the 1st October from Allahabad & I trust you recd. the letter. I am rather doubtful about it as all sorts or tricks [sic] seem to be played with the letters of poor travellers - On our arrival here we recd. but one note; though many many letters, we have since heard, have been directed to this place to await our arrival - Your last & Granny's last have been lost, besides many letters from friends in India - I must have given you a pretty minute acct. of our journey as far as Allahabad - From that place to this matters got worse & worse - The heat increased every day & the clouds of mosquitos nearly drove us mad at night - We used to sit up all night fanning each other. I never heard of such misery. To add to our troubles I fell ill & had fever for four days - It was a time of extreme suf

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fering, for I could scarcely breathe. When I was well, I was often obliged to wear a wet towel over my head all day. Fancy, if you can, what all this must have been to poor Minnie - It is on her account that I feel all these sufferings more than I shd. alone. For days I was terrified at seeing her face flushed & eyes red scarcely able to support her head, from the intense heat. The roof of our floating hut was not thick enough for an English sun, & so was of little use in an Indian one. I felt every hour of the day as if I should fall down in a fit of apoplexy. We had many other troubles on board. We stopped our boats only during the nights, so that sometimes for a week together we never

put one foot on shore - The boats were so small that we were obliged to lie down almost always - We halted twice to see old friends whose houses were close on the bank of the river - Those visits were delightful & the last, which was of 1 & ½ days' duration, quite set us up. That was at Dinapore, where I had intended to stop altogether on acct. of my illness. However the shelter of a roof, the quiet & repose of a house, a good night's rest, completely restored me & I went on board my boat again & continued my journey to this place. We have not yet got our baggage - Poor Minnie is so badly off for clothes as not to be able to go out, at least to parties - She has one pair of worn-out shoes & I one pr. of worn out boots! I trust we may not be moved again before we get our things, for veritably our condition is no better than that of beggars! It was exceedingly fortunate that I let my servants bring one of my boxes containing all our plate, one table cloth & one napkin - But for this we shd. have had nothing to feed off or on - That one box contained all my treasures, my writing desk, dessert knives & forks, dishes, teapot, dinner knives &c. Poor Minnie has nothing warm to put on; & if we marched she wd. require some furs & the warmest clothing she had in England. What a pretty experience we have had of Indian life!! Every body pities us & shows us the extremest kindness - On our river trip our friends supplied us with fruit, vegetables, meat, wine, brandy soda water, butter &c &c for we were often almost starved & had no clean water to drink. At the villages we often & often [sic] could get no provisions - & more than once dined on 3 or 4 sardines - about the size of your thumb & Minnie's food for a whole day was several times half of a diminutive chicken - Had any person told me of sufferings the half of what we experienced, I could not have believed him. Fancy if you can the reason of our present uncertainty & what dreadful journeys, sufferings & expenses we are picturing to ourselves. My pecuniary difficulties are not the least of our sufferings. On account of my falling necessarily into arrears with our Funds while in England I am retrenched 91Rs a month - in Bengal we get 3£ per month less than elsewhere I get 100 Rs less a month than I did at Hansie; I have to pay the Bank 100Rs a month for my loan ([800 c.o.] 700 Rs of wh: I have pd. of the 1500 Rs I borrowed) I have incessant travelling & I have to provide for 2 instead of one!!!! Think of how changed India is to me! Before I had peace, comfort, abundance & a beautiful climate - Now I have extreme poverty, & every kind of suffering, affliction, fatigue & sickly climate

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We were happy beyond expression when we reached this place & to our surprise we found it extremely pretty - tho' I hate the appearance of every thing in Bengal - The sight of the Palm trees of every description & the vile tanks which abound every where, make me feel quite sickly - I think of them as the sources of cholera & every fever that the country rejoices in - The Cantonment is close to the river - Nearly all the Military live in what are termed barracks - an enormous square 400 yds on each side - On two sides the barracks are low buildings of one storey, but on the other two there are large handsome [c.o.] separate buildings - the Civilians occupying one range & 3 lofty ranges of Barracks the other - Behind these last is a very large tank 630 yds long & close to the opposite bank of it, opposite the Centre Barrack, is our house - a most capital one, with a host of rooms & verandahs 51 double doors!! We are in the middle of a very pretty field or meadow & the look [c.o.] out from all sides is really for a flat country quite delicious - On the side from the tank extends our paddock about 150 yds & beyond is a large plain, where is the race course & parade ground & bounded, nearly a mile off, by splendid trees, leaving peeps of the country beyond. There is one dreadful drawback to this exceedingly good & prettily placed house - in it every tenant dies or leaves it with some deadly sickness - It bears the name of "Fever Hall and "Dead man's Hall" - The tanks is about 40 yds from the house & certainly looks & smells worse than any corruption I ever heard of - I took an old Surgeon to look at it last night & he said he had never smelt any thing, from stagnation, so utterly horrible. We are almost ready for a flight at any moment that we think of it, perhaps foolishly contented to remain in it for a month or two during the uncertainty of our

destination. There is here a large European Community & a great number of Civilians & the Officers who have been here any time, say that the society is exceedingly pleasant - The place is constantly visited by people from Calcutta - Shooting & races are very great here - The latter being the best in Bengal. There was a Ball here last night, to which dear Minnie was urgently pressed to go notwithstanding that she has no shoes & only 1 common muslin dress - A lady sent her a pair of shoes & Minnie feared [sic] the dress - When I began about the ball I was speaking about the society & amusements of the place. Every one speaks in ecstasies about both, so if we are moved again, we shall have it rendered the more bitter. [c.o.] If we are fortunate enough to remain I shall immediately change my house & go to the Quarters, a most melancholy change, as it is as public as the streets of Leamington - & one cannot even lounge in the verandah - The rooms are of vast size however. There are some dozen other houses like our own, but they are all occupied & the rents enormous - For our's with its bad name we give 5£ a month: at Loodeanah I paid 1£ at Hansie nothing for six years! So, in the whole I am worse of now than I was before by at least 30£ out of 50?

[on side] No more room. God bless you my dearest mother - Your affecte. son Henry

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Berhampore, January 3rd 1853

My very dear Mother I am longing for your next letter exceeding[torn] that I may know what arrangements have been made about my sa[torn] sad load, & in the absence of this information I scarcely know how to write to you. What troubles & vexations I fear you may have suffered on that account I [c.o.] dread to contemplate - I have but one hope & that is that Mr Thorne will concur in my proposals. He must see that I could not by any possibility meet my engagements & he may therefore consent to receive security & interest for another year. My career has been a most calamitous one & still I am filled with anxiety about the future. Whether we move from this or not, we have not the least idea. We hear great rumours every day - Some make me happy & others plunge me in despair - One of to-day has made me low spirited. Being down in this part of the world, on the spot from whence troops & Doctors must be supplied, I must remain uncertain of my fate from day to day - I almost wish I could at once be ordered to Burmah & see the worst over at once, rather than live for months & years in painful uncertainty, harassed by reports, rumours & what I see being done around me. We expected to be ordered to Barrackpore & still it may be our destination; for until the other Wing of the Regmt. arrives here & until the hot weather comes on we cannot know who will be sent from this Station & who will remain - I heard to-day of two Drs. having been ordered from their Regmts. at Barrackpore direct to Burmah. Had my Regmt. been there such would perhaps have been my fate! For myself I shd. be well pleased to go there in any way, but I have too good reason to dread the consequences of such a separation to poor dear Minnie, who is not a bit better prepared for a separation than she was when we were love making, or only recently married. All is trouble, trouble when we dare to look into the future. However there is this comfort we may be left to enjoy years of peace in this place, while others go & fight in or occupy Burmah - latter rather - for all the rest of the country we have in form & in fact taken possession of, for not being volunteers i.e. ready at any time for foreign service, may save us from Burmah. It is most unwise to anticipate evil, but I can scarcely help it now & then.

1v

[torn]ith a fresh page we'll take a fresh theme. Our present health & comfort [torn] perfect. We are decorating our house in a very pretty way & very cheap [torn] - You will be surprised to hear that we have stuck against the walls of our room 20 unframed pictures. They nevertheless are extremely ornamental. We are going to have them framed gradually; though, we get frames here, very prettily made for 1Rs apiece, instead of 15 or 20/- as at home. Our rooms are very large & lofty, & for beauty's sake we are having white muslin curtains put up at 2 doors. They are more than 10 feet high! half the height of the room - For 5 Rs we have bought the 2 pair - Many things are exceedingly cheap here. Real Macassar Oil⁶⁴ is [c.o.] 1 shilling a bottle! A gentleman entering our sitting room a few days ago said it looked the prettiest he had seen. We have not yet got our boxes. You know that we started from Loodeana with a little box of linen, each! To balance my box I most luckily took my portmanteau filled with all my English clothes. Had I not done so, I shd. have been in a most wretched state of destitution - You know that dear Minnie brought only one white & blue muslin dress with her - no shoes, not ever a shawl! All our property is lying in Calcutta & is to be again shipped on the 8th or 10th & it is expected that they will be landed at the nearest place, 30 miles off, on about the 22nd. What scenes of rain & destruction we shall see when we open our unfortunate packages - They were closed on the 15th or 16th August last. They may contain mere dust! We shall have been about 8 months in this year without our property - having nothing but a few changes of linen - My poor dear Mother, your last letter was a very sad & disappointing one. This Irene will say, is no compliment to her; though I will gladly confess that she, with her pen, made up for our disappointt. as well as any proxy could have done - I fear that I & my unhappy affairs contributed to the head-ache you were suffering from. Dear Sibella gave me a letter, for which thank her with my best love. I hope & trust - & so does my dearest wife, that on Sibella's return home you have found yourself happier - Her absence was a constant source of the most dreadful distress to you; that at least must be at an end. Dear Sibella's efforts to become loving, affectionate, quiet & domestic have I hope entirely succeeded. How does my poor sister Irene feel the change? I fear that no change & no time will entirely reconcile her to it - I suppose that the outward maintenance of peace & quiet is all that she can hope for. Her writing to me in your kind & dear neighbour's house seemed strange, & ominous. At this season we have been daily & hourly recalling the events of two years since, abounding with events of intense to us particularly [sic], as they do; & much we have talked of you all. We thought of you particularly yesterday & on Xmas day, on both of which days we attended the Sacrament. We were yesterday speaking

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with much sadness of the short time since I passed with you, dear mother [torn] What immediately led to it was my observing that I had not suffered from [torn] heart-burn ever since I returned to India - How dreadfully I used to suff[torn] from it at Leamington, abstaining from food for many days together [torn] account of it. This distressing malady would have effectually prevented my staying at Leamington many days together; so I am, by that reflection, somewhat consoled, feeling that to have lived with you long, dear mother, would have [sic] impossible, even if we had not taken up our abode at Dartmouth. I cannot help looking back with sorrow & regret at the todo that attended the expected confinement of poor dear Minnie - We left you that we might let you live in comfort & went to Uffculme to enjoy it ourselves. That led to consequences which we shall ever deplore. When I look back at both or either of her unblessed labors, I cannot help feeling surprise at the fuss hubbub, confusion of plans & preparations & the summary enjection [sic] from a brother's house, in anticipation of an event that occasions, in my house at least, no more disturbance than the lancing of a baby's gums. Poor Irene feared that it wd. upset you if it took place at Leamington; tho a score of times her sufferings were as great as in the final scene. I wonder what made [torn] speak of this - The thoughts of dear Frank I suppose - We have, w[torn] deepest sympathy for him, dear fellow, said often & often "What [torn] Frank to do, if [torn]s school has so

dwindled down?" Give me a speedy [torn] answer to this, dear mother, if you can. Will you tell him, with my dearest love & Minnie's, that a Mr Leigh in our Regmt. desired his kind remembrances to him. He was at Ottery School & his family live at Cullompton - We, M & I, were speaking one day of Uffculme in his presence, when he made this discovery. He said I strongly reminded him of Frank. This Mr Leigh has a wife & one sister in India - There were two sisters, but one most unhappily died at Loodeanah soon after she came out. Mrs Leigh was Minnie's chief female friend in the Regmt. & they were very sociable. When we were ordered down the country, thinking that poor Minnie could not possibly accompany me, she kindly offered to take her into her house & devote herself entirely to Minnie's comfort & consolation. That was an act of great kindness, for she herself was expecting her own confinement, had a house full - with sister & child! Not like Marianne!!! The poor thing was confined but 9 days before their dreadful march began, which must last another mon [sic] although begun in the middle of October - We expect the remainder of the corps this time next month, when perhaps, we may learn our destiny. I long for the time

2v

4th January - Our letters, dear Mother are posted early one day & not despatched till the following mornng so, that to be safe I am going to close & post this letter now. You will be astonished to learn what has been our occupation for a good hour this mornng for the purpose of warming ourselves & for Minnie's practice - We have been polking, waltzing & galloping & during our performa[torn] there entered a young gentleman, the nicest dancer in the place & he danced [torn] waltzed with Minnie to my fiddling again, but I could not help it in this instance. I ha[torn] often & often though & talked of my dear brother Tom of late - Yr. suggestion [torn] he was lonely made me very sad. When I think of my wondrous hap[torn]

with my precious wife, I cannot help feeling that his life is strangely unblest by the companionship of relations. I feel astonished that one of such very uncommon merits & learning shd. be so circumstanced. I ought to write to dear old Berty, & Emma. I was rejoiced at hearing that my brothers got their little presents - Tell Bertram that I stole my Godson's plate - but I'll make reparation one of these days, I hope. Will you, dear mother, make a point of giving my affectionate love to good & dear old Fanny Bent. I repent me that I begged of her her little treasure - my ship; but Minnie did so covet it. I have never been able to get a second shade for it, which I greatly regret

You will of course give my dearest love to Tom & Berty I shall find time to write some day or other. We are going to a ball to-night - The pic-nics are my delight - The gardens, the water, the fun dancing &c are all delicious - out of doors too! Give my best love to Sibella & Irene - Netta & George - God bless [illegible]est mother - Yr. affecte. son Henry

[Addressed:

Via Southampton

Mrs John Jones
[c.o. Clifton Villa Portland Place
Leamington Spa
Warwickshire]
England

Uffculme
Cullompton
Devon

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Berhampor March 18th /52 [sic, error for 53]

My dear dear Mother I wrote to you by the mid-monthly Mail, just this time last month & as I was very busy during the beginning of the month I put off my writing till this time. Your last letter contained many grievous announcements - I mourned the loss of poor Bertram's little son⁶⁵ as much as if it had been my own - I was quite broken hearted about it - I felt that he was particularly my god son, because he was my dear brother's first child & I had been elected to the office to show Bertram's great regard for me; & being associated in it with my sister Irene, enhanced the pleasure & fond pride of it. How great is my pleasure to feel & know that dear Bertram is a sincere Christian & that he can speak from his heart, in the words which you repeated to me. Poor dear fellow I fear that such a loss must have been felt by him more acutely than by most parents. I am much distressed at the sadness of dear Frank's prospects. What will he do? What can he do? If he remains at Uffculme I fear his getting into dreadful straits He must be then almost without resources; for what is one pupil worth? I heartily wish that I could recommend some of my friends to send him their children, but I know no one who has any to send - I hope your presence at Uffculme has been a comfort to him, poor fellow. All your sons are now pretty badly off in this world's wealth, but it does not much matter - How very different are my thoughts & hopes & aspirations now from what there were formerly. Certainly my grievous misfortunes & pecuniary difficulties have much changed me; & don't mean for the better exactly, but I begin to feel that I must suffer them, more or less, to the end of my days - & I hope that when the next one comes I shall be more patient, humble & resigned than I have been hitherto. Certainly my troubles came upon me with the rush of a hundred torrents - my pecuniary difficulties oppressed me with a sense of degradation such as I never expected to have felt. Every thing was a complete reversion of my former condition & goings on - I did not mean to retrace my steps to those gloom & dark days; but thinking of poor Bertram & Emma I am reminded of my own dark days. To-day I am able to say for the first time - the first hour & moment that I have no fears or anxieties about my next move. In Calcutta we lived in perfectly agonising fears of having to go Burmah; at Loodeanah I feared having to return to this part of the world; & since I have been here I have been alarmed daily & almost hourly & without cessation, with reports of our having to go each & every place within 700 miles of us - to any place between Cawnpore & Rangoon. My last trial of the same kind was this - The Dr of the Seikh Regmt fell ill & was

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sent off to England. Soon after an order came for that Regmt to hold itself in readiness to march to Midnapore; and as there was no Dr with it, it was intimated to me that I had better hold myself in readiness to go with it, for if the Seikhs went I shd assuredly go too - Midnapore is 15 marches off and I should be out in Camp for a whole month - I shd have to come back alone & thereby use half a month's staff pay! I have neither horse, nor tent, nor money & I shd have to leave poor Minnie for a whole month. I say nothing of the heat, & my helpless condition if I myself fell sick. Well, last night I recd a most heart-rejoicing letter from the Superdg Surgeon telling me that another Doctor wd be instantly sent off for the Seikhs & that I need not at all fear having to go - I heard this

morning that they are likely to get their orders to march in 10 days. This narrow escape from one of the greatest evils that could befall me I attribute wholly to my own energy in writing off to the Supdg Surgn to tell him of the state of affairs, the instant that I heard the first hint of the Seikhs having to go. Some 5 days after I had written I spoke to the Comdg Officer of the Seikhs about my hideous prospects & begged him to endeavour to get another Dr. He said he could do nothing & suggested my writing to the Supdg Surgn - which fortunately I had already done & in good time - My last trip - from Loodeanah - for which I had 6 hours' notice was entirely owing to the sluggish stupidity of my Commandr who was afraid to write for another Doctor - If I had known that this dull story wd have taken up so much room, I wd never have mentioned - I shall however feel free from all anxieties about moving as soon as these other Corps are gone - I shall be truly sorry for their departure, thro' the loss it will entail of many nice companions; but I shall be glad to be, for once in 14 months free from anxieties that embitter many & many an hour - My pecuniary difficulties are now most dreadful & tho' I spent nothing except for necessaries of life I owe ever tradesman & Bank in the country. I have for months refrained from buying myself boots & shoes even - By the by, dearest mother, you put me in a great fright about the 2£1 you or rather Irene has pd to the so-called Agents. I received from them 2 bills or duns for the same sum, while I was at home, but I took no notice of them because, as I then told you, I had no Agents - When Tom once wrote to me, his letter was detained in the London Post Office for 2/6 the postage due upon it - To get hold of this letter I actually paid a year's subscription & 8/- to those Agents - 1£12 in all - & now I have just pd 2£1 more for it - It was a sad sad pity, for it cost me more trouble to save that little sum than you will ever imagine. I suffer

all the horror's of debt, excepting imprisonment, & grieved I am that so much money shd have been thrown away - What has been done with the other 2£ dear mother? Had the whole 10£ been paid to Mr Thorne I shd. have had no anxiety about the interest till October next as it is I fear it is due from December last!! What a difference! When I send any money in future I must entreat you, dear mother, to devote it wholly & solely to the purpose for which I send it home. You cannot imagine how sorely I am afflicted with poverty & how unable I am to get money to pay even the postage of a letter - I assure you for nearly a whole year I have not had one single half-penny in my possession & I positively never knew or heard of any person in such dreadful straits as I am in - Through my difficulties I have been obliged to refuse to subscribe to parties, races & all sorts of things, by which I have fallen into bad odour; to my great unhappiness I assure you - I dont want to reproach you or poor dear Irene; but the loss of the money compelled me to the telling of how much I feel it. It wd be advisable to pay Mr Thorne the 2£ you have remaining! My difficulties have now most dreadfully increased through having to buy a buggy & ho[torn] I asked my kind old friend Dr Macpherson⁶⁶ to buy them for me, but not to go beyond 500Rs which I considered the very lowest sum for which the very worst turn out could be procured.. I have got the very best buggy I ever saw; it is perfectly new, without speck, flaw or blemish, & he pd. but 300Rs for it - It is quite worth 900 Rs & any where up the country I could sell it for that sum or very nearly so. The mare, harness &c &c cost 250Rs more - so that I have added to my former debts the sum of 440Rs - Awful! I have fallen into arrears 3 months with the Agra Bank, to whom I promise to pay 100Rs a month. I shall be for the next 3 months in great difficulties thro' this last purchase. Of course it was as necessary to me as air, for I could not walk about the station - a ship to come across the seas is not more necessary, than a buggy is to an Indian Doctor. We greatly, almost inexpressibly enjoy our new acquisition - it enables us to visit every one & above all to go to church & it serves the latter purpose to 2 nice friends in our Regt a Mr Swiney⁶⁷ & his wife, who have very recently arrived from Cheltenham where they were only lately married. We have such sweetly pretty drives - One of at least 2 miles extent, thro one continuous avenue, with a [c.o.] lovely country on either side of the road

It leads to Cossim Bazar where our first Mercantile Agents resided, nearly a century ago. In the burial ground there were laid a grand-daughter of the great Hampden - the wife & child of Warren Hastings & "Little Henry" the hero of the juvenile tale of "Little Henry & his Bearer". Minnie is learning to drive & a most troublesome horse she has to learn with. How very sorry I was to hear dear Mother of your not being able to go to Exeter to see Fanny Bent & some of dear Minnie's relations. Our Brigadier here Coll Huish⁶⁸ is an Exeter man & several long talks he has had with Minnie about Exeter & its inhabitants

Poor man! he has just had an awful accident. He was pig-sticking (ang: Boar hunting) when his horse fell most violently in some bad ground & the Coll. was thrown on his head. For many days we expected his death, but I believe that now he may live; yet unless his recovery is beyond anything that we can hope for, he will be a helpless cripple the rest of his life - He has had neither feeling nor power of motion in any limb from the moment of the accident, now 10 days since - He is quite a young man & the most fortunate in the service for standing, reputation &c. Its a sad sad thing - Tho' he is a tartar in military matters he was our good friend -

I wanted very much to write to Henrietta but I am tired with such long ones as I have written Give her my dear love - To George too, as well as to all brothers & sisters. The enclosed letter for Bertie please forward as soon as possible - God bless you dearest mother - [seal] affecto son Henry

I ought to write to Aunt Jim - but I shd. have little to say beyond this - aunt Jim don't take any blame to yourself for it was in a long series of neglects

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cold neglect, sulkiness & every kind of unkindness which we received at the hand of Marianne - We each refrained

from all sorts of comments until [c.o.] Aunt herself said "Turn 'em out of the house, is it? Oh! I'll do it fast eno'

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Dear Minnie's best & dearest love of course always accompanies mine

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Burhampore [sic] April 1st [1853]

My dearest Mother,

It seems a long while ago since I last wrote to you & I must now thank you for my share of your letters to my dear Henry. He wrote to you by the mail of the 20th of [c.o.] March, & then I believe told you how he had been afraid he should have to go to Midnapore in charge of the Sikh Corps, but that another doctor had been posted, however he did not make his appearance & our first fears have been realized, & my own dear husband left me at two o'clock on Monday morning the 28 to march towards Midnapore. I had a dear & unexpected letter from him on Wednesday the 30th, written the day before just after his arrival in camp. He said the first day they encamped in the open plain & the

heat was "perfectly awful" & the coolest thing in the tent burnt his fingers.

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Dr Irving⁶⁹ obtained leave to go in the corps at Midnapore, but he then wrote to Major Gordon saying if he would tell him the route he was going to march by, he would meet him on the road. Major G. wrote in reply a very strong letter begging him to come as far as he could, but dear Henry says he does not expect him until they are half way which will be either on Sunday or Monday, then my dear husband will retrace his steps. You will know dear Mother that I cannot be in the best spirits, but I promised Henry to keep up, & I am trying to keep my word, but it is very painful to think of what he is exposed to, when I know how dreadful the heat is in a closed & darkened house with Punkahs, but I earnestly trust he may be

preserved from all harm & restored to me in health. Dear Henry had a tent & pony lent him, but the extra expenses will fall very heavily on our light purses, however this as well as on other journies could not be avoided, & I am very thankful he will not have to go all the way. He was afraid he should have had to go a day or two earlier, & so not be able to go to church & receive the Sacrament on Easter day, but being able to do so was a great comfort to him. I have many kind friends here who do all in their power to soften dear Henry's absence, but what can make up for that? When I have never been accustomed to lose sight of him for a minute for he spends all his day with me. We felt more than we can say for poor Bertram's loss, & dear Henry did not sleep at all the night

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after he heard of it - I am very glad they have another child for if anything could serve to distract their thoughts from their precious boy that would, but it must have been a heavy blow to them. I hope you will be able to give us good accounts of them in you next letter, as well as of the Uffculme party. I should be very glad to hear that Frank's boy was better & that he had more pupils. Henry wished me to write to you by this Mail to tell you of his march, & I trust he will be here to write himself by the middle Mail. Give my love to all my dear sisters, particularly dear Irene. I hope she is still a great deal with the nice neighbour you have opposite. Good Bye My dearest Mother. I expect a letter from you in a day or two. Ever believe in the love & warm affection of your loving daughter Minnie Jones.

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[Addressed:

Via Southampton

Mrs John Jones
Clifton Villa
Portland Place
Leamington Spa
Warwicks.
England

Stamped:

BERHAMPORE 1? AP
CALCUTTA 4 AP 4 1853

1853 19 MY 19
LEAMINGTON MY 20 1853

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Midnapore - 50 miles from Calcutta & 170 from Minnie & Berhampore
April 30th 1853

My dearest dear Mother I have for more than a month past felt as if all intercourse between us had ceased, for I am sure I don't know when I wrote to you or when I heard from you last - [c.o.] both certainly were long before I left Berhampore, which unhappy event occurred at 1 a.m. on the 28th February⁷⁰, only a few hours after I had recd. the Sacrament on Easter Day with my poor afflicted wife - It must have occurred to each of us that it was on Easter Day⁷¹, at Leamington, when we first together received it. As I had a march of 16 days before me I commissioned Minnie to write to you, for I calculated that both the monthly Steamers would go without my being able to write to you. To perfect the feeling of separation from you, dearest mother, the last Mail brought no letter from you to me - your's was altogether to Minnie - She has not sent it to me because of the great uncertainty about where I might be at any time after I left her & this sad & most painful uncertainty continued for upwards of 3 weeks - It is now a month & 2 days since I left my poor broken-hearted wife & I dare say she has told you of her dreadful anxieties & fears & of the constant persecutions I suffer - Just before this Seikh Regmt. marched their Dr. went away on sick leave - Another person is instantly appointed in his stead whose arrival I expected hourly for nearly a month - Every day while on the march As soon as we reached our encampment I made enquiries on every side if the new Dr. had arrived & all the while he was proceeding to Mirzapore; which if I remember right is the place where Mrs Peter Robertson lived with her brother - On my arrival here I shd. have obtained permission to return to Berhampore if there had been a competent Medl. Officer at the Station - but in accordance with the ill luck that ever attends me there is only one ignorant incompetent & universally condemned Native Dr. - a so called Sub-Asst Surgn! who knows no more of Medl. matters than my hat - Then again a third piece of most sad misfortune happens - Another Surgeon has been posted to the Corps & he is only at Dinapore close by; & he ought to have been here weeks ago, for it is a month since he was posted - I was at Loodeanah 12 days after I recd. my orders in Calcutta - Well, this new man has been staying at Dinapore to ---- get married!!⁷² & when he will be here I have no idea. About a fortnight ago he wrote to say that he wd. be here this week or next. I am fully prepared to hear that some accident will prevent his coming to relieve me & so when or how this miserable fix of mine is to end Heaven only knows. Hope - hope has been our support for weeks - & now extending to months & there is no glimpse of certainty about my fate. Poor Minnie has been in agonies of despair lest this Seikh Regmt. shd. go to Burmah while I am with it & so inevitable did this last blow appear on our first arrival, that I was obliged to make up my mind to it. To avoid which I have spent hundreds of pounds & endured hardships & trials - The latter more chiefly my poor suffering wife's - enough to break the heart of any mortal - Tho' our mental suffering is almost

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unendurable the enormous expenses & loss of pay which these journeys occasioned can even increase the evil. When the new Dr arrives I shall go back in a palankeen, the expense of which will be 15£ & I shall lose 11 shillings a day while on my journey back! I shall have to buy my fourth

palankeen during the year! My baggage carriage has cost me 60 Rs. & the 2 establishments don't much lessen my expenses - The march to this place was perfectly frightful on account of the heat - Every day I was obliged to wear wet towels on my head & pass my time much like one with a brain fever! Has not the cup of my misfortunes been filled to overflowing? And yet I am patiently resigned to them & indeed I am filled with very very great thankfulness for the continuance of Minnie's good health & good spirits - She is surrounded with the kindest friends who visit her - sleep with her, take her here there & every where to keep her mind from dwelling too much on her miseries - The time of my return to her is approaching, so she is buoyed up with hopes & anticipations that fill her with joy & happiness. I am something in the same case - but I am beginning to look forward with painful longing & anxiety for a second letter from the newly appointed Dr. But for this distressing journey to this place, do you know, dear mother that I shd. by this time have very nearly paid off my debts, but now I am reduced to the condition I was in 4 or 5 months ago. Still things are looking pretty well I have paid off 1100 - out of 1700 due to one Bank & 6 out of 700 due to another - I owe only 2 two tradesmen 20£ each & 50£ to the P&O Steam Compy. We live so extremely economically that out of my wretched pay of 35£ a month I pay away nearly 30£!! Of dear Minnie's prudent economy I cannot speak in too high praise - She will never spend a single [sic] half-penny on herself - Now we'll stop this account of misfortunes & miseries. This is the very prettiest station in all India - It is not at all like India - the whole country is undulated just like one of the Midland Counties of England & the Station looks like an English village composed of beautiful & even splendid cottages & mansions - It is almost buried in trees & there is the prettiest little church to complete the illusion - that this is not in India. We have a delicious breeze from the sea which sets in as soon as the sun is down & lasts all night. Till last Sunday I never used a punkah!! But it is now awfully hot in the sun - I have to go out in it nearly every day for my professional services are required daily all over the Station in consequence of the incapacity of my native brother! & within 2 days I have had 2 dangerous cases of illness - I have been up twice in the night during the last week & was half the day in the house of one of my patients yesterday - A poor lady who has Erysipelas⁷³ which has been utterly neglected & she is now dangerously ill - On my way back to poor Minnie I shall have to go thro' Calcutta where I must stay a day or two - as Minnie insists upon my getting a real likeness of myself - She says she often & often looks at my picture but it gives her no remembrance of me - What a painful waste of money was that wretched picture! Minnie gave me a few items of your news - poor Miss Louisa's⁷⁴ death - I have her present - Wilson's Devotions & the Sacrament - in daily use - Poor Mrs F. Coleridge's [sic] relapse⁷⁵ too she tells me of - & sad painful news she gives of poor Frank & his sinking fortunes & the illness of his poor little boy - I am deeply grieved at it all - I cannot from this place write to him, but I must do so from Berhampore & to poor old Aunt Jim too - Give them both my dearest love - How much have I sorrowed for my afflicted

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brother Bertram - I trust you received & forwarded my letter to him, poor dear fellow - I sha[torn] be but too glad to hear about dear Tom - I wish there was some prospect of our meeting at home when I return, if it should please God to spare me to that time - What a thing - a sad thing it is for a family to be so dispersed all over the whole world & for nearly the whole of our lives - Minnie tells me nothing of Sibella - I trust she is happy & in good health - Irene was at Worcester - When am I to send my promised letter to Henrietta - I am neglect[torn] a very very dear sister in not writing to her. It is difficult to write more than one letter home at a time - The time it takes to scribble over the whole of one of these sheets is very great. I have nothing to write about but my little uninteresting doings: though since I returned to India I have had nothing but great afflictions, sufferings & difficulties to write about - When I return to Berhampore I hope for a little rest & quiet, for, all the time I was there, we were harassed with reports & rumours of going to Burmah & all sorts of

unpleasant places which occasioned us bitter fears & anxiety - I shall never forget poor Minnie's parting with me - After having left her - it was mid-night - to join the Regmt I rode back home long after to give her another farewell - I found the poor creature in her night dress standing in the doorway, stupefied with grief & horror - I think it best for this life that no love or affection should exist between man & wife - My death would not occasion her more sufferings & agony than this separation has caused her - I am living a very dull & monotonous life here, for having no room in a fit state to receive visitors, I have not called upon any one in the place - except professionally & in that character [torn] have made the acquaintance of every one in the place - The residents are rather disgust[torn] at my hermit-like life - In the absence of Minnie I have no love or liking to any thing & I have not had a laugh since I left her - though I am living with my Commandant our different rooms are effectually separated - so I see & speak to no one all the day, all the week & even month thro' excepting my patients - I used to go to the Billiard room at first but I gave up going there, as walking thro' the sun gave me 4 days' fever - & very comfortable I was during that time! very! I could not tell Minnie of it, for when I told her that I had had a bad headache & had applied leeches, she actually instantly took every measure necessary for joining me - found her dawk & wrote to two stations to ask friends to receive her during the heat of the day - The journey would have killed her, for the stages are so awfully long that she wd. have been kept out in the sun many hours - This amusement is in store for me & will cost me altogether a whole month's Pay! Is it not dreadful? I am sure I have earned a pension by the last 15 months loss & sufferings on acct. of the service - I am so unfortunate in having to do other people's duties - One hundred people have told me that nobody had any right to send me from Loodeanah in the Rains there having been 2 med. Officers junior to me in the same Station - Well I trust in God that I may after this be allowed a little peace & rest - One of my troubles if I live, will be soon over - I mean my pecuniary difficulties, & that by my promotion - Oh! how I have suffered from debts & want of money. I have suffered more than those who have been al[torn]

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all their lives in debt. My expenses during the last year in India I mean, have exceeded my Pay by 2 or 3 hundred pounds - tho' I have lived in the most economical way that I ever witnessed in India - I hope to hear how much or up to what period the interest on the 200£ has been p[torn] What a sad thing it was being tricked out of that money by the Agents - So little do [torn] regard them as my Agents that I shd. not feel myself authorised to ask them to do any thing for me - not now after the payment of that 2£ for they wd. dun and immediately some more arrears! It is the custom of Agencies to get a man's name down in their list & dun & dun them until by some such accident as yours they get hold of some money - I wish dearest mother I had had a letter from you somewhat recently that I might have other things to write about [torn] I live here upon writing to Minnie & reading her beautiful wife-like letters - I hav[torn]

even my fiddle wh: wd have been such a help in these long days - I have practiced with the utmost zeal ever since I saw you - notwithstanding all my troubles. When I have pd. all my debts I shall devote my first savings to buying a piano for Minnie - Poor girl she loves music as much as anyone that ever played & for a year & a half she has not touched one - It's a hard miserable life for her in India & glad I am to think she has only 5 years & 9 months more of it - How sadly true have I found my old & frequent maxim - don't marry in India unless you have 70£ a month - I shall keep my letters open till the 2nd proximo - & Oh! may I have the inexpressible happiness of telling you that we have heard from Mr Owen - the newly appointed & ardently longed for Doctor of this Corps - So assured did I feel that I shd. go to Burmah that I was on the point of asking Minnie to write home & postpone her sister's coming out - I must say God bless you dearest mother till the 2nd

May 2nd. I have this moment heard from Dr Owen - He is crawling down the river in a small boat, & won't be here for a month What sad sad news this will be for poor Minnie who has for a long time been expecting me this very week - It is enough to break one's heart - I must endure it as well as I can - I have room only to say God bless you dearest Mother - Give my affecte. love to all - Your ever loving & affectionate son Henry -

Addressed:

Mrs John Jones
Clifton Villa, Portland Place
Leamington Spa
Warwickshire, England

Stamped:

LEAMINGTON JU ???

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Midnapore June 1st 1853

My dearest mother I am exceedingly sorry that I failed to write to you by the last Mail, through not knowing the change that had been made in the starting of the Steamer which was two days earlier than usual - Your dear letter was filled with a great variety of subjects - the travels you had made & the lots of old family friends whom you had seen - & your return to Leamington - Your first words alluded to my debt to the Leamington Bank & you expressed a hope that I would not renew the loan when the time for payment came again - I am very anxious indeed to do so, but all my pay is wasted in everlasting journeyings & I see no chance of being able to lose a half-penny this year, but then you know that I am expecting my promotion early next year, when my pay will be nearly doubled - As soon as I can meet with another Doctor I intend to insure my life & thereby save you all risk from eventual loss - this I told you in my last letter. My last great outlay was occasioned by dear Minnie's coming to me, which was attended by a great [c.o.] expense she having to pay up all the servants, tradesmen's bills, house rent &c &c - It soon completely exhausted my resources that I have not had a rupee of pay this month, neither could I pay the Bank my monthly instalment & am now 3 or 4 months in arrears However I hope to be able to pay the Bank all that I owe it in one lump, for it is only 44£ and my pay at present is 62£ a month. Of course as soon as I can spare money to send home I will do so; but I owe in this country 90£ besides the sum due to the Bank. So much for business - In my last I must have told you of the approach of some one to relieve me & permit my return to Berhampore - The poor man who was posted to this Regmt. was nearly 3 months in joining - He was engaged to be married; he did marry & made a sort of honey moon trip in a boat down the river & was dreadfully exposed, of course. In Calcutta too he spent some days & I fancy was continuously running about there getting furniture & then necessaries for his home here. He arrived here on the 23rd of May - The next day I was to have started in the afternoon - I had packed my palankeen & was in the act of sending it off, intending to overtake it 6 miles off in a buggy - when I was summoned to attend my unfortunate successor - Dr Owen, & found him ill with Cholera

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I was in constant attendance upon him until 9 o'clock p.m. when he died.⁷⁶ He had been married but 1 month & a day. It was a most dreadful day to me, & not the less so from my knowing what a blow it would be to my poor wife, who would be expecting my arrival at the very moment when she would, instead, receive the afflicting intelligence of the sudden & awful death of Dr Owen & the annihilation of all our hopes of being reunited for months to come. The awful affliction of the poor sufferers - both husband & wife - did not, as I hoped, lessen the weight of the blow to poor Minnie at first, and it made her very ill - The mention of Cholera must I suppose have added alarm to her heart breaking disappointment. You know I suppose this was the 20th time that our hopes were destroyed just at the expected moment of their fulfilment. As we were both suffering great misery from this separation dear Minnie determined on coming over here - She started on the 11th of June & arrived here on the 15th. She had a most tremendous task to perform in packing up & removing all our worldly possessions to the houses of 2 dear friends. She performed her journey to Calcutta pretty well: but from Calcutta to this was a fearful trip. Fortunately her cousin, Harry Hockin⁷⁷ was with her, or she would never have reached this place, I think. She started from Calcutta at 5 am & reached the staging bungalow, after 6 hours dreadful exposure & crossing a wide sea-like river in a tiny native boat to find the bungalow entirely unroofed & she and her cousin sat all [c.o.] day - it was the 14th June - almost in the very sun's rays - They sat in the verandah of the cook room, where they could scarcely keep their feet out of the sun. Poor Minnie at length was obliged to lie on the table, half of which was in the sun. Nobody in India ever heard of such an adventure. She was so altered when I saw her that for 2 days I could not recognise a single feature in her dear face - she was so hollow-eyed & the cheeks so sunken - Thank God she soon was all right again & is now in capital health & we are as happy as the day is long. What dreadful, overwhelming misfortunes & trials attend us at every step. People make a joke of our now famous ill-luck. Here are we again living in a large house having only 4 little boxes of clothes - one table & one chair of our own - 3 odd plates & no tea cups - not a single thing of our own have we besides these few! We have borrowed tables chairs couches, lamps crockery &c &c & we as comfortable & happy & contented as any people on whom the bright sun outside has daily to shine upon. Immediately on the receipt of my sad letter telling Minnie of poor Dr Owen's death, a Capt. Sherwill⁷⁸ & his dear good wife took Minnie to their house & treated her with the greatest, tenderest kindness, gave her hundreds of rupees to pay off her establishment & buy her dawk to this place. By a score of people she has ever been treated like a daughter or sister. My life here before Minnie's arrival was the most wretched I ever experienced. I think I must have told you of some fictions published in the papers about me -

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Should I not have told you, I may say that the story was that I had refused to attend the Civilians here & had been 'handed up' to the Comdr. in Chief - I thought that one of the said Civilians had written this rubbish, so I cut the whole lot of them. I thought too, that as I had attended them all, one at least of them should have written to contradict a statement which all knew to be false - In consequence of this unfortunate business my acquaintance has been limited to my Commandant with whom I lived, & other officers in the Corps - Since Minnie's arrival we have made & I have renewed - the acquaintance of one of them, Mr Cockburn⁷⁹ - His wife is an Exeter lady of the name of Bishop - Perhaps some of you know the family - Her brother Major B.⁸⁰ is here - a famous fiddler & nephew of a great musician of that name - A day or two before Minnie left Berhampore she saw Mr Raban⁸¹ who talked a great deal about Aunt Jim, Frank & Sibella - he desired very kind messages to all, particularly to poor dear old Aunt. He was there only for a day & without introduction, went up to Minnie & asked if her husband had been at Hansie - I wish I could find time for writing to dear Frank & Aunt but I am occupied every moment of the day & one long letter is as much as I can manage - Poor dear Frank's loss⁸² was very much felt by us both - If I wrote to him I could scarcely

forbear alluding to it, which would but open a wound which I trust he ceased to suffer from - & this I would gladly avoid - To Aunt - dear Aunt you must give my love & say that for months past I have suffered too much distress of mind for writing to her - D[torn] my long period [torn]ery here I have neglected correspondence even with my old [torn] & best friends [torn] not like writing even home for I am tiring of telling nothing but dismal stories - [torn] advise me to write Tom & Berty as well as those at Uffculme. I may be able now, under my altered state of mind, to write to Tom; and to Bertram I wrote, fortunately, before I left Berhampore - I hear nothing of being relieved & allowed to return to my own Regmt. As I am getting much more pay here I am willing to remain for a month but I want much to see someone posted to this Regmt. for their destination is Burmah most certainly before the end of the year; and if I had to accompany it then our cup of sorrows would indeed overflow. I don't think we could submit to it. I must send only loves to Sibella, Irene & Henrietta & George. What a sinner dear Irene is in not writing to any one. I suppose she feels she had sufficient reason, dear girl. You do not write in a happy strain dear mother - I hope you don't let my debt trouble you - long before you get this I shall have insured my life and although I speak doubtfully of my being able to make any considerable payments this year you must, I hope, know my habits well enough to be assured that I shall not lose a single opportunity of saving money & sending it home. You have no idea of the wonderful economy I have practiced since I came back to India covered with debt - increased four-fold by my unfortunate career here - For nearly 3 months I have had 2 establishments to maintain - I never saw such strict economy practiced

2v

as I practice - I have quite equalled dear Tom - I had a room or two in Major Gordon's house I had no carpet or matting of any kind - my breakfast set was a pewter mug & a milk jug for tea-pot - my dinner set was 3 odd plates - no dish! I had no punkah for 6 weeks & once I left Berhampore I never had my boots blacked! not chosing [sic] to buy extra brushes & blacking!! for Minnie I was obliged to get them 3 days ago - I have never bought a single bottle of wine for myself since I returned to India! In this way I have lived for a year & a half - It is not [sic] unfortunate that I am always separated from my property? My horse & buggy & 2 servants are costing me lots of money at Berhampore & here I am daily killed with galloping all over the station in this awful sun - I get dreadful

head aches every day - I borrowed a pony of a friend at Berhampore & have kept it now more than 3 months. At any other season I might send for my much needed buggy - Every body here sends me a carriage of [sic] buggy when they want me, but I have 3 Hospitals to visit, besides people who keep no conveyance. I shall get some few fees when I leave I have no doubt - As yet I have had but 5£ for 3 visits only, though I have been in daily attendance for more than 2 months on a poor lady with Rheumatic Gout, who is at length getting well - Money, money, money is my chief theme; but I remember how deeply interested you are dearest mother in my poverty & riches - When once free of the Bank I shall

be able to do any thing - but whilst owing them I am tied fast - I must have told you that I have long since paid off one - Minnie sends you a dear kiss & her best love - I send you the same dear mother - Minnie thanks you for the violet - Good bye mother - God bless you - We remember you all in our daily prayers - Your loving fond & affe[torn] children Henry & Minnie.

Addressed:

Via Southampton - Steam postage Paid

Mrs John Jones

Clifton Villa, Portland Place
Leamington Spa
Warwicks, England

Stamped:

CALCUTTA G.P.O. SHIP LETTER 2 JUN 2 1853
LEAMINGTON AU2? 1853

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Midnapore 4th August

My dearest dear Mother Your last letter gave me more comfort than your's generally do for you [c.o.] usually have so many troubles & anxieties to talk about that they render the tone of your letters rather sad - that, I know, is quite unavoidable - Frank's unpropitious affairs are, I trust, now your only anxiety, and would that I could hear of their improvement! How ever varying are the ups & downs of the fortunes of you sons! Tom appears the most prosperous now, to my inexpressible thankfulness - Dear Bertram fluctuates least of us all; & I the most - at least during the last 2 years. I am now getting my head above water again & if I stay here I shall very speedily pay off my debt to the Bank at Leamington. I can easily send 30£ a month here, my pay being 55£ besides fees - Minnie has told you that on the next receipt of pay I shall pay my last instalment

1v

to the Agra Bank, which is a blessed fact! I have paid the Banks 250£ this year & 2 months, besides 76£ for arrears of subscriptions to the Funds; [c.o.] & 15£ to you & Mr Thorne - Do you feel bothered with this everlasting repetition of my pecuniary affairs, dearest mother? I fear so; but they are ever in my thoughts & must therefore be imparted to you - I shall very soon commence reducing my debt to Mr Thorne & that will be comforting news to you - You know that we are expecting Minnie's sister next month - at the end of it, I should say. We are now living in what is termed camp fashion, ie with one table & chair with which I marched to this place; but happily we have been able to borrow a sofa, table 2 chairs, a little crockery & a lamp - Nearly all the time we have been in India we have been separated from our traps, which is a great misfortune. Just at the present time the great & most fortunate increase of my pay fully compensates for that inconvenience & even for all the sufferings we have both gone through - But for this increase my difficulties would have experienced little diminution up to

this hour - If this Regmt does not go to Burmah my fortune will be made - With my old Regmt my pay was too small for me to be enabled to pay my debts - If this flourishing state of affairs continues until my promotion, it will scarcely matter whether my promotion is a little delayed or not - I am 12th on the list; & 12 is the number annually promoted. There is a great probability of an increase of the Drs next cold weather & if such takes place I shall be promoted with it - I want very much to get out of my difficulties while Henrietta Stirling⁸³ is on my hands, for I must get a carriage as soon as possible, as without one she must stay at home always We have experienced great misery from having no buggy, for Minnie, during the 2 mos. she has been here has only been out 3 or 4 times; & I am half killed with the riding about like a butcher boy which I must practice morning & evening all over the station, for I have a great deal of work - 3 Hospitals, besides numerous private patients. I get heated & cooled a dozen times in a morning & the sun gives me a daily head-ache; but we

expect the buggy now in 3 or 4 days - Some officers of the Sikhs (my present Regt.) have just been here & say that the Corps has been placed on half Batta & therefore is not to go to Burmah!! Near Calcutta Troops draw smaller pay than elsewhere & this Regmt has ever since the

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commencmt of the war, been receiving the larger pay i.e. full Batta - The reduction to half Batta shows that they will not be sent on Service - I lose only 3£ a month by it; a mere trifle, as by remg. here I shall still get 13£ extra Pay & my fees are something better than the full Batta - What a letter of business I have written, dearest mother - I hope Sibella is enjoying herself abroad & that her allowance may, without any inconvenience to her, be included within your means. I am full of anxiety about dear Frank & shd. so rejoice to hear of an improvemt. in his fortunes . You did not in your last speak of poor dear Aunt Jem. I hope she is well. It is nothing but indolence that keeps me from writing to her & Frank. I am so hard worked & so fond of resting when I can that I gladly postpone all letter writing - The Mail days are always the same as those on wh: I have as much writing as I can possibly get thro' - indeed for several days I write some 6 hours a day - How is dear Irene? She has quite cut us, naughty Girl! When shall I have liesure [sic] for writing to my many claimants? Irene, Netta, Tom, Frank Aunt - I have nearly inverted the order "accordin' ages" & claims. For many months of my recent sojourn in India I have not had heart eno' for writing to any body, excepting you - I see Minnie has asked you to send her some

[sideways] fancy wafers⁸⁴. If you could put a few loose in your letters it wd suffice. I don't know whether they wd cost more than a shilling - God bless you my loved mother - Yr very affecte. son Henry

Minnie brought over with her your picture & as usual we keep it open every Sunday & kiss you & Irene

1v

The cement you use made of Isinglass⁸⁵, has been of immense use - my fiddle was daily falling to pieces

but with that cement it stands all the awful damp of Bengal without injury

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Midnapore, October 2nd [1853]

My dear dear Mother I think that you would rather have a line, a word from me than none at all, so I set about writing at the very moment when the post is being closed - Dear Minnie was obliged to write for me last Mail⁸⁶ & now I am obliged to write for her to her parents - I have been in attendance upon poor Minnie mornng noon & night for the last week, tho' I myself was only off the sick list yesterday. It is a fearful trial to

1v

for I am most wretchedly weak I was confined to my bed for a week & had a blister on the back of

my head & 3 application of leeches - My complaint was a strange sort of Influenza which got exceedingly bad thro' my not laying myself up, being the only Dr here - Dear Minnie's complaint was at first like mine, but now it is [c.o.] Neuralgia - For 4 or 5 days she has been suffering indescribable agonies but I am thankful to say that she is much better since 12 o'clock to-day - I am

now quite well, tho' my recovery of my strength is delayed thro' such constant nursing of my poor wife - Miss Stirling wrote her first letter in Calcutta yesterday⁸⁷ - She is already engaged to be married to a young man in the 3rd Madras Infy.⁸⁸ He has a small fortune now & expects more - It is an advantageous marriage in every way - I have no time to speak about my debt - I expect my promotion before you get this & then with 700 Rs a month my debt will soon be repaid - I'll repay you for the paymt. made to the

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India Agents - Wn I am strong & have an instant's leisure I'll send another year's interest to the Leamington Bank When I can see a Dr. I am going to insure my life - here I cannot do it - If I write more I shall be too late -

God bless you dearest mother Give my love to Frank, Netta & Irene & their belongings - When shall I hear from Tom or Bertram I am so distressed at the shortness & haste of this letter - again good bye dear dear mother - Minnie's dearest love - Yr affecte son Henry

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Midnapore October 15th 1853

My very dear Mother - How grieved I was at being compelled by our sickness, my fatigue & want of time, to write you such a hasty scrawl as I did a fortnight ago - I very much feared it's alarming you - Now, thank God, we are both very well, poor Minnie being only weak & rendered a good deal thinner than even before. She suffered a great deal, but chiefly when I was absent visiting my patients, for she could not apply the remedies I used, herself - How fortunate it was that we were not ill together, for my own illness almost deprived me of any senses & I could scarcely give instructions for my own treatment & what should I have done had poor Minnie's sufferings come on while I was in that state? One day when my pains in my head were very bad I applied several things to my forehead & amongst others Chloroform. I opened the stopper to pour a few drops on my forehead as I lay in bed on my back when a large quantity escaped & went into my eyes! I really thought that I had blinded both my eyes, for the stuff is almost as strong as vitriol. Poor Minnie was in the most dreadful alarm & distress - The weather is quite delicious & we have our doors open all day - Before us we have 5 months of beautiful

1v

weather - I have written to dear Irene & given her all the news nearly [c.o.] so I need not repeat what I have written to her, dear mother - I am writing even now one day before the day of despatch & I wish you would do the same - I want you likewise to write by the other mail, at the beginning of the month, because it always arrives in time to enable us to reply at once - This saves a whole month in the exchange of our letters - On the 19th you have always to write to Tom & Bertram - It seems so different corresponding with you & the Dartmouth people; their letters appearing to be of yesterday & your's of last year! I told you in my last of the near prospect of my promotion & that I

thought it would take place in less than 2 months from the time I wrote - If I remain here after my promotion it will be a great benefit to me & if the Corps will not take me with it to Burmah; for I shd then get upwards of 80£ a month - I shall have to send you 10£ for the interest due for the current year. I cannot do it now, but I will in good time. Hitherto I have kept myself without a half-penny, my uniform practice being to pay the servants & rent & then to send off every farthing remaining to the Banks - By this means I have enabled myself to pay vast sums & prevented my wasting a Rupee. Henceforth however, having but 2 tradesmen's Bills & a debt to the

Steamer Company to pay, I shall keep a large reserve in hand for travelling & emergencies. To such awful straits have we been driven by those compulsory payments to the Funds & Banks that we can no longer continue that energetic mode of proceeding By the new course we shall ever be rejoicing in abundance & delay the payment of our debts but one month - As soon as I have saved one month's Pay, that [co.] is by the end of next month I shall be able to commence paying off the Leamington debt & I shall do it in a very short time - at the rate of 30 or 40£ a month, & if I have the good fortune to get my promotion while here, at 50£ a month - Dear mother I don't wish you to lose the 2£ paid to the Indian Agent, so will you repay yourself when I next month, send you 10£. Nothing like that sum will be due for interest, but you might pay the 8£ & tell me to what time the interest will be paid up - it will be in advance. If you would write in the beginning of the month I shd. get yr. answer in 3 months. Enough about business Etcers. I think, dear mother - What will you say to the intelligence of dear Minnie's approaching confinement? We are afraid to tell Granny for she has been in a very feeble state of health & the least anxiety shd. be spared her - If she knew of dear Minnie's state she would suffer the greatest anxiety. Henrietta Stirling has brought out large portraits of Granty & Granny excellently well done - One of Grandpapa we had before, intended for my Hansie friend Philip R. Hockin -

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How I do regret the waste of money for that wretched daub of Minnie & myself - We have just had a letter from Calcutta saying that the Mail has not yet arrived, though over-due 2 days - I forget that it will bring no letter from you. What do you think of Miss Stirling's speedy engagement? I only wish she had been engaged to somebody in this Presidency - I have told Irene of the Wales & their long journey to the other end of India &c. Dear Mother I hope poor Sibella's sojourn abroad may continue, for whatever she may write, I feel assured that she is infinitely more comfortable there - Give her my love whenever you write to her - What a great pity it is that that good understanding between poor dear Irene & your neighbours has been disturbed by Sibella - I wish we were living in England & had a house in which to receive dear Irene. My very heart aches when I think of her unhappy lot in being always associated with one of so uncongenial a nature - I tell Irene that in 5 years we hope to be in England!! May God grant it - I would write to dear Frank if I had time, but I fear I have not, for I have now to write to Granny & afterwards numerous instructions to Calcutta about Miss Stirling's coming here. I wish I could hear of some brightening of his prospects - Marion must have become quite a young woman by this time - We were talking about my little god-son, Frank, this morning. I wonder dear Bertram did not write to me. When I write to Tom I may expect to hear from him. I have written half a dozen letters daily during the last month, in addition to lots of public ones & I am become quite sick of the occupation - I am going d.v. to the Sacrament tomorrow & shall remember you, as indeed I do daily, mentioning

[written sideways] you dear mother in our prayers. God bless ever dear mother - Your affectionate son

Henry.

Midnapore November 2nd/53

My dearest Mother At length I am able to announce an increase to the number of yr grand children through this Indian branch of your family - My last letter must have given you some expectation of this happy event being announced in this letter. On the 23rd of October at 10 minutes past 1 a.m. [c.o.] a little girl made her appearance, to the exquisite joy & contentment of my dear wife, & her husband that's me! On Saturday the 22nd we took our accustomed evening drive & returned to dinner at 7 o'clock; dear Minnie having felt a little uneasy during the drive: however she ate her dinner as usual, read to me afterwards as usual. There was no certainty about the event which was so shortly to occur until 9 o'clock, when I at length set about making preparations; for there was not an article in Minnie's room excepting her bed - I took in one of our two small tables, lights

1v

cradle, clothes, tub &c &c & by the time my arrangements were finished things had much advanced - I sent for the nurse & we had scarcely got ourselves quite settled when the little girl was born - Dear Minnie did not suffer long or very severely for all was over in about 4 hours - Some hours before dawn we were all sound asleep Mama & baby as well as papa - My dear wife has continued perfectly well, strong, happy to over flowing & in such good spirits ever since - She has not yet left her bed having employed all her strength during the last two days in writing to Granny & this she can do only in bed - We had a very anxious time last night for I found that the native nurse had drugged the poor little darling with Opium, as is their universal practice. In this case I was astounded at it, as the dear baby never cries at all, not even

while being dressed & bathed - I think I have effectually cured my domestics of playing such awfully dangerous pranks. The little girl has her mother's eyes & so I suppose will be a faithful copy of her in other respects - Her name is to be Minnie Won't you shudder dearest mother at the idea? Tell dear dear Irene with our fondest love that when the clergyman arrives she will become God-mother to our first-born. Bertram is to be the god-father & my old chum & friend Ross the other - Our sister-in-law Henrietta Stirling is to be the other god-mother - Dearest mother at this period in the month I never can find a moment's leisure for writing to you - I have been writing constantly for 8 hours nearly to-day & it is so sad & distressing to be obliged to [c.o.] scrawl - such hasty apologies for

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Minnie (the elder) has not strength for writing to you dear Mother, nor to any one else; but she sends you her dear dear love & some of her dear baby's I hope you'll value the latter! You have no idea of the great change that I feel has occurred in myself & my family - We have two living, but alas, dumb members of the family, besides Miss Jones & Miss Stirling lately arrived - I speak of two most exquisite likenesses of Gran-papa & mama - Perfect likenesses & tasteful pictures with the most becoming frames I ever saw. These are in Minnie's room; and as I sit there amongst such a host, can you not conceive that I feel myself in quite a new home? Baby being in herself a vast addition - a whole family I often have recalled & most particularly last night a scene which you

you once drew my attention to - One night, it was rather late too, you pointed to George who was walking up and down the room with [c.o.] his & dear Henrietta's youngest child, engaged in what appeared a very unpromising task, viz: trying to put the said baby to sleep - I shuddered at the sight, a little, as you said "there Henry, that's your fate some day!" Now I like it & last night was I not glad to [c.o.] hear my little one cry! The child had been asleep some 7 hours when I went to bed & some time before that I noticed a very peculiar appearance in its poor little feet - I awoke at 9 o'clock & found the child still as death & being uneasy I watched it for another hour; at length I got up & found from several unmistakeable symptoms that the child had been drugged - For a whole hour I could not rouse it - Only this

afternoon has it completely shaken off its fearful drowsiness - What a delight it is to become a father - but suppose it wears off when the numbers make you count mouths! (My next door neighbour tells me she once took a piece of Opium out of her child's mouth!) You cannot tell our joy at hearing that dear Irene was going on so nice a trip & visit into Wales - Dear girl, I trust she enjoyed it - Is Sibella returned? I suppose so - Poor dear Mother you have indeed reason to be uneasy about pecuniary matters - I wish I could be an assistance to you but this will scarcely ever be possible with our such awful drain upon you - I have had another step & am 8th on the list - Yet if the increase to the department is not made I shall not get my promotion for 4 months to come. When shall I ever find time for writing more than 1 letter by each Mail? I am now almost tumbling upon my paper from very weariness & I have still another

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letter to write & patients to see - I have this time been too much occupied to be able to prepare my letter - Yesterday & the day before from suffering as I did this time in September last - a [c.o.] most wonderfully violent cold; but I am getting rid of it. Still I have those fearful neuralgic pains - I have no news dearest mother - there is no chance of our moving for another 12 months unless I am sent to my old Regt. the 7th upon my promotion - I greatly miss my old friends at Berhampore for here our military friends never are seen & the civil ones I don't visit excepting 2 or 3 - Give my news & affecte love to dear Frank & his family - to Netta & George too - Tom & Bertram &c. God bless you with his richest blessings dear dear mother - Minnie sends her fond love & Baby her's! I am your loving (but vagabond) Son Henry

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Midnapore November 17th 1853

My dearest Mother You will be surprized to learn that this is, very likely, the last letter I shall write to you from Midnapore - I should have commenced this with salutations from my little daughter & somewhat lengthened accounts of her goings on, her remarks on life & manners & her conversations with her Mother & me, but that Dr Partridge's⁸⁹ letter has just arrived, saying that he will be here on Saturday next & put baby out of my mind for a minute - I may as well continue with Mr Partridge until I have ended his business - He is my successor & is coming here at a nice & convenient time for our journeying to Berhampore. We are glad at the prospect of getting back to our own Regmt. & of being undisturbed in mind as well as body by any rumours connected with the relief of the troops in Burmah - I may tell you how it came to pass that another & I trust a successful effort for my relief from my present post, has been made. There is a Civil Surgeon at Berhampore

whose appointmt is worth 13 or 1400 a month. He has lately been absent on sick leave &, like a flight of vultures, a host of Doctors have made a stoop [sic] on the prey - One, bolder than the rest, actually asked to be posted to my Regmt. that he might be always on the spot, shd. the Civil Surgeon go away for

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good or temporarily - This man, who is the same who so kindly took us to his house, this time last year, when we were both so severely ill, is Dr Wallich⁹⁰. Instead of getting what he asked for he got a severe snub from the Comdr in Chief for his presumption, remarking that I was an Officer of 13 year's standing & now much the junior of Dr Wallich - The Genl., who forwarded Dr W's application, likewise got a snub. In the Comdr. in Chief's letter it was said "that if, as Dr Wallich stated, my services were not available for my own Regmt., he (the General) was to render them so on the 1st opportunity" - and this is the result - the appointmt of Dr Partridge to this Regt. 3 days after the arrival of the C in C's letter - But for Dr Wallich's cool request I don't know when I shd be relieved; as, in answer to my special application at the end of September, the C in C posted a man to the Sikh Regt; but before the order came down to these parts the young gentleman has been shipped of to Burmah - The failure of this 4th effort to relieve me threw me into despair, for I could not again petition any body on the subject - We are so rejoiced at the prospect of a return to our old and dear friends at Berhampore - Now we see no one & there we have troops of friends. We shall start as soon as we can next week & intend

to go by water, taking two large boats, one for ourselves & one for the servants, baggage & buggy! But what piece of ill-luck do you think has befallen us? In my last I told you that we had sent for all our property; every single thing belonging to us - Well, they arrived 3 days before we heard that Dr Partridge was ordered here in my stead - The waste of money, the trouble, damage &c. is ruinous & provoking in the extreme. We shall incur the expense of 100 Rs merely for the breaking & ruining of our traps - We had always said that we shd. be sent back to Berhampore as soon as we sent for our property - However I have reaped some profit from coming here, notwithstanding the great expenses we incur by these incessant journeyings It is high time that I talked a little about my sweet little baby - She is growing very fast & is so sweetly pretty & such a darling treasure to me - to us both - I take such pleasure in carrying it about & putting it to sleep - It never cries except when hungry - The little darling was Christened last Sunday on the 13th Instt. Dear Minnie has all along been as well as woman can be & she is rendered so completely happy by the possession of her little pet. For months & years she has sorrowed for her disappointmts & envied every one who has had children - so very many of our intimate friends But now all this is past & she is unutterably happy & contented & thankful - What will you say dearest Mother to our having named our little pet Minnie !!! really

2

17th I finished the other sheet yesterday, dear dear mother, but wisely, for the sake of freshness of appearance, dated it the 17th. This morning I have recd. two fees one of 35£ & the other of 6£8 & this will enable [c.o.] me to send you by this mail 10£. I don't know what may be due to Mr Thorne but it cannot be so much as even 8£ so I want you, please dear mother, to send 2£ sharp to Warfleet - My wife, dear Minnie the elder, suggests my sending two separate bills & so I will - So 8£ will go to you - I have a great idea that [c.o.] one or two pounds out of this even will not be required for interest up to December this year, so will you dear mother appropriate to yourself whatever may remain over & consider it to be a repayment of the money you paid to the India Agent. I have this moment sent for a Draft to send to Calcutta for the Bill on England; so, as there is not time for me

to receive it for dispatch myself, I have begged the Secretary to forward it direct from the Bank - "Bearing" for safety's sake

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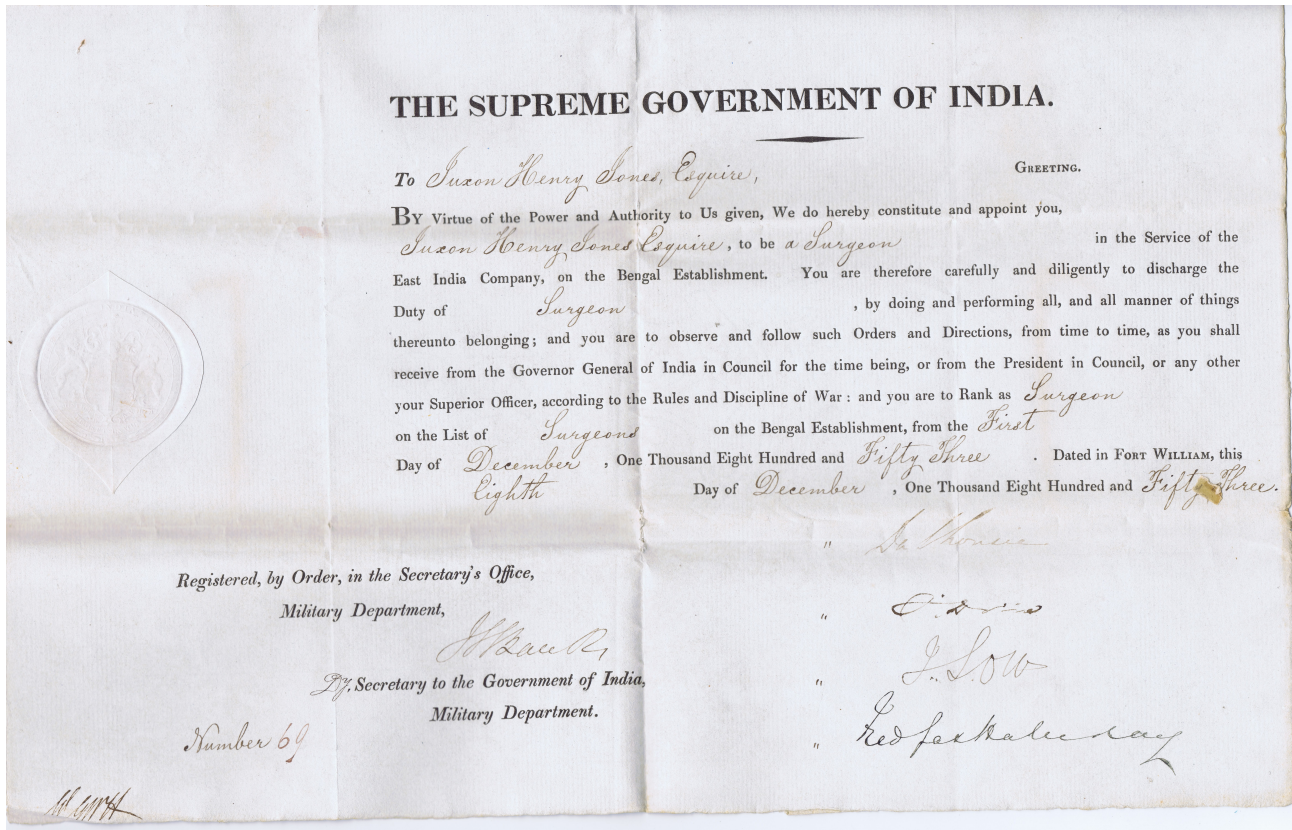
I was determined upon writing to Irene & Henrietta but I have interruptions every moment - I have since I commenced this vaccinated 2 children, examined & made a report upon a poor fellow who was nearly beaten to death by a mob of brave Bengalis & afterwards tossed into a tank with his legs tied. I have made out a long report of a man who is going on sick leave: recd. & dismissed 2 visitors: Written 3 other letters, & been several times to see sweet little baby who is asleep in a basket cradle close to the the dependent corner of our beautiful table cover: kissed Minnie several times & Miss Henrietta once, How can I get on with my letter with the multifarious interruptions? Talking of baby, I am sure that if you were to see her you would turn her round to search for little silver wings, for a cherub she is I am certain. Minnie went out in the buggy yesterday with me for the first time since little baby's birth; & how much we did enjoy it - I think I told you that we were in the buggy when the

first symptoms made their appearance I am often very uneasy at the undiminished account of my debt at home, dearest mother, but with all the economy I can practice I cannot save anything to send home. I have one iron in the fire, which is to send my gun up the country to Phil Hockin at Loodeanah to sell for me. If he can get 25 or 30£ for it I can make an effort to complete the sum to 50£ & that I fancy will be the first hole made in that vast debt. I hope I may be promoted in a month or so, for until my promotion I cannot see how I am to live; still less to pay enormous debts - Besides the great expenses of my journey I lose 1£ a day from the arrival of my successor until I join at Berhampore - My journies have cost me at least 200£ since I landed - I hope that on my promotion I shall not have another move, as is almost always the case, because the C. in C. in his letter said that to remove me now from the 7th "wd. interfere detrimentally with my interests" - I was so gratified at his standing forth to protest

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from a contemplated & attempted inquiry, notwithstanding my having no interest whatsoever. Dr Wallich gave out that he was going to be posted to my Corps & that I was to be removed to his - the very next Regmt. that will go to Burmah. The news almost pressed the life out of poor Minnie's heart - You cannot conceive what an awful terror this has been to us for nearly two whole years - now for once I feel safe - If the Civil Surgn at Berhampore takes leave again I shall act for him & thereby get a great increase of pay even for one month - I wish it may happen without ill to him, for I shd. thereby be able to pay Mr Thorne nearly 100£ at once! How I do gabble, gabble about money matters & so I shall continue to do until I have pd. all my debts - I suppose Sibella has returned to you for the winter - Give her my love - I must write a little chit to Henrietta & put this aside for the purpose - I have only a ¼ of an hour for writing it - God bless you dearest Mother - I am yr affecte & loving son Warmest, best love to all - Henry
Minnie's & Baby's sweetest love

From 1st December 1853 Juxon was appointed "a Surgeon in the Service of the East India Company, on the Bengal Establishment"



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Calcutta 3rd December 1853

My dearest mother I think my last letter must have prepared you for seeing, one day, such a superscription as the above - I am writing before breakfast & directly after that meal I must send my letter to the post; so I shall be unable to give you a very detailed history of our movements & doings. Did I in my last, tell you that a Dr Partridge was coming to relieve me? Well, he did come on the 19th of last month, or a Saturday & on the following Thursday, after 4 days of dreadful hard work, for I had to pack for three!, we left Midnapore. Between this & Midnapore the route is the most difficult & impracticable in all India: 50 miles of the journey is made by land & upwds of 20 by water. On Friday morning we reached the staging Bungalow by the river side, after a very disturbed & restless night; for baby kept Minnie awake all night & the rivers we crossed & the changes of bearers kept me continually paying fees & ferries - We slept until 12 or 1 o'clock, then had breakfast - a shockingly bad one! & at three p.m. we went on board our boat - The journey is usually one of 2

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& 2 ½ hours, so you may well imagine that we took no chairs, tables, beds or food - We arrived at Calcutta 6½ hours after dark, viz at 11 & ½ at night! When we reached the landing place we found that we could hold no communication with the shore for there was not a living soul to communicate with! & the boat men told us that we must make up our minds to pass the night in the boat, & this implied lying on the floor without bedding, without any food without even lights in the place - Instead of these ordinary necessities & comforts we had impenetrable clouds of the most pugnacious & venomous mosquitos & armies of cockroaches! We had had no food all the day & we

had to go supperless to bed - I was however able to lessen the sufferings of Minnie & Henrietta by brewing a pewter pot of tea, in an old companion of mine - Fortunately I had brought with me a 'salky', a hollow silver ball, perforated all over. The boatmen bailed a little water for us & we made a good supply of excellent tea which proved of infinite value to the ladies - But how shall I tell of the sufferings & starvation

of our poor little babe? Two sleepless nights & one foodless day had utterly disabled her poor exhausted mother from performing the duties of nurse & we were in extreme distress & anxiety - Till 12 o'clock at night nearly we were in total darkness. On Saturday the 26th we reached the house of our kind friends & fellow passengers the Findlays⁹¹ & then our troubles, starvation & cries ceased. It had been our intention to renew our journey on Monday, but Minnie was so utterly worn out that it was deemed advisable to stay here & rest for a whole week longer & this is now the 7th day that we have been here - On Monday next we proceed to Berhampore: it is 2 days' journey - Since our arrival here we have fed our little darling with the bottle twice a day & excellently well does it agree with her - she having already greatly improved in condition - Her poor mother has not been able to nurse her sufficiently hitherto & the consequence had been that baby is almost as small as when she was born. Now however she had filled out so much that everyone says she is not small for her age - To-night she will complete her 6th week. I trust the remainder of our journey will be made without starving

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the dear child & harassing anxiety & fatigue to her poor mother. The Mail of the middle of October arrived here yesterday but I recd. no letter from you dearest mother to my great disappointment neither did I get one by the last mail - My letters always go first to Berhampore, tho' Minnie's have always come straight to us at Midnapore - As the people at Berhampore know that we are on our way there, they very likely have kept our letters & I may receive one or 2 from you when we arrive there. Tho' I had no letter from you I had a very dear & precious one from Bertram & tho' I am writing so close upon the hour of despatching the Mail I must write a few lines to him, dear fellow - I must cram into this, as fast as I can, all that is of importance to tell you. You will be highly pleased & I trust, dear dear mother, completely relieved of all anxiety about my debt to the Leamington Bank, on hearing that I have insured my life. My kind host Mr Findlay is one of the great Merchants of this place & well qualified to give me advice as to the best & safest Insurance office in wh: to insure my life & he recommended the Colonial Life Insurance Compy

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the head quarters of wh: are in Edinbro' - As soon as I arrived here I set about this long delayed business, about the completion of wh: I have long been very anxious. Yesterday I appeared before their Medical Examiner & all the papers, excepting one, were then prepared - Every moment I expect the last paper & before noon I expect to have paid my first premium 4£.14. odd & to have become safely insured for 400£. The insurance is of course in my loved wife's name, but shd. any thing happen to me she will pay half of that sum to you . I shall continue the insurance as long as I live & increase it as soon as I have paid my debts. I am now 5th on the list of Asst Surgeons. The increase to the departmt wh. we have been expecting by each Mail, has not yet been announced; so my promotion may still be delayed till Feby & even March. My journey has robbed me of all the advantages of being at Midnapore - that is rather incorrect - I should have said that it has absorbed the 500Rs wh: I have recd. as private fees! I got 25£ from the Cockburns & 2 other handsome fees. The cost of my journey & loss of pay is just about 500Rs in all - My pay at Midnapore averaged nearly 62£ a

month! nearly double what I shall get at Berhampore until I am promoted - Is not that a sad fact? Latterly I have paid no debts nor saved any money, so you may imagine what my difficulties wd have been had I remained all this time at Berhampore - I must have told you what occasioned my return to Berhampore viz: another officer having applied for my Regiment; a cool & impudent request wh: the Comdr. in Chief indignantly rejected - It is very fortunate that our move can be made during the very short winter of this country - The C in C's letter gives me every hope, too, of not being removed when I am promoted - It is very common to exchange a man on his promotion & if I stay with the 7th I shall escape that nuisance & expense - However I shall march up country next year if I don't get something better than my present appointmt, as Regmts are kept only 2 years in Bengal, because they get what is called $\frac{1}{2}$ batta - In my present rank the loss is 30Rs a month; & on my promotion 45 Rs or so. As we must pack up & start on Monday I began this morning to collect our purchases

here - They are in box close to my elbow & I think the examination will amuse you - 2 bars of yellow soap and apparatus for a night lamp & at the same time for keeping water boiling all night - A tin can for boiling water, by burning Spt of Wine in a sort of gutter outside; 2 sponges, an English water jug of a material like Wedgwood; cold cream, one very pretty vase for Minnie (the only indulgence in extravagance!) five articles of electro-plate, spoons & forks, a pint bottle of hair oil, a bottle of Spr. of wine - That is all I have bought in Calcutta! excepting one dress for Minnie. Are we [c.o.] not careful folkes? We went to a German who takes Photographic pictures & likenesses - Mine was taken but rejected. On seeing it Minnie exclaimed: "Oh! my gracious!" and a sad look of disappointmt. was on her dear face, so I determined upon rejecting it, having already paid enough for pseudo likenesses. I must say a word about my now numerous family - Dear Minnie is now very well & in such spirits - Our stay here has been such an exceedingly pleasant one. Our hosts are people after our own hearts & the novelty of shopping & going about in brilliant carriages, & seeing the stir & whirl of this great City are agreeable changes for a time. Miss

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Stirling's lover Mr Pickering has quietly gone off to join his Regiment some hundreds of miles from Madras, without writing a word to any of us!! He had written but once since he & Miss S. parted & long ago I had my fears that Mr. P would drop the matter entirely. Yesterday I recd. a letter from a Capt. Gabb⁹² with whom Mr P. was staying at Madras. I wrote to ask him 2 questions - whether Mr Pickering was well & whether he had gone to join his Regmt. He replied in the affirmative to both!! For many days it was a sad business for the poor deceived & deserted girl; but I hope we shall have no more tears on that account - I should greatly prefer her marrying somebody who could maintain her decently & one whom I well knew in this Presidency - I have not spoken of baby dear dear little baby - She is very pretty & very good never crying except when in pain from hunger or any other cause. I hope dear mother I may one day show her to you - I must stop here for breakfast is ready - I find that I can post my letter at any hour during the day but in case I shd. not be able to resume this dear intercourse I will now say good bye my loved mother. That God may ever bless you & all our dear family is the daily prayer of yr. affectionate son Henry. Minnie's dearest & best love. Give my love to Sibella & Irene - to Frank & his family & Henrietta & hers

Berhampore December 14th 1853

My very dear Mother

Again I am obliged to write with all the speed that I can, this being the last day for the Mail & I have momentary interruptions, indeed ever since I came here I have scarcely had leisure to eat my meals - Our large party is staying with the Leighs & having all our property piled up to our ears in the bedrooms & verandahs, I have brought my writing materials & a table to the house we are going to occupy that I may write with more facility - When I wrote last I was staying with the Findlays in Calcutta & wrote in entire ignorance of the afflicting intelligence contained in your letter of the 18th October. It went to Bombay!! & came overland from thence. The sad & afflicting account of my good & excellent & deeply loved brother Tom⁹³ has overwhelmed me with grief, bitter bitter grief. I cannot tell you of the painful thoughts that are ever flowing through my mind. The intelligence appears an awful summons for us all to be prepared, not only for dear Tom's departure but for our own, & hourly earnest

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-nestly do I pray for his Soul's welfare - All of us being almost unacquainted with the sorrows & heart-breakings of losing any of our brothers & kindred, I feel that the sudden danger of our loved brother has given me the first intimation that we must all have many partings in this world, afflicting indeed, but not without hope. Many a time have my troubles & sorrows had the blessed effect, too transient alas! of weakening my ties with this world; but never have I felt such effect so strongly as I do now, under the awful danger which threatens my good & valued brother Tom - With my whole heart & soul do I pray that this may be but a warning, a timely & efficient warning for me, for us all, for dear Tom, & that he may be spared to us for many years - All my earliest associations are so closely connected with him that his departure would break the first link of the chain which binds me to all I love on earth - But I need not attempt to tell you my deep grief & the reflections that it awakens. All I need tell is that my heart & its affections are daily more & more drawn towards Heavenly things & that in Heaven I hope to meet Him who first loved us & all those whom I have loved upon earth & may God ever keep alive & strengthen in me & all of us these

hopes - With this sad subject ever in my thoughts dear mother, I can scarcely undertake to talk of other things. We came here on the 7th this day last week after an easy journey & a very delightful sojourn in Calcutta - Since we came here I have been fully occupied with my professional duties & great efforts to get our house ready. For the last 2 days I have been busy from morning to night with my Herculean task & even now nothing looks like order. My family being so large now I have double trouble in tracking & unpacking; but had I not the sorrow of dear Tom's state upon my mind, I shd. work with pleasure & delight. I have many subjects for thankfulness & even joy, & at any other time could have talked of them with delight - I am a full Surgeon!!! & now get nearly double pay. Ten Surgeons have been added to the list, an event which I prepared you for & which was announced but two days ago! The order for the increase however reached Calcutta by the last Mail while I was in Calcutta, but not promulgated or divulged even till 3 days ago - The order however has effect from the day it reached India & I stand as full Surgeon from the 1st instant. By this piece of great good fortune I lost my usual pay only for 11 days, from the day I was relieved at Midnapore until the end of the month - I told you I had

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been so afflicted with the intelligence contained in your last that I have scarcely dwelt upon the

hopes there is that dear Tom may be quite well & live in health for many years - I do not at all know what our dear father died of - I have heard Irene or Netta speak of aneurism, heart disease & tumours; but of nothing decisively - I shd. greatly desire to know when you learn from Holberton. I have & so had dear Minnie, greatly enjoyed returning to old faces & scenes - The weather is delightful & we are all so well - We have taken a small house, preferring it infinitely above "the Quarters" - You know what I mean I suppose, having told you before that nearly every one lives in the long ranges of barrack-like buildings forming 3 sides of the Square. There you have only 3 rooms & 2 bathing rooms; You have no "compound" or enclosed & private space, no servants' houses, no stables - Here, in our bungalow, we have every thing excepting large rooms; but we have abundance of small ones - Henrietta has 4 & we have 4

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I have an office, library! or private room fenced off from a broad high delightful verandah, wh: is enclosed with double doors - A most delightful place - We have long ranges of buildings once used as stables all glazed & cool, nearly 100 yds. long!! any one of the places wd. do for a ball room - I must stop here - Poor dear Irene's grief must be very great, poor dear girl - I trust she will have been speedily comforted by happier intelligence of our valued & loved brother - Your news of dear Frank & his fortunes is very gratifying - I have felt unceasing regret & anxiety about the failure of his pupils - If I could know of dear dear Tom's welfare - his bodily health how many subjects for rejoicing shd. we not have? My promotion will save me from all future anxieties about funds & sufficiency - My Life Insurance is a comfort - a constant subject of congratulation - I shall continue it & increase it as long as I live - George & Netta too are prospering Give my dearest love to all my brothers & sisters & dear dear Aunt - God for ever bless you dear mother - I will ever pray for you & will you, my mother, pray for me & mine - Minnie's & Henry's affectionate love

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Dear mother you had better add Bengal to my address

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Berhampore, 16th January/54

My very dear mother We received your welcome & comforting letter a few days ago. During the painful uncertainty I was in about dear Tom's health I dreaded writing, or I should have sent you a letter by the last mail - On New-Year's day. Now that I have received such great comfort from hearing better news of my loved brother, & of the most satisfactory visit which Bertram fortunately was enabled to pay him, I write with alacrity, and a deep sense of thankfulness for the state of dear Tom. I have often talked to dear Minnie about the treatment (the bleeding) & the alledged affectn. of the heart as being irreconcilable, apparently - As Dr Field says, I think that had dear Tom labored under under [sic] such a complaint he could not have taken the tremendous walks which he has been in the habit of taking. May not rest after after [sic] such exertions produce the symptoms [c.o.] which Tom suffered? I think so. What an inexpressible consolation to both the brothers Bertram's visit must have been - I wish I could have heard more of Tom's present state of health & occupation Whether he has resumed his usual avocations, duties, reading, Gentle exercise &c - I must patiently await these further details, being thankful for his

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being so much better than we dared to believe & hope - What a nice letter yours is, dear dear mother. My debt & poor Sibella's history are the sad things in it - I wish I could assure you as speedy relief from the one trouble as from the other - Already I hope you will have heard of the insurance of my life & in a very few days you will hear of my promotion having taken place on the 1st December - I hope very soon to commence sending you instalments - I have a few debts of long standing in this Country which I must first get rid of, as I am so hampered & badgered about them. What a sad loss that must have been wh: Sibella occasioned - I suppose it was mere carelessness. It is not the first time that she had lost Bank notes to the great distress of those who sent them - Just at present every thing is fair, bright & happy with me, my family & affairs. We find ourselves in the midst of old & many dear friends - We have daily friendly & most sociable parties at our own & all our neighbours' houses - I am compelled to show a little hospitality, which is not by any means uncongenial, excepting in respect of the trouble & the loss of our most delicious evenings by our own fireside - They are evening to be ever remembered - The sad news

from home has prevented me from speaking of what is happy & prosperous in ourselves & our affairs - We have never hitherto made our house so comfortable or so pretty as we have lately done. Dear Minnie has every thing necessary & comfortable in her room - Till a few days since we have had but one looking glass, the little thing I brought out to India on my 1st voyage! We had only one brass vessel, a sort of warming-pan without a lid; and every thing else in the same style. Truly economical we have been hitherto. Think of this, dear mother; we have furnished our house for 14£!! Out of 20 different articles there are not three that I could have bought in England for half this money. I got for 1£ four most beautiful Chinese Tables or teapoys, which I shall take to England if I live to retire. I think each wd. cost, at home, 3£. We always exhibit a great talent for making our house look pretty, comfortable & home-like, as everyone asserts. Not yet a word about baby!! We have had a great deal of trouble & anxiety about the feeding & nursing of the dear little cherub. After many & various endeavours to avoid it, we have been at length compelled to employ a Native woman as wet-nurse - The bother this woman has occasioned

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thro' requiring to be newly clothed, & supplied with every necessary & even luxury of wh: she has the least conception, has been endless - She has 4 suits of clothing, her bed, her hookah (pipe!) her pawn box, shoes, bangles, flour, sugar & an infinite number of condiments, sweet-meats, spices &c. She got very ill on the 3rd day, thro' her excessive indulgence in the luxuries of her new condition; & poor baby has been getting thinner & thinner for many days - However all things are now again in fair trim & long may they continue so - This is my first letter to you in this new year, my dearly loved mother, & as yet I have not hinted at the interesting truth; nor have I (in my letter, at least) wished you a happy new year. This will reach you too late in the year for me to enter, in their proper form, the compliments & good wishes of the Season; but, dear Mother, I shall wish & pray for a happy new year for your & every member of our family on each & every day in it. I have continually the wish & intention of writing to dear old Aunt & to Frank; but somehow or other I omit to do so - In this month I have had daily excepting during the last 3 days, as much writing as can be effected between morning & night; to the excessive weariness of my head & fingers, & to

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the engendering of an intense dislike to pen & ink - I have a great deal of writing in the beginning of each month, but this time I have had Quarterly, half-yearly & Annual Returns to make out in addition to the monthly ones - I have, too, a great deal of work in the European Hospital where

there are many very sickly men & many many women & children to attend - I hear that the other Dr. here intends to leave the Station in the rains, when I hope to take his duty & his pay - What he loses by going away, I mean, of course. Two or three months of such pay would add 100£ to my present allowances - I should not perhaps be so greedy of gain with my present allowance - 70£ a month - but for my great debts. I have before told you that this appointment is one of the prizes in the Service & that a host of people are ready to pounce upon it when vacated by Dr Kean⁹⁴ - Dear Minnie is very well & very happy & is so blest in the possession of her little babe, which is no common babe I can assure you, tho', as the father, you might charge me with partiality - I have often heard that Minnie as a child was a perfectly angelic looking being & baby is going to be the same. Her bodily constitution promises to be the same; & so she will have a copy of her father's

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worthless brains - I suppose you know that Physiologists remark this disposition of the mental & bodily [c.o.] characteristics & composition & configuration; i.e. when the mental or moral qualities resemble those of one parent, the physical are copies from the other parent. Can you trace an arrangement of this kind in your Children, dear mother? It is 3 o'clock & Minnie is calling me to Tiffin (lunch) Mrs Leigh being with her - You remember that Mr L. was at Ottery School under Frank; that he lives at Cullompton, is the Qtr. Ma. of our Regiment & our best friend & ally in the Regmt. A kinder woman than Mrs L. does not exist - Miss Leigh is now the inseparable companion of Miss Stirling; of whom, by the by, I never chance to speak in my letters - Her engagement the gentleman kindly cancelled & since that time she has not been in love, nor engaged - She is a very nice girl, is very very happy & contented, rejoicing very much in the Indian freedom of intercourse & all India's best advantages & peculiarities; but she has not yet tried the hot weather - Now we are all be-shawl'd & great-coated; & I wear all day my "everlastin' coat" - Do you remember what the Devonshire sportsman called an 'everlastin' Coat? my shooting coat? I dated

my letter the 16th being the day on which I shall despatch it; but I commenced it yesterday & am continuing this day, Sunday the 15th. I am thus employing myself before breakfast while dear Minnie is bathing her little name-sake. The latter is crying lustily during the operation - My work occupies me till ½ past 10 every morning, & on my return home I smoke a cheroot & write private letters till Baby is ready for breakfast. When Mrs Leigh was here yesterday she spoke of the news from her husband's home & mentioned the sad account of the great price of food - Mr Leigh's father was a lawyer at Cullompton⁹⁵, he died lately and the family is much reduced in means - With your small household, dear mother, I suppose the great increase in the price of all the necessaries of life is not much felt, but it must press heavily on dear Frank who has 20 people to feed & warm daily - I do so long to be out of debt that I may send you a trifle to repay Sibella's loss & I am always longing to be able to make a little present to my very dear sister Irene. I am going to take a peep at you both when I get to the bottom of this page. On Sundays I set your picture open for the whole day. I seldom go to Church here as there is no Clergyman & the service begins half an hour after my long mornings work is over. We hear that the Clergyman who was here formerly, Mr Gowan, is about to return; at which I much rejoiced, as I like him exceedingly - You speak of the "little man" & your Swan's pen as memorials of me

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& the continual use of the one & the caresses bestowed on the other to my great gratification. I am writing with a gold pen which Miss Stirling brought out & lent to me as she never uses it herself - It rather lessens the speed of composition, but compels me to write very close & to fill my paper well - Did I ever tell you that I was unable to pay the Steam Navigatn. Compy the additional sum

which was due for my continuing my journey to Calcutta, instead of going to Bombay? Two years have now elapsed & I have not yet paid a rupee of it & two days ago I received a reminder from the Secty. but he only asked me to make some specific arrangement - I promised to pay him in two months i.e. from my pay for January & February 25£ a month. Not knowing how much will be deducted from my pay on acct. of Donations to the different Funds, on my promotion, I cannot tell what I have to receive; but this is certain, that I shall be in rather straitened circumstances for some time to come. In the 1st week of December I sent my last gun & pistol to Uncle Philip Hockin at Loodeanah for sale; & for them I hope shortly to receive about 30£ or more. Ever since I came down here I have been looking out for an opportunity for sending the gun to him for the purpose mentioned; but until I went myself to Calcutta I never had the opportunity. This will give me great help, if the things can be sold soon - I have 10,000 times blamed myself for my imprudent purchase; but, after all, I have greatly benefitted

[on side] by the possession of them as they have brought me funds in my greatest difficulties

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I must stop here for the purpose of writing to Aunt & Irene if possible - God for ever bless you
dearest Mother Your loving and affectte. son Henry

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Berhampore - I was just going to write the name of my late station -
February 2nd 1854

My very dear Mother I recd. your welcome letters - your's & dear Irene's of the 1st & 19th December last night at the house of the Leighs where was a dinner party - A lady friend most kindly brought [c.o.] our large packet, 4 letters & 2 Newspapers - Most unfortunately I am always too busy during the first 2 or 3 days of each month to be able to write long letters home. It is now nearly 3 p.m. and I have been busy ever since I got out of bed. I was terribly frightened at the first mention which you made of the demand of the Bank. I have 3 months in which to scrape together the amount & I trust to be able to complete it without going to the usurious Banks - For my last loan I paid 18 per cent!!! I will however at any cost remit the whole sum in good time, tho' I have strong hopes that if I can send the greater part of it

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they will not be very pressing for the remainder. I have a very pressing demand for 50£ but I trust to have plenty of money after a month or two. My last month's Pay Bill was for 98£ Could I readily obtain securities I would borrow the 200£ at once; but if I ask a man to be my security he may ask me to be his at any time & I prefer my own debts to being surety for another man's. You need not give yourself any uneasiness about the debt as I will pay it within the six months by hook or by crook. Nearly half my little bit of paper is taken up with this interminable business. I have told you before that I have at length been able to send my gun up the Country for Sale. This will give me 30£ or more - How very comforting are all your reports of dear Tom. I am so grateful, so rejoiced at them. I shall write to him by the next mail - I have been so much wishing to send dear Bertram some Indian Newspapers, as he suggested, but I have not been able to get possession of one for him - Only last night I was promised any kind & any number, but I cannot get any to-day, & I am afraid

that even this letter may be too late for the Mail of the 4th. Thank dear Irene for her dear letter I have not time for giving her another - I don't

know what I may cull from the events of the past fortnight to convey to you as news. We are very comfortable & very happy, thank God, & our increased allowances give us hopes of soon quitting [c.o.] our source of trouble - We have had much trouble about dear baby having had already two wet-nurses for her. She is very thin, tho' perfectly well, sweet, beautiful & happy - She grows longitudinally, tho' she gathers no flesh. Her last wet-nurse was ill, or getting so from the 1st day she came & starvation was the consequence, tho' she daily took 3 bottles of Sago - The present one has been but 3 days with us, yet already baby is quieter & more full of crows & kicks & strange attempts at conversation - I vaccinated her on the last day of January, but I fear unsuccessfully as the little child from whose arm I tried to take the matter struggled so tremendously that I could get nothing - We had rain last night which made it so cold & so like England. I was dreaming of Clifton Villa all night long from the sounds of wind & rain & the cold & from having just before going to bed read dear Irene's acct. of cold & frost & fog. Yesterday we altered our winter bedding for that of summer! & we suffered accordingly - I got hold of my military cloak, but dear Minnie resisted my urgent

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entreaties that she wd get a shawl or dressing gown to throw over her. We have such a heavenly day to-day. Our Races commence on the 9th this day week & the station is thronged with strangers & horses & jockeys - We are to have theatricals & race ball next week. I am become too old & sedate for such pleasures, but I must countenance for the young lady's sake - Miss Stirling I mean. She had an offer last week from a gentleman of the name of Smith!!! How funny it wd. have been had it been accepted - Mr & Mrs Smith & Mr & Mrs Jones sounding in all people's ears all the year round. However Miss S. is not likely to accept any future offers in a hurry. In this instance her affections or even her admiration or mere liking not being affected she declined the offer. Minnie is writing to you, dearest mother, so I need not send you her love; but Baby sends her love & a kiss in the lower left hand corner - I have put it to her lips; such beautiful ones! When writing to the West will you give my warmest, deepest love to Tom & Bertram - To all at home give the same, beginning with dear Irene - If I begin soon to send remittances to Mr Thorne it will give him confidence - God for ever bless you my mother

I am your affecte. son Henry

Baby's lips

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Berhampore 27th June /54

My very dear Mother I have written two letters - one to each of my brothers Frank & Bertram, but I am grieved to say that I have not time to write one to dear Tom. To save postage I enclose both letters to you, & I might add, that by doing so, I may save myself the unprofitable duty of penning one to you, as you will have the perusal of them all that I have - we have been doing, what are our hopes & expectations. Indeed I do feel it difficult [c.o.] to devise a fresh subject after what I have already written about. I have just finished a note to our Cousin Stowey, announcing by despatch by the last Steamer of some very beautiful specimens of work in Ivory, done at this place, which is famous throughout the Country for its carvings in Ivory - I have sent what would appear to you a handsome present, & which cost me about 6£ - They wd. be worth double or treble the sum in

England - They consist of an Elephant, fully caparisoned with 4 armed attendants, howdah with 3 occupants & a driver - the most exquisitely carved dice boxes & draughts-men, a bullock cart & a 1-horse vehicle peculiar to these parts - I hope they will be acceptable to him

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I had despatched them before I heard of his last act of generosity & I intended them as a testimony of my remembrance of his wondrous acts of liberality to me & other members of the family - I felt that my not having seen him once after his splendid gift to me looked like neglect, tho' I twice visited Kenbury for the purpose of saying fare well - You will see in the other letters what splendid pay I am getting at present & I have some hopes of continuing to receive the same for 4 months longer. I held these appointments in [c.o.] April & May, for a month & 7 days in all - The reason of my having hopes of continuing to officiate till the return of Dr Kean is, that instead of sending a Surgeon senior to me to take from me all the Civil duties, they have sent a young Assistent Surgeon to act under me - But if I can hold on for the whole of July I shall get rid of all my debts; and if till the end of September I shall be quite rich! I do not desire riches so much as I may make it appear, but I do most heartily desire to be out of debt & to be enabled to meet any demand that may be made on my finances by sickness or other urgent necessity. In my next letter from you, dearest Mother, I hope to hear of the receipt of the 200£ - Last month in one payment I

repaid 45£! I had so many pressing calls for money that I could not send you the 10£ I spoke of. With your next letter I hope to learn what sum for interest I owe the Bank, for I don't want to pay more than is necessary - Owing to my vast additional work I have been obliged to buy a second horse, wh. cost me 25£ & that I must pay from my next receipts. I feel so painfully eager to pay off my debts, that I quite leave myself destitute, without a single rupee 3 hours after the receipt of pay. I see with pain the increased Income & other taxes which are necessary for the War & my blood runs cold when I think of the awful struggle which is I suppose already begun⁹⁶ - As yet we have heard only of the destruction of Odessa & a few insignificant captures in the Baltic. It is exactly 15 days since we recd. the last news by the Electric Telegraph⁹⁷, so we may hourly look for the next, where we may learn of some dreadful conflict - What a state the public at home must be in! & I see with distress that they are too impatient to hear of some grand success. What a mercy it is that there is no war in this Country at such a time

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Minnie & our sweet babe are doing very well & are very happy. The latter screams with delight when she stands by herself holding by the arms of an easy chair - She is of good dimensions & as fat as she can be, but she has no teeth & very strange to tell, no hair! People ask if we have shaved her head! I am very fully occupied as you may imagine & I have new arrangements to devise & carry out in the Lunatic Asylum Hitherto the patients have been treated only like the common inmates of a Hospital; I mean that no occupation or amusement has been found for them, [c.o.] & the separation of bad cases from those who are convalescent has been entirely neglected - I had to report upon the whole system & buildings & suggest improvements - It was an arduous task when you think of my care of 5 Hospitals & all the sick in this large station - Yesterday dear Minnie drove me the whole distance to the Asylum & back again, 8 miles! In the course of next August I hope to have a carriage for her & Henrietta & baby - We are sadly distressed for want of one - It is not utterly impossible that I may get this Civil appointment. if I can let the authorities learn how I can work! You can scarcely believe that I have not one moment in the day for recreation, reading even! I must stop here, dear dear mother - With many loves & blessings on you & the same from dear Minnie I am your affecte. son Henry -

Best & dearest loves to Sibella & Irene & Netta & George when you write

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Berhampore, August 16th /54

My very dear Mother I must write by this next Mail although I feel the want of some intelligence from you before doing so - The lateness & infrequency of your letters create in me a great disinclination to writing, because I remain so long unacquainted with the events which are taking place at home. If I had timely notice of the dreadful afflictions which are so closely following each other⁹⁸ I might have omitted several letters which I fear will strangely [c.o.] jar on all your sorrowful frames of mind. I have for the whole past month been in distress because I know not of your health & how far you & the rest of my dear family bear up against your afflicting trials & grievous losses - It is a month exactly since I recd. your intelligence of my deeply loved brother's departure.⁹⁹ The day on which I recd. the intelligence was one of bitter grief & tears, but ever since I have been filled more with comfort than sorrow. I hope - I even feel assured that you have been comforted in the same way - I think of my brother continually as one

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translated to the joy, unspeakable & full of glory, of the very presence of his & our God & Saviour - And thinking thus of him I feel no sorrow, but only that my thoughts, my yearnings & my whole heart are drawn more fervently & more continually to the place & presence in which he now dwells - Sibella tells me not to speak of these things to you, but surely, dearest mother, there is more of joy than sorrow in thinking & speaking of such a blessed change - As however there is much uncertainty about the way in which you may be affected by dwelling on such thoughts, I will not now prolong the subject - I have but little time for writing as this is the last safe day & I would write to Sibella & Irene if possible. and besides all this I am very weak having but half recovered from an illness similar to that of last year while we were at Midnapore - About 20 days ago the Lt. Governor of Bengal¹⁰⁰ came here & while I was in attendance upon him we were out in many heavy showers & I got wet thro' 3 or 4 times, remaining half the day in my wet clothes This caused a very severe cold which ended in Influenza Tic douloureux¹⁰¹, 2 dreadful attacks of ear-ache - I was in bed a week, but have now been convalescent for 10 days. The weather is, however, so dreadfully

wet that I recover neither strength nor healthful feelings - I had intended going for a couple of days on the river, but the weather is too rainy & gloomy to offer a hope of any beneficial result from such an excursion - I hope to make use of the 1st fine day for a trip on the water - Fortunately there is another Doctor in the Station who has done & is still doing, my duty. By the way, he was at Holberton's for a year & a half; a fact which has made our acquaintance full of interest. I have been longing to hear of your having recd. & paid to the Leamington Bank the 200£ which I sent you some 5 months ago; & I wish likewise to know what I still owe, for interest, to the Bank. I have heard that my Regmt. is not to march this year & if this is true it is the most welcome news I could hear - While I am sick & having my heart full of sorrow, my sister-in-law, Henrietta Stirling, has become engaged & will be married about the 31st of this month - You may not [c.o.] care to hear any of the particulars, tho' I will just mention that her future husband's name is Walter Raleigh Gilbert Hickey and nephew of the famous Genl. Gilbert¹⁰² - He is one of

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the Chief Railway Engineers. He has large allowances, 1000£ a year; and is connected with many great people - He was in the Royal Engineers - in the Army - He is a most amiable & most magnificent looking man, being about 6 feet 2 or 3 inches & some 10 years younger than I am - We never anticipated [sic] a match so full of promise for our Sister - As you may imagine, the marriage involves us in much disquiet & many labors, the worst of which is a party - a breakfast or a ball - to all the Station, some 70 or 80 people. I shall be heartily glad when it is all over & above all things shall I rejoice in a return to our former happy, quiet mode of life which we so valued & longed for - I don't mean this as a reflection on my dear sister, by any means; but you must know that the charge of a young unmarried lady is a charge accompanied with some anxiety & care, & the duty of watching over her & finding a worthy husband for her are of such a nature as not to be again desired by me, excepting in the case of my own sweet dear baby when she come to years of love - not discretion - Minnie & baby are both well. The dear baby has no teeth as yet & sh is very near the completion of her 10th month - this day week - She is so beautiful so sweet in temper as to be the admiration of every one who sees her - Yesterday she took her seat at table on her own beautiful little chair, of course perched on a little table to match - These were a present to her & given to her yesterday. My own dear wife is so much occupied with writing her family about Henny's marriage that she can only send you & all at home her very very dear love -

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I don't think I can attempt a letter to dear Sibella altho' I owe her one so much, for I am not equal to much writing & I am in a sadly low state of spirits, which I shd. I fear uselessly communicate to her or dear Irene - Thank her, however, with my brotherly & affecte. love for her letter - I may go on with my letter to you while I have time & strength. I am still holding all the appointments which I mentioned to you as doubling my pay. The expenses of this wedding will sadly delay my freedom from debt, but there is no chance of any one taking from me my extra allowances for the next month & a half, when Dr Kean returns. It was continually rumoured that he wd. be turned out of this appointmt. but there was I think no [c.o.] truth in the report. I had continual opportunities of seeing & conversing with the Lt. Governor which may some day prove of use to me & if the Regmt. remains here another year my chances of succeeding Kean are increased a hundred fold -

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But not to march will be good enough fortune for me for one year. I may still get rid of every debt by the end of next month - I mean when I have recd. the pay of that month. Henny's marriage will cost me 50 or 70£ I fear & that is throwing away the whole of my present advantages of one or 1 ½ months. Do you think it strange for me to dwell so much of [sic] the subject of debts? I am not at all avaricious, but I daily fear the being plunged into deeper difficulties by marches, or sickness or other calamity; & while I pay nearly all my money to the Banks & tradesmen I have little for what is termed 'a rainy day'. I have given you an acct of all that is likely to interest you, altho' I am rather longing for intelligence from you than anxious to communicate mine. I have made no direct, or rather separate allusion to your dreadful accident, my dear dear mother. It was indeed a mercy that you were not alone at the time it occurred & also that you so speedily recovered from all the effects of it - Do you remember, dearest mother, what I said to you when I first heard of your happy

& blessed son's first serious illness? How that his departure would prepare me for mine & occasion a rupture of my ties to earth such as no other loss (excepting of the same nature) would cause? By God's blessing, my words appear to me to have been quite true - I wish for some material memorial of him in something that he has recently used; & yet while longing for it, I think that I need not do so, for it may prove a possession of a week or day or hour. What will you do with his violin? I

should most highly treasure some book of his, particularly one which I remember as his while we were at Taunton together. I well remember his carving a maltese cross & something else on a paper cutter which he made with his own hands. No one could prize that so much as I should. But I will say no more. I hope the mail which is hourly expected will bring me some news of you & all the family. I heard by the last mail that one of Minnie's sisters had seen dear Frank & Marianne at Tiverton Church when F had preached & she said he was looking well. Of that I am glad poor fellow, for your last letter made

me much alarmed for his health. Failing health is a sad addition to other trials & afflictions as I have several times found - May our merciful God & Father support you dear mother, & all your tried & sorrowing children & bless their trials to them - Did I ever tell you how strongly my little baby reminds me of the little picture of Tom on the lid of the ivory box? It is very striking & always gave me great pleasure when my brother was in good health - I must bring this to a conclusion my dear mother. You will give our best & dearest loves to Henrietta & George as well as those at home & at Uffculme God for ever bless you my dear mother is the daily prayer of your affectionate son

Henry

Minnie's & Baby's love to all & a kiss to all - particularly to her God-mother, dear Irene.

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Despatched 17th September
Berhampore, September 13th 1854

My very dear Mother for the first time, I think, ever since I returned to India I find myself at home at 8 o'clock in the morning, the cause being incessant rain, which I fear to expose myself to, as this year as well as last I have suffered from Influenza & Tic Doloureux. I did not write to you by the last mail from lack of leisure. The time is fast approaching when I shall lose my extra labours & pay, for Dr Kean's leave is up on the 30th instt. I suppose I told you in my last that we were to remain here another year & that this wd be in many ways (God willing) a comfort to us, [c.o.] & greatly brighten my hopes of eventually succeeding to this Civil appointment, to say nothing of acting again for Dr K, who can never bear the climate of this place in the rainy season; neither have I been able to do so during two seasons. Yet the last occasion of my being ill was 3 successive duckings in 3 successive days. My letters are full of this subject I fear; but it is excusable, for on my success depends my being able to retire from the service after few or many years. I was much relieved by the tone of your last letter, dearest mother, as it showed me that your mind was

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calm & peaceful, & that you were patiently resigned to the will of our Merciful God & Father in taking from you your much loved son - I greatly deplore that none of us have any relics or memorials of him - I have searched through all my packets of old letters for some of his & have found but two - These I have put in one envelope & have placed them in a little stand before me on my writing table, so that all day long nearly my eyes may rest upon them. One letter contains his congratulations on my return to England & one half of it is addressed to you dearest mother. By the by, I remember that while I was in England, dear Irene told me that our loved brother left with Henrietta a silver mug, which he said was to be given to me if he did not return to England. Will you ascertain if this is all true & whether I can have it. It would be a precious relic indeed. He left to me because he thought that being provided for as long as I live, there was the least chance of its being sold by those who are subject to pecuniary difficulties. I hope, dear mother you will answer as

soon as you can on this interesting matter. By the way, I may mention that your letters still lie in the English Post Office till the 2nd Mail after they are written is despatched. The reason must be that you post them one day too late! Your Marseilles letters always arrive & you incur the heavy postage for no purpose. I wish you had told me what I owe to Mr Thorne: you might ascertain in 10 minutes & it is very anxious work for me to allow business to stand untouched for 7 months & more which might

be settled in no time. I have no idea what remains to be paid, as the commission is charged at a rate & mode which I do not understand - However, it will be several months before I can get yr reply to this, so I will send you from next pay, 10£ at a guess - I was not sorry to hear that poor Sibella has gone to Germany again, tho' I have reason to regret the cause - for it must be discontent & unhappiness in her own home. She did not ask me to help her with money; & indeed it wd be impossible for me to do so. I still owe nearly 250£; for the wedding & the necessity of buying a 2nd horse & a piano for Minnie have cost me 125£, which wd otherwise have gone far to get rid of my debts - My expenses were very great when Henrietta¹⁰³ was with us & during the courtship; & I find it exceedingly difficult to get out of debt after having once got into it. However last month's & this month's pay is due, estimated at 200£ - Do you know that, on acct. of Funds, my monthly deductions are 13£!!! besides this, I pay 20£ a year for Insuring my life for 400£ in case of my death - I mean to increase this sum when I am out of debt, by way of making provision for my family. The last word, strangely enough! reminds me of my two Minnies - The elder one sends you her dear love - She is very well & so happy at our return to our former mode of life - all alone together. Her sister's presence was a little drawback to our dear, loving, sweet intercourse & she herself was a most uncongenial sort of person; so much so that we fear to repeat the experiment of having a sister to live with us, as we had always intended - Young ladies are I fear quite spoiled by the importance

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given them when being prepared for a trip to India - The novelty of great preparations, the parting visits, presents & attentions; the enormous quantities of splendid vanities with which they are supplied seem to change a meek quiet modest homely girl, into a vain & independant (sic) heiress - Such was my experience at least. I fear that the having conferred any favor upon a person is the signal for the breaking off of all intimate & loving intercourse. Don't reflect, dearest mother, what I say, for I have not breathed the subject to any one else - But fancy this - I really think that for ten months my sister-in-law always forgot to say how-do-y'e-do when we met each morning! I truly believe that it was mere forgetfulness; but only think of the utter want of regard! Now I come to an inmate of our home whose presence is a source of almost too great happiness - my sweet little baby Minnie - She has been always enjoying the most perfect health; but to-day she had a bad cold, brought on by the thoughtful care of the nurses, who changed her dress in the open air while a tremendous wind was blowing This is the 3rd cold wh: she has caught from similar & perfectly incredible carelessness of the native servants - On the wedding day, when she had advanced 7 days in her 11th month, she cut her first tooth & now has 6 through, & 2 more distinctly visible, & she has not been in any way a sufferer on acct of this cutting of so many [c.o.] teeth. You cannot tell how deeply thankful we are, for we greatly dreaded a sudden irruption of so many at once - Every one in the station takes great notice of her, although there are 40 other babies in the place. I have just looked at the post office receipt book & see that I could not have mentioned the turmoil we had at the wedding as I have not written since it took place - I will tell poor dear Irene all about it & wish you now "good bye" - May God for ever bless you dear, dear mother & bring you & all your's to His everlasting Kingdom

[on side] I recd. your dear letter of August 3rd yesterday but I have not a moment's leisure to write or allude to its contents - I rejoice in Henrietta's & Frank's restoration to health, & that are cheerful dearest Mother - I am your loving & affectionate son Henry Both Minnies' loves, kisses & blessings.

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1st November 1854

Rampore Bauleah¹⁰⁴!

"Where's that?" you will ask

My dearest mother - there's a long tale of trouble, sorrow & sickness to tell, if I were to tell all or a fiftieth part of what we have been doing & suffering during nearly 2 months past I have been on a sick bed ever since my birthday, nearly 6 weeks! [c.o.] On the evening of the 30th October we all left Berhampore & came 30 miles across the country to the Ganges that we might catch a Steamer - We arrived here yesterday at 10 a.m. after a journey which almost took away the little life left in me; but I had not rested here 6 hours before the most blessed effects of the change became apparent. I walked all over the house, looked at every thing, ate a good dinner (for me!) I went out in the verandah to enjoy what I have not known for months - fresh air & a breeze - We are in a beautiful house some 15 yards from the water - the river is here immensely broad & the air perfectly heavenly - All day yesterday we slept & all night too & much of this morning; & so to-day by God's blessing

1v

I am feeling quite restored to life - This sickness has been the worst I have ever had, & I could not have recovered had I stayed at Berhampore another week or half that time - I had been ailing much for many weeks before my birth-day & on the 10th October I got one year's leave to Simlah; but being then unable to move I waited to get strength. However instead of getting stronger I got weaker & weaker & many serious attacks of illness - At length it was said that I must go whether I had strength or not, so off I started, with dear Minnie almost as weak & ill as I was; for my long illness & often alarming condition have half killed her - We are now, I am happy to say, on our way, at a most delightful time of the year, to Simlah where we hope a year's residence will quite restore us - I am reduced to skin & bone & so altered that my friends, the few who saw me, scarcely recognised me. However, I feel now all right & so improved in spirits & health that I can scarcely recognise myself. We have before us a long trip of 2 or 3 weeks on the

river - fancy my being too weak to travel in a palakeen wh: is like a bed! - & during the trip I hope to write to you a letter less like that of an invalid than this shakey production - say that in 3 weeks we reach Allahabad, we shall go in 3 or 4 days to Meerat, where I have some friends whom we contemplate staying with a few days & then we resume our journey & reach d.v. the foot of the Hills in 3 days. It is to our river trip that we trust for the 1st renovation - A gentleman was here an hour ago whom I heard say was eleven hours crossing this river here opposite the house - We were only 3 hours, yesterday - From this you will suppose that there is air as well as water! I recd. about 10 days ago yr. letter - I scarcely looked then to receive any more from you dear mother. You mentioned the death of Coll. Robertson¹⁰⁵. I trusted that my dear brother Frank would thereby be placed above all difficulties, for I always understood that he wd. leave moderate fortunes to his 2 children I was glad to hear, at last, the amount due to the Leamington Bank - I'll pay it very shortly

But alas! this awful visitation of sickness had reduced me to the lowest depths of poverty again. I should have been tolerably well off if I could have sold my property, for the proceeds would have paid my debt to the Agra Bank. My 2 horses, Buggy, Piano &c remain unsold & without a prospect of being sold; & strange to say I found, when I came to make the experiment, that all my worldly possessions were worth (excepting plate) sixpence!!! Fortunately my large pay gives me 100£ or so cash for my journey - Fancy my descending from 120£ a month to something under 40£!!! Fluctuating game! My dear mother I must [unclear] my small remaining piece of paper & small remaining strength to writing you good by's & sending you & dear darling Irene innumerable loves & kisses - You are living in what I affectionately call "home", but I equally desire my love to Henrietta & George, Frank & Marianne, dear old Berty (fancy his snow white hairs, the dear fellow!) One is gone from our circle

[on side] Dear Minnie sends her fondest love to you all - God for ever bless you dear dear Mother
Yr. affecte. son Henry

Direct to "Simla" N.W. Provinces
Benares, December 6th 1854

My very dear Mother It is nearly a month since I wrote to you, and you will be glad to hear that the month had seen me safe through a rather tedious convalescence. I wrote my last letter from the beautiful Station of Rampore Bauleah where I was daily gathering strength On the 19th Novbr. I (we) went on board the Steamer & reached this place the day before yesterday. I had a return of Fever during the last 3 days of my voyage & until this morning was very low weak & out of spirits at my painful tending to relapses; however, with care, I hope to preserve myself from more of them - & was sadly disappointed, dearest mother, at receiving no letter from you or any one of the family on my arrival here - Dear Minnie had the batches of 3 different Mails & I none! It is possible that there may be a letter for me [c.o.] at Allahabad, one day's journey ahead of this. I have written to the Post Mr. there to send my letters back here as we must stay here at least a week, as I have no money & I am not quite strong enough to continue my journey

While my ink was drying on the other side I was thinking of my short interview yesterday with an old friend, Miss Lardner¹⁰⁶ that was & now Mrs Dennys. I very nearly lost the opportunity I had of seeing them. Just as they were starting to continue their journey to Calcutta I chanced to see, in the book in wh: visitors to the Hotel enter their names, the familiar name of Dennys - He is the brother of Julius, my old ship-mate. Capt. Dennys is obliged thro' sickness to give up the service & take a wretched pension of 120£ a year - Fortunately they have no family. I wd. have given, I don't know how much, to have learnt an hour earlier of their being in the next room to us, for I shd. so much have liked to send you & Irene any little memorial of me, if but a card or your favorite cheroot!!! They told me they wd. visit P. Lardner¹⁰⁷ at Tiverton and of course they will see Frank - Mrs Dennys remembered me at dear old Petersham¹⁰⁸ & Irene, dear Irene likewise. She very strongly reminds me of poor dear Louisa¹⁰⁹. To resume my own narrative - we fear that we may find some difficulty in prosecuting our journey as our stay here may be much prolonged & dear Minnie is expecting an

addition to her little family next month! Our mode of travelling (lying at full length in a carriage) is no inconvenience to her while we are on the Grand Trunk Road, but I fear the road beyond Delhie & Kurnaul, the scene of our sufferings in 1852. We can stay where we like & as long as we like & altogether our year's leave will prove, please God, a great comfort & pleasure to us. We cannot take

up our residence in the Hills in December & January, so we shall remain below at Umballa - At that place a large force is collected for exercise - an English Chobham¹¹⁰ - I must speak of Minnie - She, dear dear, wife that she is, is better than she has been ever since I was first ill, but yet she has no strength & requires as much as I do a long long rest & a residence in a nice cold climate. She is writing to old Granny, at my side. Many loves & kisses she desires to you & Irene & I desire a like salute to "my little man" on the chimney piece. How I shd. like to be at hand to mend your much flattered Swan's pen! Now for Baby - But what can I say to give you any idea of her beauty & sweet playful manner? She is 13 months old & talks or rather speaks many words & knows the names of innumerable objects. The last day of our being on board the Steamer she took her first solitary ramble - half the length of the Saloon! & now she is all day long walking alone. She cut two of her double teeth a few days ago without giving us the slightest intimation of what she was about, until mama, putting her finger far back into her mouth, out of harm's way as she thought, got a sharp bite there. How much there was to interest me in your last letter dear mother, & particularly about dear Berty. I cannot believe that his noble locks are all turned snow white - How I wish I could see him & his dear nice wife & my 2 nieces - & my god-child - Talking of God-child, I want you to ask dear Henrietta if she wd be like to be god mother to my next if it shd. be a girl

[on side] I hope dear mother you will never sell the silver salver without letting me be the purchaser

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If a boy, he has already chosen dear Minnie's eldest sister¹¹¹. I want very much to write to dear Irene but I cannot find time for I have almost a score of [sic] letters that will not brook delay, for yesterday & the previous day I was not equal to writing - Tell her that she is a naughty girl for never writing! I suppose that poor Sibella is abroad & that she is happy & well - give her my love [c.o.] when you wish & likewise to Netta & Frank. I want to know very much whether the death of the poor old Colonel has placed them in comfortable circumstances - I will send you the 15£ very soon dear mother, as soon as I can [c.o.] come to a halt, for on my journey I can do nothing. I wish you wd. ask Mr Stowey if he recd. my little present of Ivory things - If not a letter addressed to the India House for Edward Jenkins Esqr of the Civil Service would lead to their discovery. Things are so broken up & scattered about [c.o.] at the English Custom House that the box may have been destroyed wh: alone preserved the address of Mr Stowey - Had he recd. them I think he would have written to acknowledge them I will write again to you again shortly dearest mother, but at present I cannot take another piece of paper - You will be sorry to hear that my pay is reduced to 30£ a month while on leave, a reduction of 80£! Horrible but health - i.e. life deserves the first attention - God for ever bless you & all our family dearest Mother - I am

[on side] Your very affectionate son Henry. Do you still keep my letters?¹¹² I hope you will give them to me or Minnie some future day

Have you asked Netta about the Mug that belonged to dear, dear Tom?

Meerutt - January 22nd 1855

My own dear Mother After a long silence, occasioned of course by my travels, I have been for several days quite luxuriating in home letters. I had yr. November letters, containing one from dear Irene; then 2 days after, another from her alone, written from Worcester & then 2 days after (yesterday, Sunday) your last dated the 1st December - It had been almost like being at home, this constant intercourse with you; in this cold, bright, bracing weather (nearly as cold as the Winter wh: I spent at home) with nice fires; with completely restored health & energies & complete freedom from every care, sorrow & trouble - You can scarcely conceive our intense enjoyment of our lives. All day long we say to each other "is not this complete comfort & happiness?" As all our worldly possessions were packed in a few boxes we necessarily unpacked them, for they were packed with abundance of moisture in that wishy washy Bengal. This unpacking has necessitated the arrangement of all our home-looking toys, pictures &c &c & so we have made Dr Thring's¹¹³ house

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2. look like our own home. We have our pictures of Granty & Granny over the fire place, & one Cheffonier is devoted to our papier-maché toys, our Leamington Baby (done in biscuit china) your & dear Irene's picture unframed, un-cased & sloped against the back of the Cheff: - In the midst glitters & glistens my little ship, provided 2 days ago with a shade, wh: I have sought for in vain in all parts of the world. No sooner had dear Fanny Bent presented me with this my own [c.o.] handiwork, than poor Sibella begged of me the shade & stand; & grievously have I missed it ever since - At Berhampore the spiders lived in the rigging & the dust has buried it daily in all other tracts of India. What trifles I am writing about dear mother; but they serve to show the peace & serenity of which we are in the enjoyment; beside the Cheffonier is in itself a most resplendent object & elicits the praise & admiration of our good, kind host, as well as of the foolish weak-minded possessor of its splendours! We have, indeed, converted Dr Thring's bow-room into a most attractive drawing room. You know my old taste in these matters, so I'll say no more of the magnificent result of my last efforts -

I have a thousand things to talk to you about & I have commenced my letter 2 days before it is to go; so dear mother, prepare for a "most tedious brief" letter! As I must write to you with a thousand interruptions (an interruption to each subject) I shall wander from one to another as chance guides me - This morning I took my first walk for upwds of a fortnight, in a cold that made my ears & nose ache. I walked 2 miles without the least fatigue & I feel now no remains whatever of the dreadful shock to my health which I recd. in Bengal; nor do I bear in my looks the trace of illness - I weighed myself too, & found no reduction beyond 2 or 3 lbs, of the weight I used to rejoice in when I got weighed at the Tiverton Junction Station! While on the subject of health I may tell you that dear old Minnie says that she never enjoyed such health as she now is blest with - & though she is daily, almost hourly looking for the new arrival she suffers no uneasiness or disturbance of health or comfort in any way. How different from my poor suffering sister Henrietta¹¹⁴! We think daily of her & hope that by this time all her troubles are over

2v

3. I find that I have taken 2 sheets of paper, so I shall write straight across this to save you from hunting for the pages - I shd scarcely have said that I wd write straight, for I am so cold that I cannot do it altho' I am sitting writing on a little table within one yard of the fire. Fancy how cold dear Minnie is sitting 3 or 4 yards further off! Our dear Baby is thriving amazingly: she is very tall for her age as every body says who sees her. She has cheeks of the true English color & bloom &

such blue eyes! How many teeth she has I really don't know, but she has innumerable grinders & eye-teeth coming & she has never suffered from them excepting during Christmas day. Her tricks & pranks afford us infinite fun. She is exceedingly forward & talks a great chat of Hindostani. The servants are teaching her the names of the little organs of sight, hearing & smell - They are all composed of the same 3 letters, variously arranged & she makes the most amusing mistakes the letters are ANK (eyes) NAK nose, & KAN ear - But you have so many little scions sprouting out every month that if you have as much said of each as I say of this one, you will have little leisure for listening to any thing else. When I have got as many as dear Frank I dare say that you will hear little enough of each pretty rogue. What a shame it is that I have not written to dear Bertram to enquire about our little god-child¹¹⁵ - i.e. Minnie's & mine. I have never heard whether he receives the Indian Newspapers which I send him - very irregularly it is true - yet I should like to hear that he has recd some. I dare say that with the lots of leisure which I now enjoy I may be able to write to him by this mail. We have just received the Telegraphic News from England & very thankful I am to find that there have been no dreadful fights since that of Inkerman¹¹⁶; though I shudder to think that several more are inevitable - I saw my name in General Orders yesterday as removed from the 7th Regt to the 3rd & much rejoiced I am at the removal, for I thereby gain 4£10 a month. You may not know that when stationed within a distance of 200 miles of Calcutta we get what is termed "Half Batta" instead of full Batta - The 7th is of course at a half Batta station & when my papers about my leave went up to Head Quarters I asked to be removed to any Regmt. at a full Batta station & in 3 days I was exchanged - My pay since I struck work has been only 30£ a month, so that the additional 4£10 is a matter of great moment. We can scarcely live even upon the larger sum as living, servants & house rent are much more expensive in the Hills than the plains - I wrote some day last week to engage a house at Simla & the same day while in conversation with some friends I found that it wd be infinitely more preferable for us to go to my old acquaintance Landour - It is a 3 days' journey instead of 6, & a good road instead of a bad one

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5. Begin here after having read the whole of the 2nd sheet - You will remember our sad adventures when we left Loodeanah in 1852 - well, I am not at all anxious to go over any of the ground I then travelled - It is possible there may be some difficulty in getting off the engagement which I made, to take a house at Simla altho' I wish to cancel it within 24 hours - However I wd. rather pay some penalty than go to Simla. I am of course familiar with all Landour & the beautiful Dhoon below it. You must well remember the name of Deyrah Dhoon. Our travelling with 3 palankins will render it a matter of importance whether we travel 150 miles or 300 miles, which is about the difference between Simla & Landour. I don't know, dear mother when I shall be able to send you the 15£ I owe you - I have no money & my arrears to the Bank are nearly 100£, and my 2 horses are unsold & my Piano is to be paid for in 6 months! in 6 monthly instalments of 5£ each - I trust that its remaining un-paid occasions you no uneasiness - However I must be enabled to do it before I leave this - You know of course that we contemplate remaining at Meerutt until the end of February that dear Minnie may have time to recover after her confinement & the climate here is pleasant enough till March & even April - In your letter dear mother you speak of the tankard which

dear dear Tom bequeathed to me & of your intention to let a picture¹¹⁷ descend into my branch of the family. The reason alleged for both being destined for me or mine I do not know, although I fancy it is that I am supposed to be less likely than others to be reduced to the necessity of parting with them. If I retire, as [c.o.] I suppose at present that I shall when entitled to my pension I shall not be very well off, for there is little likelihood of my being able to get the Medical Fund when I completed 4 more years - Perhaps you do not know that after 17 years' service in India, we get 200£ from the Government & 300£ from our own private Fund. However so it is & the reason of my

fearing I may not get the 2nd for many years to come is, that only 7 annuities are given each year & the number that yearly apply for them is at least 20 & those [c.o.] are the very oldest men in the Service Yet it is possible that this may change & none of the old hands, or few of them, may apply in the year when I want to go. I talk of going home that I may be amongst my family in the decline of life & I want to return dear Minnie to the parents she so deeply fervently loves & is loved by if it is God's pleasure that they should all be spared to meet again here - I need not say that [c.o.] what I call plans are only such plans as one wd. make who at all times remembers & feels that he "knows

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not what a day will bring forth"; but it is impossible not to contemplate reunions which love & affection make us long & yearn for. But if I have these plans I hope to, dear Mother, that I have those of another kind in which disappointments do not await us - plans of reunion hereafter, which are mercifully awakened & strengthened in me, I think, almost daily. I have just taken your last letter (of Decr) to read over again as I might forget otherwise some of the things therein mentioned, which I intended to have spoken about. I recd. with a sad welcome the lock of my loved brother's hair & often, with it in my hand, have I thought over scenes in which we were together - I very much want you, dearest mother, to do as you suggest & get copies of our father's likeness, of dear Toms' of Tom & Bertram together, as I cannot get Bertram in any other way & I should very much like to have a similar copy of the miniature¹¹⁸ which dear Netta has of you - I will send [torn] [smudged]£ for the expense & I should like all to be [torn]ne large frame, just as those paper profiles of [torn]erton Chas. Tucker &c were put together in our fath[torn] time You excuse the introduction of the subject of your little dinners, dearest mother; but you know well how much every thing you can say about yourself much greatly interest me. I think your measures most judicious - I am going to write to Irene & so will here say God forever bless you & all belonging to you both in time & eternity - I am your very affectte son Henry. Minnie dear was as I told you dear Minnie is daily expecting her confinement & I think it cannot be delayed 2 days more.

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Meerutt February 9th 1855

My very dear Mother On the 1st of this month dear Minnie presented me with a little boy - a son & heir. He is to be called after his father, Juxon Henry; so now we have each a copy of ourselves, in name as in other particulars. He is of course a very fine little fellow, and he promised to have many of the pretty characteristics of his dear mother in person. His little head is covered with hair, whereas little Minnie is almost bald to this day, having her temples quite free of hair - You may not have noticed that dear Minnie the elder had singularly beautiful nails & the finest fingers I ever saw & her little son has the most laughable little models of them - His nose too is quite of a different shape from his little sister's - This being the 9th day, my dear wife is fast recovering her health & strength & has been 2 days on Mutton chops - Her heart is full of joy & thankfulness at the acquisition of a son & heir nursing him with inexpressible delight - I hope she may

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be able to do so throughout, for she has the most earnest desire to do so. Our passing the whole of this year in a fine cool climate will I hope enable her to continue her sweet employment without the least injury to her strength - You have now so many grand-sons that you will not require such an interminable account of this, your last I suppose for the present, as I have given to Grand-mama

Hockin. I may tell you that dear Minnie was very ill with a terrible fever on the 3rd day & the whole of the following night; but I am most happy to say that she completely recovered all the effects of it during the next day or two; & she has ever since continued improving as if she had never had so alarming an attack - I must have told you of our having engaged a house [c.o.] at Simla & of our wish to get off the engagement to go to Landour instead, which we can reach without any difficulties such as would attend our journey to Simla. Three night's journey will take us to Landour - I shall indeed rejoice to visit that place

which I so well remember with delight. You will of course address your letters to us there. We cannot - at least it is not desirable that we should engage a house until we reach the place. When I obtained my sick leave I applied to be removed from the 7th N.I. as it is at a ½ batta Station, so I have been removed into the 3rd Regt. which is close to Loodeanah; but I do not at all expect ever to join it. Dear Minnie's confinement has been my only thought & care for a long while so that I have nothing in the shape of novelty to tell you - I have scarcely ever left the house or garden since I wrote last & I have seen no one. You will be glad to hear that my health is perfectly restored, but of late I have been too much confined to the house & so I regain but little strength however I took a good long walk this [c.o] morning without any fatigue. Having spent 9 days in the house you may imagine that my occupations have been altogether of a domestic nature, of such a nature as wd. not interest you were I to narrate them - I have been tinkering my poor

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old fiddle as usual, for you know I mend him much more than I play him! But then I have an advantage over dear Irene in that I complete the jobs I take in hand - I am thinking of her Marmalade! Is it made yet? By the bye, one day dear Minnie, [c.o.] Dr Thring & I set about making some & we finished it altogether in an hour & a half & we made many pounds of it - I mention this not to bring blushes into the dear cheeks of my darling sister, but by way of narrating one of our purely domestic occupations - It likewise serves to show that making marmalade is not so interminable & vast an undertaking as I was led to conceive it to be when at home; not so vast as the Ganges Canal (wh: is only 980 miles long & very very broad) nor can it compare [c.o.] with the unceasing labor of keeping my violin in repair - I must tell you of an insult I & my fiddle received when it was in a most dilapidated condition - A great piece of the back was broken off & gone, so I took it to a German Band Master here to ask him to give me a piece of wood for it - "You had better burn it & buy a new one!!

[on side] was his unfeeling reply. It is, now better than it ever was before - Burn it indeed!!

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Dearest mother in your last letter but one, in speaking of the journal kept by my father¹¹⁹ & wh: was in the possession of my dearly loved brother, you say that he was not permitted to open it. Did you mean that poor dear Tom had recently had it bound & had not seen it since it was so? I asked Irene or Netta to give me an account of the size & form of the Tankard which was left to me, for I wish very much to think of it as my dear brother's last present to me, as I cannot get a sight of it. Would it be beyond your powers dear Mother to make a sketch of the picture you spoke of? I don't mean a drawing but the merest outline, that I may know the subject of it. You may know that I asked dear Netta if she wd. be one of the god-mothers to our next little one should it prove to be a girl, for if it turned out - as it has! to be a boy the post was previously engaged by Miss Stirling, dear Minnie's eldest sister - Did I chance to tell you that another of her sisters is coming

out to India? Henrietta & her husband have asked out Sibella,¹²⁰ the one which I rejected! for I was asked to take her - She was not at all to my liking - There's something in that name which I quite fear! The young bride was too young to discover the differences of character & [c.o.] her husband has not had a chance of "seeing before leaping" & I cannot venture to say any thing - I let you into the secret, somewhat, of my disappointment. & disgust at the experiment I tried. Enough of this. I have been waiting & waiting in vain hoping to learn in what part of the world my 2 horses are & who has charge of them - They cost me 55£ & the monthly expense of their keep must be quite 3£, & so it is perfectly ruinous not being able to sell them, which I wd. instantly do if I knew where they were. Without the money wh: I expected to get by the sale of them I don't know where I shall be able to get the 15£ I want so much to send to you. I have had the greatest difficulties in getting hold of the money

due to me from all quarters - I have not yet recd. my dues as Civil Surgeon at Berhampore - If I could [c.o.] get hold of all that is due to me I could pay my debt to the Bank & you too; for there is due to me 170£ I have not paid the Bank a half-penny since September & my engagement is to pay 20£ a month! That's dreadful is it not. I have asked dear Irene if she can assist you in repaying Mr Thorne with any thing she may receive from Taunton¹²¹, after she has paid for her poor little toothy-peg; but I fear that money from Taunton will never exceed in one year some 3/ & 7 pence half-penny - All I know is that at present I am penniless! On my reaching the Hills, before entering a house I must pay half of the year's rent! some 30 or 40£. I suppose I shall live in penury the rest of my days. My late sickness has quite ruined it, for it has occasioned a loss of nearly a thousand pounds! But this is getting tedious & unpleasant; besides in the fresh enjoyment of restored health I should think only of the great mercy

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vouchsafed to me & mine; and indeed at all times my heart is full of deep deep gratitude - On acct. of my own weakness & dear Minnie's late condition I had not gone to church until Sunday last. It is very full of interest this revisiting a place I have not seen for nearly 14 years - I pass every morning in sight of the old Bungalow I used to occupy with [c.o. Major] Colonel now, but then Lieutt. Boston, & close by the house poor Dr Edlin used to occupy & where I used to visit him. I must bring my letter to an end - I find that I am not equal to more than one letter at a time; for I have become so prosey after having written four sheets to Granny. The 2 Minnies send their affectionate love (the 2nd Minnie by proxy of course) & the 2 Henry's do the same, dear mother - Give my dearest, best love to Irene & all at home You must, by the time you get this, be preparing for the reception of dear Frank's numerous progeny - You must send the most loving messages to dear Berty & Emma & their children, making particular mention of my little god-child Minnie. That sweet name wh: was once so scented is becoming quite familiar & common in the family. God bless you for ever Henry

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Landour. August 17th 1855

My dearest Mother I received your very long nice letter of the 2nd July last evening. I am deeply grieved to hear of the death of dearly loved & esteemed Holberton¹²², for he was, and always called

himself a brother to me; and, as you know, to him I owe my present comfortable position & provision in life. Only 2 days ago, I was thinking much of him & whether on my final return to England I should be able to pay him, ever, a long visit. His loss will be deeply felt by his children, for a more kind & affectionate and good parent I have not known - For his son, who is being educated to follow his profession & to succeed in his place, the calamity is most heavy. He must be too young to succeed him & all the bright hopes that both father & son entertained must be blighted. Poor Holberton! how sudden must his death have been! And when I saw him last he looked in the very best health & appeared to have the strongest hopes of a long life - How full of sad reflections I am filled at seeing & hearing of so many, whom I have known all my life, being almost daily removed from this world; & of the certainty of all of us so soon following them. For those who are left I mourn most, [c.o.] and not for those who are gone to

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an eternal & most blessed rest. For the young widows & orphans my heart bleeds. We have lately witnessed as distressing an instance as could occur - I have before mentioned our having formed an intimate acquaintance with a [c.o. nephew] cousin of Dr Bowring's, a Capt. Bowring¹²³ & his wife & 4 beautiful children - From living in a very bad locality the whole family contracted a most fatal sickness, and at length they all removed to a house close to us - At that time Mrs B. was most severely ill & after a few days' residence near us I was called in to see her by the Surgn. of the station; but as she got well, her husband got worse and within a fortnight of his removal here he died - He had been for years a very sickly person; but he had only been ailing a few days before I went to his house to see (professionally) his poor wife; and it was only 3 days that he was seriously ill before he died. Minnie went to live with them the day before he died, as poor Mrs B. was unable to nurse her husband from the extremest debility - From the day of his death we, with our children & establishment, went to live with the poor bereaved wife; but after one week Mrs B's brother came up from Meerutt, & then we returned to our own home again. We, however, are still continually with them, for poor Mrs Bowring looks upon us as her only friends here. You mention several names most familiar to me, of those

who are gone or on the point of going. - Mrs Chaundy¹²⁴ & the most excellent & pious Colonel Bent¹²⁵. But I need not in my letter, dwell on these painful subjects, though to dwell on them in our hearts is of all things the most beneficial & blessed, if views as warnings for us to prepare to meet our God; and, in the case of the pre-eminently good, full of comfort and consolation. You will not think that I am only for a moment oppressed with sad thoughts, for these reflections, more continually than any others, are in my heart - My long perilous illness & many many troubles have rendered my heart more alive to every serious circumstance & reflection than it ever was before; & I may well say "before I was troubled I went wrong"¹²⁶ - and the concluding words of the passage would not, I trust, be inapplicable to my earnest efforts & desires, at least. I am speaking with the full remembrance that "the preparation of the heart is from the Lord" and not from any presumptuous ideas - I speak to you, dearest mother, in this way for our mutual comfort & consolation, that we both may feel assured that we are preparing & waiting, [c.o.] in humble faith & hope, for a reunion in Heaven, where separation, pain, sickness & trouble shall be exchanged for never-ending union & peace and joy unspeakable. In your dear letter you mention your feeling some anxiety about my health - our health, because you have failed to receive my accus-

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-tomed monthly letter - You will be surprised to hear that I am in the blest enjoyment of better health than Minnie has ever known me to possess. I walk about these hills more than any person

here with one exception and I go about with a feeling of joy, delight & grateful thankfulness to God [c.o.] for my perfect health, which I have never known before. Dear Irene in one of her dear letters, said that from the peculiar tone of my letters just about this time last year, she feared that my spirits and health were both suffering - I hope it will comfort you my mother, to find me writing in, I suppose, the same strain, while I am enjoying health, spirits & life in an unprecedented degree of delightfulness. I wish I could tell you all that I do & what are the chiefest & most beautiful sources of my joyous condition. The glorious sights of earth & sky; the wondrous scenery, the delicious air; the absence of every trouble, care & sorrow; - these are the things that make me say I am happy - But they don't afford me subjects for description; so you must make your favorite "picture" of them all, on your mind's retina! I believe that the chief cause of this enjoyment is something within. What a painful contrast I make, in the condition of mind & body, with my poor sister Sibella! Ill in health & with a heart filled with so much bitterness; loving no one & with none to love her - not with what I call love - as I love Minnie & am loved by her -

2

I left off in my last sheet to go to breakfast & now that I have returned to my pleasant occupation (of chatting with you dear mother) I find my quiet solitude disturbed by the entrance of a young lady, Miss Reilly (my landlady's daughter) so from this point.....August 18th. The result of her entry is found in this, that I dropped my pen at Miss R's entrance & never had one opportunity of taking it up again all day yesterday. I have begun at 8 o'clock this morning, while in the next room I hear [c.o.] the arrival of a few of our immediate neighbours, who are going to pass a few hours on the top of the highest hill, about an hour's walk from this, & we are going to take with us a cold pie & a bottle of beer. You would call it a pic nic, but I call it a walk & a stroll combined. [c.o.] There is a large house, and a sweet little Swiss-like Cottage [c.o.] few hundred yards from it. In the latter we shall have our pie and eat! From the point on which it is built there is a fearful slope to the bottom of the kud or valley at the very least a mile long! You might roll from the top to the bottom without being able to stop, after once starting until, you got the the bottom. Any one who had the misfortune to fall into the arms of a bear would be thus handed down, the bear politely accompanying him!

Do you know that this is the way that bears behave towards

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any one whom they find trespassing on their privacy?

They embrace the unfortunate wretch & roll with him while there is any declivity to roll down! I am writing dearest mother, under the most unfavorable circumstances you can concieve. There is nothing like quiet within or without the house & I am momentarily expected to put down my pen & start. But I cannot do this without entailing on myself much regret for the next week, or until the next mail, for I wanted to speak of all that you have written about dear mother. I need not speak of poor Sibella, beyond saying that the position in which [sic] stands to Irene & the rest of the family is one that gives me excessive pain & regret whenever I think of it - I feel that she has no tie, no friend at home, in England even. It is frightful to think of. Give her my love & tell her that I sorrow deeply for her sufferings of body and mind. I never received the letter she speaks of; for I have had none since I have been in India this time from her, excepting perhaps one, soon after we returned - The [sic] must be something most strange in the constitution of mind & [c.o.] in the habits & manners of my poor sister, for, ever since since I was born I never knew such dreadful feelings of irritation, anger & resentment as she inspired me with, during our short intercourse at Sidmouth & elsewhere. It was most strange, as I was prepared to love & esteem her as I do my other sisters; & indeed, had always done her. I am so rejoiced to hear of dear Irene's happy & healthful sojourn in Wales & I hope, poor girl, that she will not be exposed to the horrors of meeting & living with her

sister - What a strange & unnatural word I have used! Yet it is not too

strong; for it is horrible to have aroused in one such feelings as must exist when those sisters meet under one roof. I look at my own feeling towards her with horror. I fear, dear mother, distressing you with such long comments on this unhappy subject - There is always much comfort in talking about dear Bertram, who seems so happy in his dear wife & family. I wish that there were some prospect of his returning to England to see you & all the rest of the family. I begin to look at my own prospects of return as faint and distant as his own, on acct of my increasing poverty - I shall send you what I owe the Leamington Bank as soon as I have recd. one instalment of my usual pay - I am at present in dreadful straits, tho' I have lived more economically than any other person in the Hills - About the violin of my poor loved brother. I cannot understand how it is that delay & difficulty is ever experienced by you & those in Canada, N.F.L. &c in finding opportunities for despatching parcels to & fro, for there are the same facilities for the despatch of parcels as of letters in all parts of the world. There is a Universal Parcel Carriage Compy. I am very sorry that you have not hitherto got possession of the instrument, as my Agent & friend Mr Campbell will soon be leaving England - I said before that he would bring my dear brother's silver mug out for me - You might write his Agent, Mr H. Harvey, 17 Mark Lane, City and ask his instructions as to where it should be sent -

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I am so glad to hear of the happiness & comfort Frank & all his dear family have derived from their return to M.P.¹²⁷ My friend Mr Sage is sitting in the room with me - The name of his father's place is Brackley - You should mention this to Frank, as it would be delightful to old Mr Sage to know that Frank's brother is so familiar with his son Shakespear¹²⁸. By the by, poor Mrs Bowring's brother has been to the Uffculme school & knows Frank & the Clerks & other people in the neighbourhood - I think Frank had a boy by the name of Graves - Mrs B's maiden name of Graves & her father was a General & lived at Jersey. All the party have started off for the scene of our pic nic & I am left alone to finish my letter - It is past 10, and I shall get no breakfast until I reach the place of meeting, so I must stop this as soon as possible - I have an hour's walk right up hill, [c.o.] at an angle of some 30o!! We take bows & arrows with us. You have before been told that archery is a very favorite & a daily amusement with us - Minnie shoots very well & I very indifferently - I must say a word about our dear children - Minnie is the picture of health - the little boy too is at length in a promising state & rapidly progressing towards the state of health strength, size and height that he ought to be - You know that he has been utterly starved ever since he was born & neither for love nor money could I get a wet-nurse for him till about 3 weeks ago. He is a most beautiful child, but was so puny & looked so weak and wretched that I feared we shd. never rear the dear little fellow

[on side] I never looked at him without the most painful feelings; but than [sic] God he is all that I could desire

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[at top, part upside down] My dearest love to all - Frank & Co Netta & Co Sibella & Irene -

God forever bless you my dearest mother - I am yr affecte. son Henry

September 21st 1855 - my 40th birthday

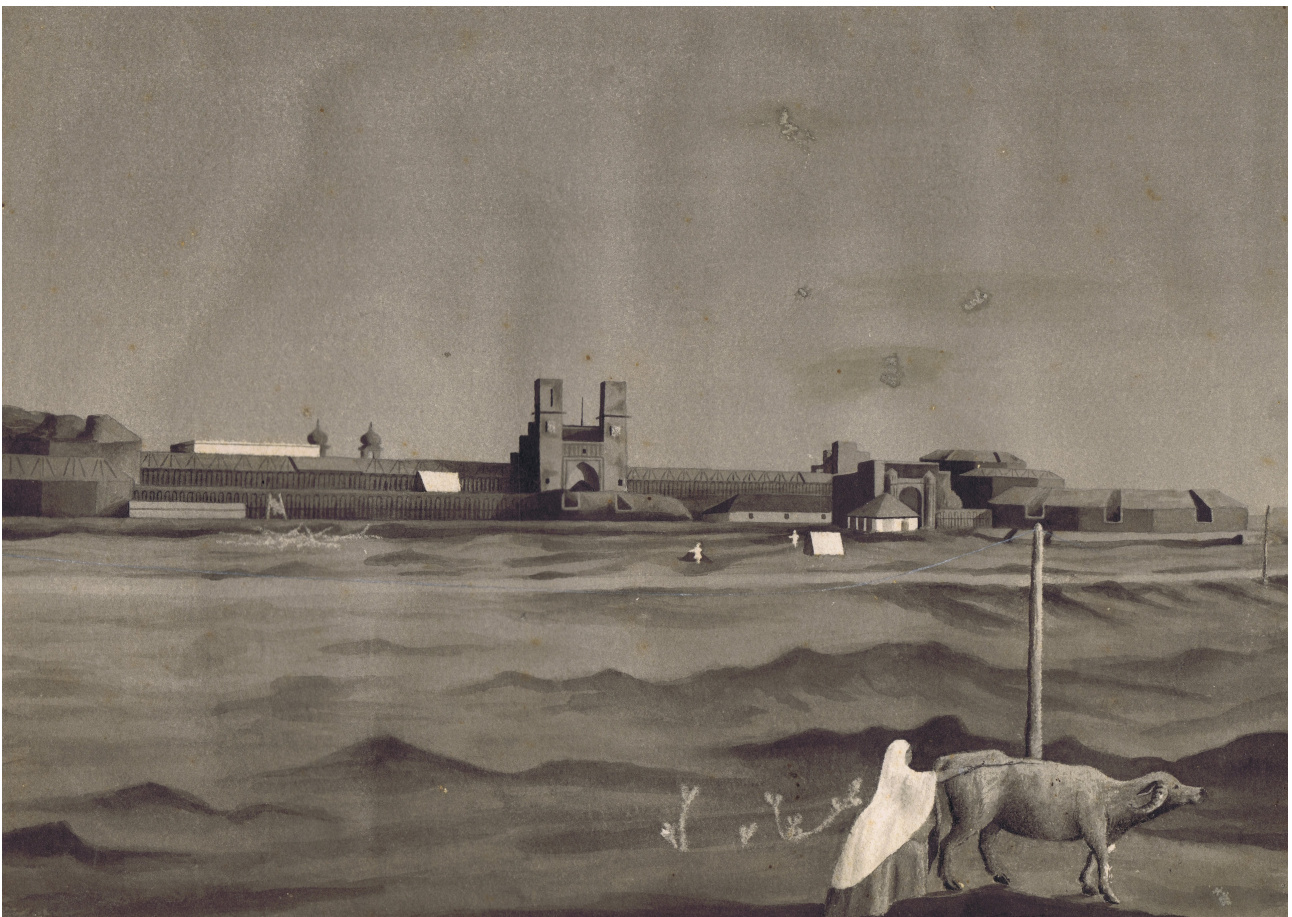
My very dear mother I have since I last wrote received two such nice letters from you - One, alas! contained the most sad intelligence of the death of poor dear Holberton, the best & kindest friend I ever had. I cannot tell you how I value the record of his last hours which dear Sibella wrote for me. I have already read it six times over & I shall greatly treasure it for future perusal. I will write to her & thank her myself for the arduous task she undertook for me. How well I remember her most laborious transcripts of dear Frank's sermons, when I was at Hansie. I am sorry dearest mother that I cannot yet tell you of my future destination, though I mentioned the probability of my going to the 3rd N.I. at Phillour, which is close to Loodeanah. I asked a friend of mine to speak to the Adjutant General about my [c.o.] wish to go there; he did so & the A.G. desired me to write to him & tell him of my wishes myself - While I was writing to him I heard of a most splendid appointmt being vacant, a Regmt. of Cavalry, & I could not resist the temptation to ask for it. I have not yet recd. an answer to my

1v

application; but I dare not entertain hope of such splendid success. The Cavalry appointmts are nearly the best in India, worth 900 Rs a month; & generally the greatest favorites are posted to the Cavalry. Yet it is not utterly impossible that I may be the lucky fellow who is to get this vacancy, & therefore I say that I am still in a state of uncertainty about my next post. You had, however, better address your letters to Phillour, N.W.P. via Bombay. The 9th Cavalry is at Sealkote, very near to Cashmere! & from thence the snow is always to be seen on the tops of the mountains. I may learn my fate before this is despatched, as the last safe day is the 23rd and I am writing this portion of my letter on the 19th, though I dated it the auspicious 21st! You speak of poor Sarah Holberton's¹²⁹ painful letter to Sibella, but I suppose it of death, the suddenness of it & the vast importance of preparing. All her afflicted family must have been deeply affected by the awful suddenness with which their loved brother's earthly career was cut short; but the reflections thereby called up are not necessarily of a painful or fearful character - I take the deepest interest & even [c.o.] satisfaction tho' sad & solemn it be, in reading the story of poor dear Holberton [sic] last hours; & I feel assured that I should wish

to read poor Sarah's letter. From so sincere & strict a Christian as she has been ever since I knew her, I feel assured that her letter must contain nothing but reflections & truths which we cannot too often dwell upon. Poor dear Sarah, how bitterly she must feel the loss of her brother! Did I tell you that, when I went to make that hasty visit to her & her brother & sister, just when leaving Devonshire the last time, [c.o.] she kissed me? I felt the act to be a proof of regard which I scarcely could otherwise have believed that she felt for me. I had not seen her since we were inmates of dear Tom's happy & blessed home. How many of those who lived in that home with me, are gone from this world! Edlin, Moorhead, Square & last poor dear Holberton himself: three of them in youth. I have 2 memorials of Holberton - a book which he sent out to the country to me, & a case of tooth-instruments which he gave before I had lived with him many months. The latter came into unexpected & most painful employment 3 nights ago. Poor dear Minnie had been quite ill for several days from this frightful plague, having no rest night or day; when at length the pain became so intolerable at 10 o'clock one night that I thought I wd. try what a good fright wd. do by the display of the terrible tooth-instruments, well convinced that she could never submit to the operation of extraction. After I had completed every preparation I told her my purpose in the display, & to my disappointmt. it had had no effect in removing the pain, because

she said that she had never feared that I would actually proceed to pull it out!! As a further mode of terrifying her & putting to flight the pain I suggested putting or applying the instrument to the tooth & when I had actually done so she heroically exclaimed "pull it out," & out it came before she give any counter instructions! So we happily got rid of her eternal tormentor without the usual terror & alarm wh: precede the operation; for dear Minnie intended to have the tooth out until she said "do it" - & then it was done. Her poor sister Mrs Hickey is a continual martyr to this torment - She has just gone to the Hills in Bengal - Darjeeling, where we once thought we should have to go. She has been ill almost constantly since her marriage & is now very ill. Poor Mr Hickey is in dreadful distress & he is put to ruinous expense by having to send his wife's sister - Miss Sibella Stirling to the Hills with his wife. You may of heard of the Santhal¹³⁰ insurrection which resulted in the murder of several Europeans (two of them ladies!) & the thousands of poor Natives & in the destruction of countless villages. These frightful little hideous savages live in the Hills about Bhagulpore, Monghyr, & the poor Hickeys had to fly for their lives. However they had the good fortune to escape & to lose only nearly all their property. Poor Hickey wrote me a long & sad tale of all his losses & distress of mind & strange to say, not the least of the evils under wh: he suffers is having Miss Sibella staying with him - So much for having sisters-in-law out!! [N.B. Appears to be missing another page]



Fort of Phillour (Punjab)

Done by Captain Bruce, 3rd Native Infantry
(to which Regt was attached) during the Indian Mutiny
a sketch to Mother.

Philour - N.W. Provinces
October 22nd 1855

My very dear mother I must write you a very hasty letter for only a little before the post hour I returned home since 6 o'clock this morning & as dear Minnie was writing her English letters I was obliged to wait until she had finished, as we have but one table, one pen & 1 ink-stand! We arrived here on the 11th from Landour, from which place we started on the 6th - We found & indeed do still find it awfully hot & live all day with the doors closed & punkahs swinging backwards & forwards all day & all night. We had a favorable journey here & met with but one accident & that no trifling one - in the middle of the night, or early morning we passed the place where we intended to halt for 12 hours i.e. while the sun was up & when the sun rose & I expressed surprise at our not having reached the staging Bungalow, I was informed that we had left it 12 miles behind - There was nothing to be done but

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to go on & we had 30 most fearfully hot & dusty miles to perform at the rate of 4 miles an hour - For 20 [c.o.] hours we none of us had any food, excepting some biscuit & boiling water from an occasional tank by the road side - Fancy what our little children suffered, from such a terrible journey! & one of the little things only weaned a week before - However we soon recovered from & forgot our trials & had a famous rest of nearly 2 days at Umballa, in the spot where poor dear Minnie's troubles fell so heavily upon us in 1852 after our eventful journey from Loodeanah - We were told before we arrived here that we shd. get no house deserving of the name; but one, (which has been so long unoccupied & in ruin that I suppose its existence was forgotten, we have found & it is being put in thorough repair for us - It is a capital house & has 6 nice rooms. (Most of the houses here have one!!!) During the furbishing up of the old place we are obliged to live in the Dak or travellers - or staging Bungalow, & altho' we have the whole of it to ourselves, we suffer from heat & the wretched smallness of the rooms - They are

not much larger than yr. dining room - the smallest room I ever saw!! Our baggage, furniture, servants, dogs &c are on the road, but we expect them in a day or two & then we remove to our own house. At the beginning of my letter I told you that I had only just come home when I commenced, viz at 3 p.m. & this is accounted for by the really terrible sickness which prevails here

The whole Regmt. is sick & 500 men I have to see in the Hospital. There are upwds. of a dozen of European Sergeants with families (belonging to the Magazine here) & every mother's son (& daughter) of them is sick. Several have in one hour's sickness been at the point of death & in these cases I have been for hours by the patient's bed-side - I see no one that is not ill, & I do nothing but prescribe for my miserable patients - It is really most painful & despairing work - I am thankful to say that we are all well; but my little baby boy has had fever several days & made me very anxious & gave us great trouble as we - the whole family live in one little room. We have a separate room for our meals - but we must go out of & round the house to get into the other half of it!! How we do long to

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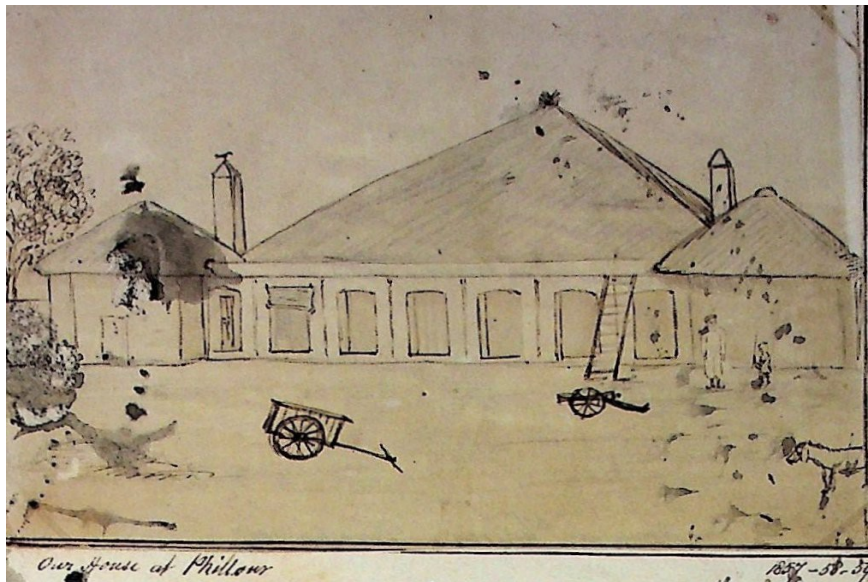
get into a proper abode. Our servants, our meals & every thing else are in the same miserable style. The people here are half savages, or we shd have been invited to stay with some one having a house & other domestic comforts about them. The Colonel married a black woman and every thing about him is completely native - His 4 children, of ages from 29 to 36 have never had any more education

than an Ojibbeway! This style of man at the head of a Regmt. makes every person & every thing utterly barbarous about him. 36 years ago this sort of thing was common; but now rare as a White Elephant! On acct. of this pleasant state of things the Colonel seeks living at all the little, out of the way, barbarous stations! I have wasted too much time about him & his family - I recd. your dear letter of the 8th September yesterday - It was very comforting - So dear Sibella went over to see all the show at Boulougne¹³¹ Give her my affecte. love & the same to Irene, Frank & M & Henrietta. To Berty too when you write - I hope he is often silent to you for 2 months at a time or I should be very uneasy - I have not a moment for adding more

I must have written all this in 5 minutes! I have now lots of pay 76£ a mo: so I hope soon to send you some of it - tho' I am fearfully in debt just now -

[on side] I borrow from 5 different people to enable me to get here & then I arrived not having had a penny for the last 2 days of my journey -

God forever bless & keep you my dearest mother - The same prayer Minnie offers for you & the same love as I do Henry



Sketch by Juxon found in his daughter Minnie's scrapbook

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Please send the enclosed to W.L. Hockin¹³² Dartmouth

Phillour - November 22nd /55

My very dear dear Mother I received your nice letter of the 2nd October 3 days ago, written at dear old Moreton Pinkney. I have thought of the well-remembered house & garden & Church - the village & much of the neighbourhood as I know, ever since I read your letter, trying to picture to myself your whereabouts & occupation & those of dear Frank & all the family - How well I remember the idle, dreadfully idle hours Frank & I used to pass in the kitchen-garden there! I well remember the old church and our old pew, made so high & so rudely - if I am not forgetful - Your report of poor dear Sibella is very gratifying to me - deeply so, as I always think that she is so miserable in England. Her visit to dearest Netta - give her my warmest, best love - must have been

delightful to her. Netta's house must be so different from your's in that there are the dear children, & I suppose much more life, activity & variety in such a household.

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Has Sibella been yet to M.P.? You speak of having a parcel ready packed for me & of your doubts as to whether Irene has packed it or no - Now that you have found an Agent in London - I speak of Mr H. Harvey, 17 Mark Lane, London - you can never find the slightest difficulty in sending any thing to me, for if you only send it to him, it will arrive in Calcutta in six weeks - What the parcel is I can't imagine, if it is not the treasured memento of my loved brother Tom - the violin; but I had imagined that it had months ago left England - I do not want it for use, for I have as magnificent an instrument as I ever heard! You will not believe me scarcely when I tell you that now I play before large companies at our house now, & I meet with great applause. In explanation I must observe that I never tried to play & never practiced until I was married to my treasure of a wife. Did I tell you that I have now a friend to play with every day? A Mr Bernard¹³³ in our Regmt., who was brought up in Germany, plays the Piano most ad-

mirably & he is delighted at the chance of playing upon our piano with me. In our Capital house I have a beautiful room to myself, which I never had before & in this room I have the piano! with my bows & arrows my little library, my boots & shoes (in cup-boards tho') my carpenter's tools & all the miscellaneous [c.o.] articles of a regular bachelor's tenement. I have surrounded [c.o.] myself with the 8 cherished pictures of dear old Dartmouth. In short, I have the most charming sanctum that I ever had or even ever saw in India - We have a perfectly new piano, of most excellent tone, & I am to pay for it whenever I like!! It cost 50£ - Speaking of my pictures I am reminded of the shade¹³⁴ of dear dear Holberton wh: you have promised me. Many thanks for it my dear Mother. Do you know that I have one of poor dear Uncle¹³⁵? I look at it, with all my other home treasures every Sunday - We have 4, of dear Minnie's father & Mother & granty & dear dear loved and lamented Granny - As I contemplated doing with the Daguerreotype¹³⁶ of you, my brothers & sisters, I am going to do with these shades - set them all in one frame. I have

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since yesterday secured the services of 2 excellent carpenters & by their skill I hope to have many useful articles made - I am getting the most beautiful frames for my Dartmouth pictures, made of a straw colored wood very narrow, & so light that they would be little addition to their weight when I want to pack them. Never before in India have I be able to obtain a domestic carpenter & they are of infinite use - My picture frames cost me only 6 pence apiece! I have before told you that our house is prettier, larger & immeasurably more comfortable than any I ever lived in & I believe I have told you of our having a beautiful carriage & pair of Arabs. You would not believe your eyes could you see me morning & evening sitting on the box & driving myself - It is a rare delight & in this cold bracing weather it is most delicious - Dear Minnie & the children enjoy it immensely & it was, of course, for their sakes that I indulged in such a vast outlay. But a buggy, which would have been of no use to them, would have cost $\frac{2}{3}$ of what I paid for the carriage. Dear Minnie hates to go near a buggy & the means of taking a comfortable & pleasant drive were indispensably necessary -

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When you find that in changing my sheet I am about to change my subject altogether you will be astonished, for you will scarcely believe it possible that with my loved wife ill I could write to you about such trifles as I have hitherto done; but the fact is that tho' dear Minnie has been very very

poorly for some 2 days I was in good spirits, somewhat, when I commenced my letter, at the prospect of her recovery. I began to write to you at about 2 o'clock & from the time I put down the 1st sheet till the moment of taking up this one, at 8 p.m. I have been in constant & most anxious attendance upon dear Minnie. She is now better & trying to sleep & I, wearied to death, but still afraid to go to bed, have come to rest in my own room & to cheer myself with a chat with you my mother. My pain at dear Minnie's illness is greatly enhanced by the feeling that it might all have been prevented; for some 5 days ago we had an archery meeting at our house & we went on shooting till the sun got hot - A bitter north wind was blowing all the time & these two evils brought on in dear Minnie all the symptoms of fever - cold shivering all day long

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This symptom returned every morning for 3 days & yet she took no Quinine or other preventive measure, till the day before yesterday, after a very long & severe attack with all its 3 stages. Then yesterday again she had a second & ten times more severe attack which lasted all the day & until eleven at night. This afternoon her 3rd one was worst of all & I was obliged to apply leeches to her temples, hot bathing &c &c - She is now dreadfully exhausted & cannot move in bed without fainting. I am dreadfully pained at all this as she will be a poor weak invalid for many many days & during this most heavenly weather I was anxious to see her pick up lots of strength for the coming hot weather - to say nothing of her present suffering & my exhausting anxiety & fatigue. For several days I have been in attendance upon her every 2 minutes, with 50,000 other matters to care for. I speak of the "other matters" because they cause me to go backwards & forwards 50 times in an hour. This sort of sickness is not attended with any thing to alarm one, but the suffering & weakness is most wretched & painful - I hope that it will all be past before this reaches Bombay. I must

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I am deeply thankful for her recovery; but I fear she will be many days in bed. A lady friend, Mrs Panting¹³⁷, whom we knew at Landour is coming the day after tomorrow & I am dreadfully hurried with superintending preparations for her room & putting every thing to rights as it arrives from the hands of tailors, carpenters &c &c - A bricklayer is plastering & white-washing in every direction & I am nailing up curtains of all kinds, getting washing stands, towel-horses, tables, looking-glass oiled & polished - During dear Minnie's illness all these preparations have been abeyance & now they overwhelm me in one great tide. I am going to scribble a short & hasty in Minnie's name for Dartmouth. I never

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[top half torn off] months about my debt to the Leamington Bank. I forget whether it is 10 or 15£; but I hope to send you the latter amount before long. I am dreadfully pressed for money at present. I had to borrow 100£ to come here! My carriage, Piano & furniture have cost me 200£ more & innumerable expenses have been incurred on acct. of a new establishment. However my present pay, if my health only is preserved to me, will speedily get me out of all my difficulties - I am amused, but very sorry to hear still the same news about the Taunton property & I grieve to think that my magnanimous offer of my share of the proceeds to dear Irene is valueless to her! In haste I conclude with love & kisses to all that you are near enough to kiss & with many blessings upon you - I am yr.

[on side] affectionate son Henry - Send my love to Bertram, Emma & their little ones -

Phillour - December 22nd /55

My own dear Mother I have not much time for writing as I have occupied nearly every moment of leisure that I have had in writing to dear Minnie's family who have not heard from us for a long time & I much feared their being alarmed at our long silence - Though I have, as I say, but little time it is enough to tell our late misery & suffering in. Poor dear [Minnie] exactly this day last month I think it was caught a fever from exposure to the morning sun. For several days she had threatenings but they were neglected & the sad consequence was that she had a most severe attack of Fever - After being convalescent for a day or two & even going out several times for a drive she caught a cold & it assumed all the characteristics of Influenza & reduced her to the extremest debility. Then her Liver & Spleen became seriously affected & she had been for a whole month laid up, suffering a very great deal - from vomiting & the utmost debility - She is now & has been for the last 3 days slowly improving; but she is reduced to a

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mere skeleton & is painfully weak. Her spleen has been long the cause of her susceptibility to Fever, though I never before this present illness found it out - She has been twice Leeches & now that we know the cause of her failing strength & ever-diminishing substance I trust we may be able to put her in the way of recovering all she has lost. I too have been most miserable from catching a severe cold which is just like Influenza in me too - Some time ago a Sergt. came to call me up in the night, and as he was running for window to window all round the house I feared his rousing every body & also alarming our guest Mrs Panting I rushed out of bed & without a dressing [sic] went to stop my untimely visitor & then I had to open the door & to ask what was the matter - In this way I caught a frightful cold & this with its attendant debility & the unceasing anxiety about dear Minnie & my hourly attendance upon her quite knocked me up. However thank God, I am now in perfect health & only miserable in spirits because of my dear wife's wretched state & my constant confinement to the house - in this heavenly weather too - I nearly breaks my heart having such misery & such fine weather which I cannot

enjoy or benefit by. I have nothing more to tell you of the least interest besides the events of varying health & illness & the miserable details of life in a sick room Dear Minnie is getting better & I am beginning to be myself again - All the time that we have been living here carpenters & maçons [sic] have been at work from morning till night - I rejoice to say that now they are gone outside & our splendid new room was to-day put into order & it looks most beautiful but there is no dear wife to go & look at it - that's rather beyond the truth as there is the dear wife, but just at present she is unable to go & look at it - I have [sic] very busy with the superintdce. of the workmen & tho' not pleasant, it is better than having nothing to do. Our new room is 27 & ½ feet long - about the length one [sic] your dining room!! We should be [c.o.] so happy here were it not for the bitter affliction of sickness & we have such a great share of it. Not that I repine, but remember by whom this affliction is sent. Our guest was with us while we were both ill, so our meeting was any thing but what we anticipated! Last Christmas Day you may remember I spent with a wretched attack of the Fever at the Cawnpore Hotel - This year we

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spend it equally miserably - However that will not prevent my thinking of you all with great affection & wishing you all - every member of the family - all the happiness & blessings of this spiritually happy season - I know that we too shall be in your thoughts. I must always speak of the children - they are in excellent health & progressing in intelligence, size & vigour. Little Minnie is a

most sweet child & her presence by her poor sick mother's bed is like a gleam of sun-shine - The little boy is growing well & fast. I have not much news of ourselves, so I will speak of dear Minnie's family - Their household is broken up & there is now not longer a No. 7 - the title my [sic] which Minnie's father's house was always known. The girls are scattered every where - some gone to brothers the eldest - a most sweet woman - will I know be taken care of by dear old uncle Luxmore, who by the by is promoted to the rank of Post Captⁿ¹³⁸. You perhaps know that he has gone out twice to the Baltic. Post hour! so I must finish - May God forever bless & preserve you dearest mother - That is my daily prayer for you. My love & blessings to all at home - I hope poor dear Bella is going on well - Give her my love & a kiss - Your very affect. son Henry

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Phillour - January 25th /56

My own very dear Mother I must send you a few lines or you will be fancying that we are all ill; I have, however, only 2 minutes in which to write & I shall, to save a third minute, enclose this in a letter to Dartmouth - I am occupied so incessantly that I can find no quiet time for a letter to you. A few moments before the last safe one I sat down to write to dear Minnie's home, but during that short period I have been summoned out to see a patient, & have had a dozen other interruptions - Dear Minnie made this day week a sudden start towards convalescence & for 5 successive days went out to a kind dear neighbour's for a change of air & scene & occupation & tho' at first she was carried from chair to sofa & never put her foot to the ground, she was at length able to walk into every room of the house - But alas (yesterday she

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had an attack of Fever again from driving out in the evening, which she did twice I hope to send her to Jullundar for a change of air shortly. It is only 24 miles from this - I have really only time to write God bless you & good bye - I am in as good health, thank God, as ever I was in my life & the children are thriving well & happy . I wanted very much to counsel Sibella not to oppose the [c.o. offer] acceptance of the offer of 70£ a year & thereby lose the opportunity of getting such a help as you wd. have in your considerable share of that sum. The book making (hush!) wd. not then be necessary - I shall write to Stowey to beg him to have all his noble presents made in a legal form, or my 300£ will ever be hanging

[on side] over the heads of my children - Again & again good bye - & loves to all, Franks & Sibella & Netta & Irene -

Addressed: Mrs John Jones
Clifton Villa, Portland Place
Leamington Spa
Warwicks:

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Phillour - February 8th 1856

My own dear Mother - For once in a way I have several hours before me in which to write & what

is immeasurably a greater comfort, I have neither trouble, sorrow, care, or worry to speak of - to tell of. Dear Minnie is quite well again, tho' she had attacks of Fever on Sunday & Monday last. She was obliged to have a second blister on her spleen on Tuesday (as the enlarged spleen is the cause of her fever, & of her extreme susceptibility to it under the most trifling exciting causes) & though she had a large sore surface from it during the whole week she has never remained in bed. However the number of cinctures¹³⁹ which a lady must have to secure petticoats, habit-shirts &c &c has made the place very sore & I have to-day been obliged to counsel her to remain in bed, perhaps for a couple of days, She is however, I am most thankful to say, in excellent health & spirits. For the last 2 days she has been busying herself with making marmalade & attending to a hundred household duties, playing on the Piano & living as if she had no ailment

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whatever. By the by, will you tell dear Irene with my best love, that the marmalade is ready & is standing cooling on the round table on which I am writing in a beautiful China vase, which I bought at Meerutt last year, when I bought a quantity of China things to [c.o.] gratify my dear wife's morbid (?) taste for China! I bought six beautiful pieces for a mere song - that means a very few rupees! Tell dear Irene that the day before yesterday Minnie commenced the marmalade & did all by herself; & that her husband cooked it himself this morning in the Drawing-room fire & that it is ready to eat! - ready to eat!!! Is her's yet ready we want to know? Dear Minnie's health is a constant source of joy & delight as you may well imagine - During the last fortnight I have had another cause for anxiety increasing labor & fatigue in the very dangerous illness of a little girl of 6 years' old, who had had the severest form of inflamtn. of the Lungs - I need to visit her nearly every hour. She is now well & that care is off my hands. Yesterday & to-day have been the happiest days I have known here; altogether free from labor & care. Minnie & I have begun to

devote ourselves to housewifery in a most extensive degree - I should like to initiate dear Irene in its mysteries! What would she say to a larder having 17 joints of meat in it, as our's has? Living as we do in a little out-of-the-way station we have no butchers - deserving of the name at least - & for neither love nor money can we here procure beef or Mutton - So after living on fowls, ducks & game for a whole month, I at last found a Friend at Jullunder whom I begged to send me all the beef & mutton he could purchase at Jullunder (you know it is 24 miles from this) so he send [sic] a whole bullock - nearly & a whole sheep - quite! At the same time I bought a great cask filled with a whole hog!! which has been quite prepared for smoking & drying

I have smoked 2 hams & have dried all the rest & they are to be smoked to-day. Of the sheeps carcass! dont be shocked - I am making two mutton hams - You would think I was preparing for a Newfoundland hibernation by these tremendous preparations. A few days ago our little boy was very poorly & made the 3rd of my great troubles

He is cutting 4 double teeth at once & had

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a great swelling at the back of his head or neck as big as an egg - This gathered & was obliged to be lanced & then in the evening owing to his great sufferings his gums were lanced - However a great double tooth came thro' that night & his abscess got quite well & the next morning he was thoroughly well. He sat upon the piano for a long time last evening, dancing & crowing with delight, while his dear old mother played to him - Little Minnie sat on a little chair by mama's side pretending to play a duett, but not touching the piano. The instrument has been silent for months & so the whole circle we equally delighted at the music - Little Minnie is such a sweet good & amusing child, & is getting so hard, plump, & strong. She still keeps her roses which attract the

notice of the parents of the pale-faced Children of the plains - The dear little child says her infant prayers morn'g & evening - The other day she had been witnessing our prayers, wh: I read while Minnie was in bed; after I had left the room she knelt where I had been kneeling & muttered some string of unmeaning words with the most queer & amusing gravity -

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I dare say that I never told you that until within the last month I have had the most laborious work in attending upon the numerous sick in this station - I used to have some 700 men to see at the Hospital in & out-patients; I had always a great number of Europeans ill & in many cases of the latter I had to pass hours by the patients' beds, for often was I summoned, for the 1st time, to patients lying insensible & apparently dying from fever - I have now 32 men in Hospital & not a living soul out of it ill!!! If my poor Minnie would but continue well I should be the happiest man alive! I am so delighted at the prospect of paying off my terrible debts & I am doing so at a great rate; so fast indeed that I leave myself literally, for months together without a rupee - The consequences were most terrible last month, as having sent all my pay away to my different creditors for 3 consecutive months I owed my 20 servants 3 months wages; 3 months of house rent I owed; & to 100 different tradesmen & workmen I owed for food supplies & work - I was nearly a fortnight paying them all off & paid away 70£ in shillings & half-pence!! My string of accounts would pave to Bombay - more or less - That

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hateful labor is past & I hope never again to run into such a mess. I could not help it as I borrow some 70£ at Landour a day or two before I left as I had to leave without owing a debt of any kind there - Then I bought 200£ worth of property of Capt'n. Yonge¹⁴⁰ of the 60th Rifles & was obliged to pay him as much as I could as I recd. nearly all his property on credit so I paid 60£ to him - My present debts amount to 300£ but as I have just got 200£ worth of property I am better off than I have been. Six months of undisturbed rest here would enable me to pay off this - I am most anxious to pay you & the Leamington Bank the trifles I owe; but it is utterly out of my power at present. I suppose the Bank will run up a fine account for interest for the 15£ remaining unpaid; but I am accustomed to paying interest. When I left Berhampore I left a piano, 2 horses, a buggy & 12£ in cash to pay off a debt of 50£!!! The things all sold for a 4th part of their value

& my debt to that Bank is now 64£!!! By the by, I failed, in the great hurry in which I wrote my last scrawl to you, dear mother, to speak of the valued relic of my much loved brother - his violin. I have heard nothing of it as yet. But I fancy that months were lost before it was sent to the London Agent - There is no more difficulty & no more delay, dearest mother, in sending a parcel than in sending a letter to India; but I suppose you arrange still as you used to do with Berty's parcels & packages, keep them for years & years before you despatch them - I was quite amused at yr. fear about the Tankard, speaking of the danger of the sea. I think that nothing in any house in England is so safe as the contents of one of the P&O Co's Steamers on the high seas. When you think of fire, thieves, moving & sending things from place to place in England & compare the things lost & destroyed under such circumstance, with the losses that have occurred on board those Steamers - One has been lost in 20 years!!! & there are always a couple of

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dozen on the high seas at once. In one month 12 voyages are made to & from India! You are not up to the times in the matter of sending parcels, I fear my dearest mother. Everyone I see & know gets

things from England as often & with as little delay and risk nearly as you get bread & mutton, caps & ribbons in the streets of Leamington - When I get a little money I mean to get a monthly or bi-monthly box from our London Agent. The violin I expect to hear has arrived in Calcutta when I next land at Southampton!! "Henry, you naughty quiz"! you will say & Irene the same. I must put down this letter & begin one to dear Minnie's home, for she, being in bed & unable to lie so as to write, will commission me to write for her. She sends you her very dearest love & to all at home. I, dearest mother, send the same. Did you remember little Juxon's birth-day & do you know that from that day I have but 3 years to serve in India? If it be God's pleasure how I shall long to see you all once more -

Yr. loving son Henry

[on side] What a comfort the new postage regulations are! I send my letter for 6d instead of 1/3

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Phillour, March 10th 1856

My dear dear Mother I received your very long & very nice letter of the 3rd January many days ago - How happy, how thankful I am, dearest mother, to find you able to write such long dear letters; & I trust that you will be spared in health & faculties to be able to continue them to me as long as I am in this country. I have just been reading a part of dear Minnie's letter intended for her home, in wh: she says that for 3 months she has not had a line, a word, from Dartmouth. She used to live upon & for the dear letters she invariably got, from that dear place, twice in every month; & now what a sad sad difference!¹⁴¹ You may conceive how shocked we were at poor Sibella's strange conduct in telling the Clergyman of your religious errors or destitution. It makes me despair of ever seeing her act like a sober rational woman; yet I have long flattered myself that she was gradually improving & that when I returned home we should be able to meet & live under one roof without the least vestige of our former miserable antipathies & discordant jarrings. The hot weather is now commencing & our imprisonment has begun

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& this as usual, I fancy, though I am not certain on the subject! occasions longings for home or the temperate climate of England. If I am spared for yet 3 more years, it is more than likely that we shall be seriously preparing for a return home - Poor dear Minnie's recent severe illness has made us think much of home. Our only object in remaining out here could be but the saving of a little money & that saving we can never effect while I belong to a marching Regmt. We may not be able to get "the Funds" at the end of 3 years, & if so we must remain till we can get it, as my pension would be but 195£ a year, instead of 500£ which the Fund wd. raise our pension to. I should have commenced my letter with the happy intelligence of dear Minnie's great, rapid & unexpected recovery had I remembered that, when I last wrote to you, she was as ill as ever - She went to stay with our good kind neighbours, the Youngs, for 10 days & there she recovered faster than I could have hoped had she gone even to the Hills, She has given up all idea of going to the Hills, because

the misery of a separation is very great, & the expense scarcely to be borne, under our present poverty-stricken circumstances - Should she however not even quite recover her lost strength & flesh she must go, for the heat is very trying to her even now - I find that the doors must all be shut at 9 a.m. & we are regularly in for our tropical interment. I found on looking at the Thermometer that the temperature remained all day & night at 74o [c.o.] though the doors are all opened at daylight; but at 9 o'clock this morning I found that it began to rise the doors being open - After shutting

them the thermometer settled again at 74o. You would take an interest in this investigation were you here! In the last week the thermomtr. has risen one degree daily! but I hope it wont go on doing so for the next 8 or 10 weeks, or we should be grilled indeed. You have had an unusually severe winter about which fact I have been greatly interested; so I expect you feel some concern for us unfortunates - The hot weather is beginning very early - I need not say more about it at present, for you will hear more & enough too before it begins to get cool again!

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I have heard nothing about dear Tom's violin - possibly dear Irene has not yet despatched it to Mr Harvey? I wish she, dear girl, would give me an occasional line for I am made so happy for days together when I get one from her. Poor dear Irene is from any thing but happy at home & that must be the reason, I fear, for her so very very seldom giving me a 'chit'. Speaking of dear Irene, I am reminded of a commission dear Minnie has [c.o.] often given me & Ive often forgotten altogether - which commn. is to ask Irene what became of a box containing several French books & sundry odds & ends which Minnie entrusted to the said Irene (as dear George wd. say) for transmission to Dartmouth. They never reached Dartmouth during dear Granny's life & Minnie is exceedingly anxious to learn of their fate, as she treasures them beyond gold & gems. Few if any of the valued relics of her loved parent are reserved for her, & as these books were poor dear Granny's own & had her dear name in them, she longs to [c.o.] know where they are. Dear Irene took the box as far as Uffculme I know, but what became of it afterwards we know not. Will you dearest mother make enquiry of Irene & ask her to give me an answer with her own dear hand & pen. If they can be found I entreat dear Irene to take charge of them, keeping them at Leamington & guarding them as the greatest treasure poor dear Minnie has. Minnie is sitting down opposite me writing a little letter to Grandpapa, the 2nd little letter which she had written since the 1st week in November. She greatly regrets that she has not strength for a second letter to-day for you dearest mother - She would write with delight

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were she able. Sitting at a writing table is a great fatigue to her - I have very often thought of the sad sufferings & mishaps of my very dear sister Netta, but strange it is that I never scarcely remember to speak of her, her joys or sorrows in any of my letters. I hope she does not attribute it, if indeed she knows it, to any thing but the purest accident for I am continually thinking & talking of her, as of all the family. We never have exchanged letters but once or twice, I fear to say, since I first left England! It is a surprising, astounding fact, but I love her very dearly & if my writing were required as a proof of my love, I wd write every mail to her - How often I think of the time when I may return to England for good, & renew that hurried & worried - (with noise of the streets & carts) intercourse with her, which appeared to me so painfully short - But at one visit I had head-aches; at the next heart-aches; at the next all the pain & misery of a long farewell. Minnie & I often talk of where we should settle in England - I am very much inclined to Ottery or Budleigh! the latter was Minnie's home. I look out for a road or fields to walk in, a river for fishing; or a short distance from the sea & I have a great predilection for Exeter or its neighbourhood. I should not like the prim houses of the streets, Rows, Places of it neighbourhood - not even Mt Radford; but I think I should like Ottery - It wd. be strange if we really went to live there. Leamington I detest in every way, because of the Dyspepsia producing waters

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the absence of all acquaintance, & there being no walks except thro those fields towards Kenilworth

- How I should like to ramble again over the Hills towards Sidmouth from Ottery, or along those dear solitary places by the little river the Otter - I can scarcely believe that I am indeed rambling, in mind, to such scenes while I am sitting at Phillour in shirt-sleeves & in a house bolted and barred again the outer barbarian - the heat - with nine barbarians summoning me to tiffin! I am strongly reminded of my state of mind just before I took my furlough. But when the time comes for my packing up, in very deed, for a second & last visit to home what sort of strain I shall write in I fear to anticipate! I must not finish my paper without a word about the children - Dear little Minnie is all that you can conceive of health, spirits, & prettiness; & the poor little boy is now well again after a most severe & perilous illness - Some 10 days ago he began to cut at once 4 double teeth & he became alarmingly ill; but it lasted (the illness) only 2 or 3 days - He was [c.o.] much reduced & sickly looking for many days, but he has quite recovered his healthy looks & good spirits - He is beginning only to crawl about as yet; but dear Mariana¹⁴² says that boys are very backward in these performances compared to girls - I must hasten to say good bye & every blessing be with you my very very dear mother - Give my best of loves to all at home & pray don't forget dear Netta - God for ever bless you - Yr loving son Henry

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Phillour. 8th April /56

My very dear Mother On the 25th ultimo, just after the despatch of the last Mail for England, in the evening arrived most unexpectedly the long looked-for violin of my much loved brother. I cannot tell you with what feelings I opened the case & examined every article it contained, all so closely, strongly associated with my loved brother. I well remembered his making the case; I well remember the pattern of the bow which I copied, cutting the handle of my own bow to the same shape. When I looked at & examined the instrument it looked so perfect that I instantly entertained the idea of parting with my [sic] and adopting dear dear Tom's; but I found it, upon playing upon it to be utterly unfit to play on, having no resemblance to the tone of a proper violin - I was sadly disappointed; but I had consolation in finding the bow most unexceptionable & I have used it every day since. I cannot tell you the sweet pleasure I have in the constant use of this which was so much used, & carefully preserved by dear Tom. Another relic of equal value & equally known & associated with my loved brother is the paper-cutter which dear Irene so kindly, generously, gave me - Altogether I am most happy in the possession of these treasures. Together with the

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with the violin I received the little book which dear Holberton gave you - I mean one of the same kind - Thank you for it & for the mother's blessing which is inscribed upon it - I read it through immediately on receiving it almost & much I like its contents. There arrived from George at the same time with package, a Lease document for me to sign - I am truly rejoiced at the arrangement which will give each of you 10£ nearly. I begged George to pay whatever might accrue from it to me, to the Leamington Bank. I cannot tell how many years it wd. take to pay my debt to that Bank with the proceeds of the Taunton property but the experiment had better be tried as for the next 8 months it will be impossible for me to remit a sixpence home. I am bound beyond escape - the power to escape I mean, to pay 35£ monthly for the next 4 months & then I have to begin with other heavy payments to the Agra Bank! & several tradesmen. This large monthly payment keeps me in the very depths of poverty & prevents my getting many necessities. the money I reserve to myself is 32£, 18 of which are expended in the House Rent & servants - I pay 12£ for my funds monthly! an awful sum, & this even is shortly to be increased. When I first heard of some good thing coming from the Taunton property I promised to give it all to dear Irene; but after having done so I wrote by the next Mail to tell her that I must first pay my debt to the Leamington Bank. I did not then

understand that

by means of the new arrangement, the Lease, there would be a certain & to me most useful sum, annually - Dear Irene will forgive my avaricious stinginess I know; for it would not be proper for me to alienate from myself & children any sum however small. In case of my death my wife & children would be poor indeed; & even [c.o.] now we are infinitely in greater pecuniary distress than you will believe. I owe nearly 300£ & that is an awful sum to have to repay in 7 or 8 months. Should dear Minnie ever have to go to the Hills while I am in my present difficulties I should suffer the deepest distress & poverty. Oh debt! debt! debt! Had I been but prudent while in England I should have been utterly ignorant of its hateful miseries - But I must not let my whole letter be on this unpleasant subject. I regret indeed to have to tell you that dear Minnie is still never well for 7 days together, & as each renewed attack occurs I think that the time has come when she must go away. Conceive is you can what my misery would be to live all the approaching hot trying weather in perfect solitude, my dear wife & dear sweet little children far away - At Midnapore the trial utterly broke my health & spirits; & possible the trial wd. now be worse having the sweet little treasures God has blest me with. After these reflections it wd. scarcely make the picture worse to think of two establishments to keep up on funds already insufficient

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for one! Then what misery to me to be absent from poor dear Minnie at the birth of her next child! Well I do trust & pray that we may not be separated. My very dear mother I cannot tell you how I am confounded & ashamed of myself for urging you to despatch dear Tom's violin when, at the time of my so doing, it was within a few miles of me. My excuse is that I have a bright recollection of the long tedious delay you always experienced in the despatch of dear Bertram's packages; besides the Agent in Calcutta never wrote, as I thought he wd. have done, to say that the treasure had reached him & been forwarded towards Phillour. I mentioned in one of my late letters that our friends the Youngs had parcels from India continually. One has just arrived, full of lady's dresses, laces gloves & all sorts of finery; but alas! there was a cheese enclosed with them & of course the cheese burst his prison & had utterly destroyed every thing wh: the box contained - I have known instances of similar waste & ruin for packing preserves &c with books & clothes! As if one cannot get jams & cheeses enough out here! Will you thank dear Irene with my affectionate love for her treasured present of the paper-cutter; & tell with more love that as she ordered, on the strength of my promised present, what my heart aches to speak of - the substitute for her own beautiful pearls; I will when a little way out of my pressing difficulties make it good to her - But with her own & poor Susan's¹⁴³ shares she must be rolling in riches, & you too dear mother, you will find some relief from what you & Sibella are to get. When

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shall I hear of your removal into another house, I wonder? I think it would save you a great deal of expense but yet be less pleasant for you. Possibly with the increase of you funds by 4 shares of the 70£ you may feel equal to the present expences of your own separate house. Minnie & I have often of late been trying to determine upon the best place to settle in when we give up the service! and I am an advocate for Ottery! & she for Budleigh or some place on the coast near it. Are we not counting our chickens before they are hatched? We talk with such longing & fondness for dear old England; particularly at this season when all the miseries & sufferings of this hot climate are thronging upon us - Heat most unpleasant & dust storms most painful have already begun; in addition we are finding & killing, almost daily, snakes, scorpions & centipedes The latter are at this place of most amazing growth; the 1st we killed I thought to be a snake! & dear little [sic] was the

first to discover it. She was having her dress changed before going to bed & I was sitting on the floor by her when she exclaimed, pointing into the next room "wo kea hi?" (what's that?) I killed another last night in our bed room. A few nights ago I heard a sound on the

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carpet & looking down I saw a snake just slipping into the bed-room where dear Minnie was sleeping! Minnie found the scorpion in her bath room. Well we begin to think that 765 Rs a month is not enough for all these disagreements, particularly as they are not sufficient for our daily wants. Little Minnie is sitting at the table with me writing letters! asking for the ink, pen, pencils, stamps & every thing that she sees - She's a spoilt child I fear; but of the best & sweetest disposition & pretty as a little angel - Quite as pretty as little Agnes, the pattern baby! Dear little Juxon is at length thriving amain - We are at last contented with his size & condition - He crawls about the house at a run! & with a little assistance walks most famously. We have a huge dog, a hound (fox hound) & he plays with it in a most amusing way - His great delight is to feed him, but he hold the bread or whatever it is, quite tight in his hand, so that Nep (the dog) has to suck it out of his hand - I am so glad that dear Minnie has been able at length to write to you - She is always complaining of her sad inability to write & when she can write her first letter must be to her home & she is never equal to two letters. Give my affecte. love to Sibella Irene Frank & all at home. God for ever bless you dearest mother. Henry

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Phillour April 8th [1856]

My dearest Mama

I hope you do not judge of my affection for you by the number of letters I send you but I have only able [sic] to write very little & never answer one half of those I get from my home. Henry despatched long letters to George & Netta yesterday & is going to commence his to you presently after having been all the morning hard at work writing his annual report. I hope I shall gradually get well but I so constantly get returns of my old attacks that I cannot get strong. The hot weather is not a favourable time for recruiting either. Baby boy is getting on in every way at last & says several words. He does not attempt to run alone yet, though he walks very well holding by one finger. He crawls too well & fast to trouble himself about walking I think. Minnie is also

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very well & a very sweet child. She is exceedingly pretty & very tall for her age. She asks to have "grandmama's" picture shown her, laying great stress on the first syllable. Just after the last Mail left, Henry received poor Tom's violin with the little book & Irene's paper cutter. He was very glad indeed to get them, though they occasioned many sad feelings to arise. We felt two shocks of earthquake here yesterday, the first one shook my bed violently. Last year at Meerut we had several very severe ones. They give one quite the feeling of sea-sickness, & as you may imagine can be anything but pleasant. We were very sorry to hear of poor Nettas premature confinement & consequent loss of her little baby. I am expecting my confinement early in August, so am more particularly anxious to escape going to the Hills

without dear Henry. We are now shut up for the hot weather not venturing out until the sun has well set & then in the coolest garments. We do not open the doors then for fear the hot air should rush in, & it is quite pleasant to enter the house again after our drive. We generally take the dear children

with us, baby sitting on my lap & dear Minnie on the coachman's by Henry's side who drives. I dare say Henry has told you what a wretched Regt. this is & of there being only one lady (Mrs Young) who is ever visible in it. I am happy to say another lady has arrived here in the last fortnight with her husband, Capt. Lamb who has an appointment here. They both seem nice people, Mrs Lamb a nice motherly, sociable kind person. They live close to us & will I think prove a most agreeable acquisition. Mrs Young

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is going to the Hills so I should have been left without one lady to speak to but for Mrs Lamb's arrival. Tell Irene I have been this morning deep in the mysteries of a cookery book, & am going presently to try & make a pudding!

Give my love to her & Sibella & with my best to yourself dearest Mother, ever believe me to be your affecate daughter

Minnie Jones

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Phillour 3rd May 1856

My dearest Mother this Mail has been in two days & I have no letter from you, so I conceive that you have carried out your scheme of removing from Leamington to Banbury. It is a great pity, dear mother that you did not write to tell me your new address, as in your last you ask me to send you money. I dont know what my debt to the Bank is, but I will send 12£ by the very next Mail if the Bank Sectry at Simla will furnish me with bills on England without my first sending him the money for them. If he shd. not do so I must wait a whole month & sent them the [sic] on the 3rd June. I shall - as I do not know your address - send one bill to Mr Thorne of the Leamington Bank & another to your old address - Clifton Villa - I wd. now send you the 2£ of which you were fleeced by the India Agents, but that I am ten times poorer than you! I have bound myself by notes of hand to pay such huge sums monthly that I am in as great distress as if I recd. no pay whatever. You will shortly have some money from Taunton & with it you can repay yourself the 2£ & pay Mr Thorne any balance that may be due. I look to being out of debt in 8 months from the present time if I have no unexpected loss, moves, sickness or cut-

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cuttings - these last the Auditor Genl. or the Sectys of the different Funds occasionally favor me with - It is scarcely worth while to mention that we a short time ago entertained & finally carried out a new scheme; but as I may renew it at some more favorable season I will tell you.

I heard a week ago of a Regt. being vacant (without a Dr, I mean) at Jullunder & by way of getting a change of air for dear Minnie, as well as all the necessities & comforts of life, which we cannot procure here, I applied for the Regt; however, my letter having been twice returned for additional signatures (& by reason of various informalities in it, I have retained it on this its second return, and do not mean to forward it, as I have now lost a week in the race in which I & my competitor shd. have started together. I am now glad that I have given up the scheme as dear Minnie is in pretty good health & the time of year is most unseasonable for a move. The heat is prodigious! and all last night we had such a dust storm as I have never known in the country. We both awoke at 12 last night gasping for breath & found that the whole house was filled with clouds of dust - our beds were like the high roads in the midst of summer, covered inches deep (!) with dust. I really never knew any thing so wretched inside of a house - Our doors & windows

could not have been of the least use. Every thing in the house was of one uniform color - the fair sheets of our beds & the red coverings of the sofas - On first getting up this morning my 1st desire was to wash - for my face, arms &c were just like those of a Navvy working at an embankment I got into a great tub of water well enough, but when I wanted soap I found a thing like a lump of earth! & then the towel could not be touched - it was a curious structure of mere dust. When once in my tub I did not know how to get out as the whole floor of the bath room was covered inches deep with dust. No chair or stool could I sit upon or touch - At last in a fit of despair I upset my tub - it was half of an immense vat containing once very fine Madeira - & with its contents - many gallons - I washed the stone floor of my bath room, got a clean place to stand upon & gradually proceeded with my ablutions & toilet until I was clean & drest - Some dozen servants have been as busy as bees lugging everything out of the house into the garden, there dusting them & getting back again into the house - Poor Minnie & I have eaten nothing but dust for the last 12 hours & once before speaking of the commencement of the hot weather, warned you of the painful prospect before you of hearing much from me on that interesting theme - I have just given you a dust-storm

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The fact is, my dear mother, that the addition I made was as necessary as a roof or walls even are to your house; & henceforth you need never charge me with extravagance, for I have never spent unnecessarily one rupee since I returned to India! Only one day in each month do I see or spend rupees - On the receipt of my pay I pay my servants 13 or 14£ - my rent 5£ a few bazar [sic] bills - that is butcher, baker, milkman & I send away to the Treasury for Bills a heap of coin which would fill every pocket of every coat, waist-coat & trowsers ([c.o.] & I have 2 dozen of white l[blot] ones!) that I posses [sic], & this heap of silver coin (half-crowns) amount to 40 or 45£ - During a whole year, while I was on sick leave, my debts increased at an awful rate; for I lived, & travelled from one end of India to the other, on less than half pay - even one fourth of what was [sic] getting at Berhampore. I shall be longing to hear the accounts, you will give me in your next, of your new abode. I wonder when I visit it - if I am spared to do so - I shall be as astonished with its dimensions as I was with those of Clifton Villa! At any rate I hope it may be in every way a pretty & healthy, comfortable & accommodating place - I hope to that

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you will have some very nice neighbours & acquaintances - They are the things that make a house, bright cheerful, pretty, comfortable. I hope too you will enjoy your less remote distance between you & dear Frank; tho' I fancy that unless your separation was reduced to 1 mile or so your intercourse could be little affected. We still continue our conversations upon the subject of our place for settlement in England, if God spare us to return to our own land. Several officers here whose term of service is nearly expired talk with us about the various attractions of various places - of their respective requirements &c &c: just like school-boys talking about the far off holidays. If you were sitting in an hermetically sealed house while the thermometer at 89o with all external object, all surrounding nature clad in - or represented in an eternal cloud of fiery red dust, you wd. like to chat about the sea-side, the pretty rivers, the bathing the fishing - the perfect Elysium by contrast - to be found in England - I need not to be reminded that in the winter we do not at all desire to be in England! I must stop very abruptly my dear other - sending you many loves from our hot & broiling little circle - Give my dearest love to Irene - & all at home - God bless you my mother - I am yr loving son Henry - Our dear children are quite well -

Phillour May 31st 1856

My own dear Mother I have two of your dear letters to answer; the first of them arrived the day after I had written to you - but too late for me to write again. In it I asked you to give me your new address, lamenting that you had not done so as I wanted to send you some money - You will perceive that I recd. your address the next day - Your 2nd unanswered letter is the one you first wrote from Calthorpe Road¹⁴⁴. When it came I was so occupied with business that I could not write. I fully intended to have sent you by this mail either 10 or 15£, but I know you will forgive my not doing so when I tell you what straits I have fallen into - When I left or was about to leave the Hills I borrowed 70£ of the Bank (as you borrowed 25£ of the Leamington Bank!) for the purpose of paying my way out of Landour - Thinking that I could soon repay such a sum I borrowed it only for 4 months- At the end of that time I got the note renewed, & it falls due tomorrow - Having no money & many most urgent claims against me I have for the last fortnight been most anxious about the uncertainty there was in my being able, a second time, to renew the loan; for I wrote to one of my securities telling

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him of my difficulties & asking him to stand security for a 3rd period of 4 months; but he vouchsafed me no reply. This placed me in a pretty pickle & I feared that I should not be able to get a security to fill his place. However I have happily succeeded, at the 11th hour; but I [was c.o.] am bound by a promise to pay half of the loan from my very next pay - i.e. 35£ This will cripple me for several months; as, what will remain for my own expenses, is not sufficient for them by 10£, and I shall fall sadly into arrears. Having told you so much I may as well tell you all my liabilities - A firm at Bombay holds 2 promissory notes for 25£ each & they are payable in July & September - so you will see that for 4 months I must pay each month 35£ & 25£ alternately - But when I have paid these debts I shall owe only about 90£ - I shall be just as I was when I left Berhampore! You see how hard it is to get out of debt when once in! We Doctors are at present undergoing the most tremendous retrenchments on acct. of our Funds, which have become almost bankrupt; & in our own particular branch of the service we have 7 annuities to pay yearly instead of six, as heretofore - My monthly retrenchments for the Medical Widow's & Orphan's fund are 15£12.0! So my [c.o.] liabilities together with these funds make me a loser of 50£ monthly. I trust dear Mother that the Taunton property will supply a little [c.o. for] towards the repayment of the debt to the Leamington Bank. As for the loss to me of letting the debt accumulate it is insignificant, & I don't care about it if the Manager won't bother

you about it. Now that the business part of my letter is ended I will talk about your new abode - I fear that it has proved a great expense to you & will defeat your object of living more cheaply than hitherto. You say that the house is a tiny one! You don't mean to say that there is any thing in the shape of a human habitation smaller than Clifton Villa! By & by I expect to find you renting a pill box! Well, if I live - if we all live to return to dear old England I hope to be able to live in a house, at least - How you can endure the close confinement of the tiny dwellings you live in, I can't imagine. How much we [c.o.] have thought of the dreadful fatigues poor dear, hard-laboring Irene must have undergone - Give her my very dear love & tell her that I hope - that we hope that she will soon rest from them & is not the worse for them - Poor dear girl, I fear that she really wears out her very life in laboring at all sorts of things quite unsuitable to her little strength. She may & I hope does find some reward in the agreeableness of the change; though in what it may consist I cannot, at this distance, conceive - What will, think you, be my exclamation when I stand with bag & baggage outside 8 Calthorpe Road? Perhaps I shall enquire whether the boxes are to be put into the house, or the house into the boxes! I feel really quite sad when I think of your tiny houses. When I reflect that

your income is as much as an Indian Colonel gets on retirement I cannot but think that if I had your income I would live in something like a house & have some of the elegancies of

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life about me - There you seem gradually to get more & more free from & [c.o.] to acquire diminishing means & houses from year to year; & by the time I come to visit you I suppose you will be living in a sentry box! But I must turn from the subject of decrease to that of increase - At Moreton Pinkney the latter is to be found & no mistake¹⁴⁵. What a host of grand-children you are acquiring there, dear mother. The little contributions from the West and East must be quite lost sight of when dear Frank's & Mariann's forest of Olives is remembered - They can't have many beyond 20 - at least I believe not - and so of course dear Frank would welcome all, like a first-born, without timid fears for their provision - There is one comfort in the reflection that he has not to march every six months some 1000 or 1300 miles with all his dear belongings as I have to do. I suppose it is scarcely worth mentioning that one - merely one - addition to the family may be looked for in the East about August next. If there should chance to be 3 or 4 I shall make a point of mentioning it to you dearest mother - So poor Sibella cannot live at home - Poor girl! I can well conceive the disarrangemt. her flittings occasion your pecuniary affairs. They must be something like my marches in throwing one into perplexity & confusion. I suppose you give her any thing that you can, by any possibility, be begged out of. Bad luck seems to attend the very name of Sibella - You will be truly horrified when I tell you that Sibella Stirling - the last of the girls who came to India - has left the home of her brother & sister, and

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has joined herself to the lowest - humblest of the Railway people. She had been carrying on clandestine meetings with a needy adventurer - no European in the country could have been a more unsuitable match - and engaged herself to marry him. She ran away to the house where this man was a writer - a mere servant - and then went to the nearest Station (Bhagulpore¹⁴⁶) to get married - However she repented of that kind promise & sent her lover about his business, back A Pas Pyutu [not clear] - from whence he came. Since that jilting proceeding she has been received into the family of a half-caste employe' in the Opium Departmt. and of course she is the associate of these people's friends and acquaintances - After a thousand efforts to induce her to return to her sister & brother in law (the Hickeys) & her reception of these kind efforts in the most incredible way, they have been obliged to drop her altogether. The Hickeys are now on their way to a distant Station whither Mr H. is appointed; & so now they are debarred even the little consolation of hearing what may become of her -

The wretched girl is utterly lost - no one in this country can acknowledge her & she has no means of returning to England. Could she ever get back there, there is no provision for her & every one would fear to acknowledge her. Any thing more terrible I cannot conceive than her lot is likely to be, when her spirit is a little humbled. From

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what I saw of her at home I thought her a thoroughly bad one & without an instant's hesitation Minnie & I rejected the proposals which were made for us to take her to [England c.o.] India with us. She was never known to live in love & harmony with any living soul, & yet her considerate uncle Fred & Mrs Hine sent her out to the poor Hickeys to destroy all their newly married happiness & to be to them for years a source of shame, disgrace & bitter vexation. For nearly 2 months - since Sibella's elopemt - the Hickeys have been distracted - harassed until their health & peace of mind

are gone, with the actually fiendish proceedings of this wretched girl. I really never cd. have conceived such a character as she has exhibited. But I need dwell no more on this sad sad subject. You tell me much, dearest mother, in your last, of relations discovered & acquaintances made at your new abode - (pill-box?) and I hope they may prove sociable, friendly & a comfort to you. I wonder who lives in nos. 1.2.3.4.5.6.& 7 Calthorpe Road - whether they are people of our class or not. I hope for poor dear Irene's sake that she may find nice & suitable friends - Frank's near neighbourhd can not make up for such a want, as I suppose you cant see much of him except in time of need, as during Marianne's late dangerous state. I hope Irene will one day give me an account of her friends, her amusements, occupations, walks &c at her new residence; and I sadly want to feel that you are all pleased with yr. new place & neighbourhood.

Will you not feel the loss of all that Leamington afforded in the way of music, the gardens & other pleasant relaxations? I should like to know how much money it cost you to move. I shd. guess more than you would save if you got provisions for nothing! Shall I guess 50£? After all this varying & anxious gossip about many things I must speak I suppose of Phillour & its gay & joyous inhabitants; its sweet climate & glorious views - the wife of my bosom & the little children - the cherished darlings of my heart - To begin with the people & the climate - I believe there are people living somewhere in the neighbourhood, but I could not speak with certainty - without at least looking at the Muster Rolls! We meet every evening 2 dark young ladies & 1 dark young man in a carriage - these are the Colonel progeny; & besides these we see only one other person - I was going to say white face - but the former are not white. To designate them as Europeans wd. not do - to say "one other person to speak to" would [c.o.] imply that we spoke to some one, which we don't. How shall I tell you what I do meet of an evening? Well I've found it - a carriage filled with dark people & a dog cart occupied by one young gentleman - All others are out & out Natives whom we see - Fancy this for a military station - The the [sic] Climate needs no description - Can you fancy a hour on fire in the hottest

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weather, with a score of workmen knocking down the lath & plaster walls, & a dozen of sweeps every 3rd or 4th day emptying sack's full of soot down every chimney or sending them flying into every window - Imagine the parties to be working well in unison - you know what a dust can be kicked up by a few men with picks pitching into a lath & plaster wall? - imagine the sweeps too doing their best, & the house to be in a blaze from top to bottom & the day to be the hottest you have ever known & then you will have conceived something like the hot weather which we daily enjoy - At night you must sleep in the burning ruins to know what our nights are like - Now we'll go to a pleasanter picture - my dear wife sitting close to my side mending her own stockings (not mine) & looking very well & the two (only 2) little children just rising from their siesta 2 rooms off & calling out papa - mama - they too in excellent health, but looking white, like true children of the plains - But they are such sweet little treasures - quite equal to Agnes the Pattern baby, tell Frank - The son & heir has just set out on his travels & we have endless pleasure in watching his pretty proceedings - His histories of his adventures, too, are very very interesting to us - I must finish my letter abruptly this morning - I have had no illness since the 15th May last year until yesterday afternoon & part of the night when I had Fever! I am all right again now -

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[on side] Our dearest love to all at home. - [c.o. Uff] M.P. & Worcester & to dear Bertram - God bless you my dearest Mother. Yr loving son Henry

Phillour - August 2nd 1856

My very dear mother The first thing that will meet your eye will be the enclosed letter from my dear old friend Mr Shakespear Sage of whom I have before spoken as a great - a constant companion of our's in the Hills, and son of a Clergyman in your neighbourhood - or in your neighbouring County! which is the same thing. Two days ago I received a letter from him, written from Brackley which he had just reached. I don't know how far that place is from Banbury; but whatever the distance he is sure to find you out & visit you. He will do the same to Frank I am sure - We are perhaps the best & closest friends he has, & he wd. seek out any member of our families as eagerly as any of his own almost! In my last letter to you, dear mother, I suggested that you should ask him to give you, for dear Bertram, our likenesses; & in my enclosed letter to Mr Sage I have asked him to give it to you for Bertram, as to him it had long been promised & I yielded it to him only at the most urgent & reiterated entreaties! I may as well send my letter to him open that you may read, as every thing I write in my letters is a sort of history of our proceedings - Will you seal it please & enclose

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the little scrap about my dog Neptune, his gift & send it off to Brackley. Most likely you have seen him Sage, not Nep - by this as he mentions that his father had met Frank the day before he wrote. It is now a fortnight since I recd. your last dear letter containing accounts of all your peace rejoicings¹⁴⁷ at Banbury & Morton Pinkney. I wish we could hear better accounts of poor Marianne. I lately knew a lady who suffered from paralysis of both legs for 6 or 7 months after such confinement;¹⁴⁸ so if poor Marianne suffers only in the same way there is nothing to fear of any ultimate or permanent evil - I am truly rejoiced at the good intelligence of the dear little twins. Tell dear Frank with my warmest love that I am so pleased at his naming one after me. When shall I be able to write to him I wonder! Not till the cold weather I fear. Writing more than one letter home is such a labor, such a task that it cannot be done while one is dissolving at every pore from the heat. I must tell you that dear Minnie is daily expecting her confinement. Her nurse ought to have been here a week ago & we are getting very uneasy at her non-appearance - I suppose the tremendous rain keeps her from starting, for the whole country, or rather the roads are a sheet of water. Our dear children are quite well & happy. The change in the weather is I trust to do wonders for the little boy, who is excessively delicate. He is as thin as he could well be, & never eats any thing, except during the last few days.

Strange to say he has not yet cut all his front upper teeth though for months he has had 4 double ones & all his lower front ones - During the last week he cut the 3rd of the upper ones & was very ill from that little trifling suffering. I am filled with anxiety about his cutting his eye teeth; for if he deadly [sic] ill from cutting one little single tooth, what will he not suffer from 2 or 4 eye [c.o.] teeth coming at once? The change to tolerably cool weather may prepare & fortify him for the greater danger. I have mentioned to Mr Sage our good fortune in having the most tremendous rains, which offer us good hope of an early & bracing cold weather. I must say a word about finances - This month & next I am tied down to very large payments; but in October I shall have I hope a short respite & be able to send you what I owe to the Leamington Bank. I owe even now just 200£. If we do not march I shall get rid of every debt by the end of this year. The intelligence about the moves of the Troops is daily expected to be published, & I am very anxious to know our fate - to move or not to move. An Officer of a Cavalry Regt has lately written to me to know if I will exchange with him, agreeing to [c.o.] give him the extra allowances (20£ a month) for one year or more. It would be a good thing for me, but I fear it may not be able for me to effect it through want of interest. My correspondent wants to retire & sell his superior appointmt., which is not strictly according to

regulations, tho' allowed when one has powerful

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friends to back one - It requires much interest to carry out such an exchange, as appointments to the Cavalry are the best that the authorities have the patronage of. Dear Minnie has just taken her pen to write to dear Irene. I wish I could do the same but ___ excuses need not be mentioned. You may suppose that we are delighting in the advent of August & the near termination of the fearful ordeal of a hot season. Since March it has been as hot as it can be, & at the end of 5 months we are longing for the cold weather. We have only a month & a half more of discomfort, as by my birth-day the mornings & evenings are delicious & it is not hot indoors. I am longing more ardently for dear Minnie's troubles to be over. When they are well over I shall be happy indeed, with the cold weather close at hand to revive & strengthen her & the poor dear little children I hope next year that they all will go to the Hills. I wish I could go, but I must stay here that the pot may be kept boiling & with something in it. It has occurred to me that Mr Sage might have a copy of our picture taken by the Daguerreotype & make over to you one or other for dear Bertram. Much he will rejoice to get one I know. Well do I remember the intense delight I felt at getting your dear picture & Irene's - Perhaps the picture of me will surprise you for I had, as you know being at death's door & had recently had my hair all cut off - Our nurse has this moment arrived to the great relief of dear Minnie - My dearest love to you & all at home Irene, Frank M. & all at M.P. God bless you my mother
[on side] Your loving son Henry

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Phillour - August 19th /56

- My very dear Mother I received your nice long chatty letter of the 3rd July 4 days ago - In your new locality & amongst new neighbours you appear to have much to occupy and please you, which I am delighted to see. In your pleasant letter you express your earnest wishes for dear Minnie's health & safety, and you will be glad to hear that they arrived ten days after her troubles were over, and she had been rewarded with a little girl. Our Clergyman¹⁴⁹, who pays us a visit once in a quarter (of a year) was in the station 2 consecutive Sundays, on the 1st of which dear Minnie went to Church, and on the second we had our little girl Baptized, when only 5 days old¹⁵⁰ - but two other names were added - the names of 2 very dear friends For the sake of euphony we placed the prettiest name first; and this is the order, nature & number of her names Eleanor Harriet Thring Jones - Dr Thring is her god-father & I wished to associate his name with one of my children - You must remember

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him as an old Hansie friend & that we stayed at Meerutt last year for 3 months with him - Miss Eleanor was born on the 5th instant after a very little trouble. Dear Minnie told me when I awoke at 6 o'clock that she thought she must be in for it. I dressed & went out for a short round of visits & one hour after my return the little one was born. She is a very tiny little thing, smaller than any child I have ever seen - You will remember that dear Minnie was ill continually for 4 or 5 months. In corroboration of my recent statements of her improving health, I can tell you that she is infinitely better than she has ever hitherto been after similar events - She was however attacked with severe fever for 24 hours & but for this would have had no appearances of illness & now she had none. Baby is a fortnight old to-day & her mother has for the last 3 days sat in the verandah morning &

evening & last night sat at our tea table. I hope in 2 or 3 days she will be able to go out in the carriage - We have the most delicious weather, with a delicious breeze blowing all day, and the whole country is covered with vegetation, grass or something green. You can scarcely conceive the delight felt [c.o.] at merely looking out of the windows!

I ought to be brimful of delight & thankfulness, for in addition to the lovely weather, the health, safety & happiness of my dear wife & all the children, we have just received the joyful tidings that our Regmt. is not to move this winter - The "Relief" or exchange of Regmts. has just been published, and we are to stand fast. In addition to the consideration that by staying where we are we are enabled thoroughly to enjoy the cold weather, there is another important one - the saving of expense - Now I shall soon be out of debt - certainly in six months, if no untoward event occurs. You can scarcely conceive my ardent longing for the freedom from anxiety & thralldom which I am anticipating - My pecuniary difficulties have been a source of hourly uneasiness ever since I set sail from England. By remaining at this place I get 5£ a month extra, which I shd. lose by going away. I have nothing more to tell you of after these exhilarating and most joyous subjects - I am beginning to amuse myself out of doors, & gardening occupies much of my time - I am busy putting the whole garden into order - During the late tremendous rains it had become a perfect jungle in which it would be difficult to find my Elephant, if I had one! All our vegetable &

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flower seeds are sown at this time; so there is enough to do. The very tremendous rain that we have had has produced the present delicious weather & will ensure an early & fine cold winter - In 1852 we had been 2 days on our journey down the country to Berhampore & we were at this time wandering about the jungles looking for shelter on the high road, having fasted nearly 24 hours & been soaked with rain all that time! You may suppose that we can & do pretty often recal the miseries of that most terrible journey - We are so sorry to hear that poor dear Irene fatigues herself to death with whatever she, dear sister, undertakes - with packing & unpacking, gardening & shopping of course. We got her dear letters as you must know ere this, for we acknowledged the receipt of them with great gratitude - tho' not with half which we felt - I could not quite understand your information about the Bowring family. Did you mean to say that both the Miss Bowrings as well as their very aged father, were dead? You must remember the very delightful visit I paid them when last with dear dear Fanny Bent. How sad, if it is true that they are all gone! Whenever I am rejoicing at the approach of the cold weather I always remember that that season is not so pleasant to you, or to dear Bertram & Emma.

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I have been trying to take a short siesta, but all in vain - I am so unaccustomed to exertion (bodily) of any kind that during the last 3 days I have become overwhelmed with sleepiness in the middle of the day after a few hours of rambling about. I have been roused 2 or 3 times & the last time by a visitor that would astonish you if she were to make her appearance in Calthorpe Road. It is a wet-nurse required by Miss Eleanor Harriet! but so unlike any being you ever saw, unless you are personally acquainted with the squaws of Ojibbeways, Chinooks or Cath-le-yack-e-yacks! (I have recently been reading of the Far Hunters, or I should not have remembered the last named savages) She is as ugly & dirty, dingy & inhuman looking as you can well conceive. She is however an Indian Village wife, & if you have ever seen illustrated books on India containing a representation of Indian village maidens, why, you must know that there is not the least resemblance between the two - i.e. my living representation & the pictorial one. Dear Minnie is not able to nurse her little one & so we must have

recourse to a Sqaw! They are the vilest plagues in India generally. Our little boy was utterly starved amongst a dozen of these very unpleasant & unprofitable nuisances. I must not finish my letter without saying that I hope you or Frank have made the acquaintance of my friend Mr Sage. I have mentioned him in my last 2 letters & sent a letter to him in the last. I am anxious to learn that you succeeded in getting our likenesses from him for dear Bertram. Speaking of dear Frank, I am reminded of the good news you give of Marianne - that she is happily able to move about again. I was happy too at hearing that Henrietta & George were taking a pleasant change at Malvern & that Helen Pattrick¹⁵¹ was recovering from what you have mentioned as an alarming sickness - I wrote to dear Netta when I sent George his legal document; but I suppose I must not look for any letter from her as she never seems to write to any one. I am only one letter better than Netta, after all, having written to her but once. I am afraid, dearest mother, that poor Sibella occasions you great uneasiness by her expenditure - I wish you could get some help from the Taunton rubbish! I must now say good bye - Dear Minnie sends you her best love, as do I. Irene must give you & you must give her as many kisses for us as you can in a breath! God bless you mother

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Phyllour September 24th /56

My very dear Mother The day of the departure of the Steamer from Bombay has been altered, as usual, after the Monsoon, so I am writing a few days after the month has elapsed - I am writing, too, under the disadvantages of a bad, an awful cold, caught 2 days ago by exposure during an occupation that you will be rather astonished to hear of my amusing myself with - During the last 2 or 3 days we have had regular cold, rainy, windy weather just like what you have in November. Before it came in I had just filled a newly built room with boxes, crockery &c; in fact it is a store room, pantry, larder & lumber-room all in one. After I had thus filled it, down came the rain & wetted every thing, as no glass had been put into any of the 3 doors & windows; so in the height of the wind & rain I put in all the panes of glass myself - 20 of them - & got very wet & very cold. I could not have got a native to do it on such a miserable day, as they (the Natives) can never work in the rain or cold; so I am in for a week of miserable suffering from a cold, & lucky I shall be if I get rid of it in a week. What a long story about nothing! However I have nothing more important to talk about I fear - We are all very well, very happy & fast getting out of debt; the weather is already quite delightful & we have six months of delicious weather before us -

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I am actually going to send you the money I owe to the Leamington Bank [c.o.] out of my next pay! But as we cannot get Drafts until the end of the month I fear I cannot despatch it by the next mail but one - that by which I usually write - This moment my heap of Bills has been placed in my hand; so next month I may get them in time to enclose one to you. I have brought my debts down to 120£: this day last year they were little short of 500£. I have been disturbed every 5 minutes by applicants for rupees - Yesterday Pay came & of course to-day is a day of trouble & of counting heaps of very dirty silver & copper - What would you say to having to pay 24 servants monthly? that is the number that eat up half of my monthly stipend. What with these wretched apologies for servants & one European nurse & a wet-nurse I have paid 25£ this month to domestics! besides feeding 2 or 3. Talking of wet-nurses, have I before told you that we have a nice young English girl as wet-nurse for little Eleanor Harriet? She is 15 years & 3 months & yet she has been married nearly a year! Her child was born within 12 hours of our's, but her's died. She is the wife of a Sergeant in the European

Regmt. at Jullunder. It is a wondrous comfort having her for our little one instead of the greatest of all Indian plagues, a native nurse. It is so pleasant to have her sitting with us working & chatting; besides she is always present at prayers with us daily - A native appears as much of a different species of animal as if he, she or it were veritably

a Kangaroo - I have before told you that our little girl is the tiniest baby that I ever saw; tho' quite tall or long she is as thin as a thread paper - your well-remembered ones with 2 little leather straps - & without a needleful of thread in it! She is perhaps a hair's breadth stouter than when she was born, but still she is amazingly thin. It is some set off to this sad condition to know that dear Minnie has quite lost her claims to the rank & condition of a scare-crow or skeleton, for she is getting quite plump. Minnie the little & the boy are both well & thriving amain - Minnie being a thumping great child; & tho' not 3 she is universally thought to be 5 years old! I have nothing to tell you about our goings on. We are almost the only [c.o.] living beings in the station, there being but 4 Officers & 1 lady in the place & these being all invisible at all times nearly. Our carriage is the only vehicle seen, or rather was till yesterday, when a dog-cart made it's appearance & quite frightened us! However our evening drives are very pleasant & we generally pick up the whole population while out. Our family with the nurse make six & we generally pick up two officers - always one. We generally drive to the banks of the river, 2 miles off, & there get out for a little stroll. It is pleasant & teaches Minnie to walk: the Mama I mean - Other occupations we have none just at present, in the way of recreation; but soon I hope to go out into the fields & jungles for the sake of the walks, the air & for change of scene; and we shall take to our Archery again I hope - Have you yet made the acquaintance of Mr Sage? I hope so. I am longing to get another letter from him - Did you think of me on my birth-day? I thought of you & all at home all day long but I am ashamed to say that I always forget the birthdays

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of every member of the family. My being always away from home has, I suppose, interfered with my recollection & observance of birth-days - I actually don't remember any excepting dear Netta's. I have suffered such incessant interruption during the writing of this that, tho' I have been sitting with this sheet of paper before me nearly all the day, I have not been able to fill it. I am most dreadfully distressed with my cold too & cannot put my handkerchief out of my hand for an instant. You will I am sure, dearest Mother, be glad to hear that after eating up 100 hen-coops of fowls & touching no other animal food for many months past, we are going to dine upon a leg of mutton to-day! I may not be able to taste it (from my cold) but it will be an inexpressible pleasure to look at it. I think I had better shut up here lest I should be too late for to-day's post. Give my best & dearest love to dear Irene who I suppose is the only member of your household; & the same to all at M.P. to Netta & Bertram - Do you ever [c.o.] send my love to dear dear Fanny Bent? I never venture to write to her lest she should be ill when my letter arrives & others should read it - Our constant conversation is about all at home & I can never speak of my boyhood or of home either without mentioning dear Fanny I must not go on - Dear Minnie sends her dear love as do I my own Mother - God for ever bless you - I am yr. loving son Henry.

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Phillour 7th November 1856

My very dear Mother I very much regret that I let the last mail go without sending any letter to you, more particularly as I promised to send you money for the Leamington Bank; & no letter arriving you will think that the money is lost. I thought that I should be able to dispose of my last

month's pay as I chose, after being tied down to large payments for the whole of the previous year But alas! I had no sooner entertained this pleasing dream than I got a tremendous "dun" from the Agra Bank - I was obliged to settle half of my debt to it last month & next pay I am to pay the rest - The sum is only 70£! This unexpected pressure of the screw has thrown me again into the midst of trouble for the next 2 months. I really begin to despair of ever getting out of debt; for some months ago I thought that by the end of this year I should be quite free from it, & now at the 11th hour or rather the 11th month, I find myself as badly off as ever. I never spend a ha'penny except on food servants & rent & yet I cannot get out of the slough! You may suppose that we are in the enjoyment of beautiful weather, [c.o.] We have so totally abandoned all occupations excepting out of door exercises & recreations that we find it difficult to leave the sun-shine & sweet delicious air for indoor occupations, such as writing letters, reading, mending stockings &c &c. I don't think I could find a word to say on the events of the last month that would not [c.o.] convey to you the conviction that we do nothing but walk & shoot

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miles, drive, or live in total idleness - I am most thankful to be able to say that we are all in the best of health - We get up every morning by candle light & drive 2 or 3 miles off to the river where we alight from the carriage & walk up & down the bank of the river for one hour - The 2 eldest children always accompany us; and they greatly enjoy the excursion. They, at least Minnie looks as stout healthy & rosy as any English child - I take my gun with me to waylay the ducks & geese that are continually flying up & down the river - On our return I go to my duties & dear Minnie dresses. These occupations completed we step a few yards beyond our garden gate & there meet nearly half a dozen of the Officers & commence Archery. We are joined by the Native soldiers who join in the amusement, using their own bows & arrows - Shocking things they are too for competing with our bows & arrows - We shoot till [c.o.] 12 o'clock or even later & then go to breakfast!! You will soon see a pictorial [c.o.] representation of these our occupations for we have a Photographic Artist in the Regiment, a young Officer who has just joined - By the next mail I hope to send pictures¹⁵² of ourselves, our children, our house & our archery meetings - Our Artist has been taking pictures of all these during the last week & a day or 2 ago there were lying on our piano 20 likenesses of dear Minnie alone! I hope to be able to pack up some half dozen of the pictures for home & then dear Bertram will be able to get some - My portrait has been taken only once as a portrait, but I am represented like life itself in some dozen of pictures - In only one have

I a coat on - Two pictures of our drawing room have been taken - They are very pleasing, but rather indistinct owing to the difficulty of obtaining sufficient light, tho' we used 2 looking glasses to reflect the light into the room - If I can ever get any money I hope to be able to purchase the apparatus necessary for this pleasing art & then there will be no scarcity of portraits of our little circle - The pictures taken without a background of white or black are rather indistinct, yet you will be able to see [c.o.] what our archery meetings are composed of. You will be surprised to see at our backs a row of bearded Seikhs! We have no good varnish for the pictures & no frames, so I fear that what I shall send home will be much injured during the journey to England. You need not now ask Mr Sage to give you our picture which he has. He wd. be proud to hear that I was offered 10£ for the dog he gave me, by name Neptune. Of course I had too great a regard for old Nep to sell him. I am obliged to scribble away as fast as I can as no time can be spared for so sedentary & unprofitable an amusement as letter writing. I was deeply concerned at the account you give of poor dear Sibella's looks & health - Oh [c.o.] how I should rejoice to hear of her being able to live in sisterly love & companionship with Irene! I hope to hear of their having passed a pleasant & profitable sojourn in Wales together. I trust your next letter will tell me that they are very happy & united & that poor Sibella's health is much improved. I feel deeply for her when she is suffering in

health, so unhappy is her lonely wandering

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condition - I want to hear from dear Bertram, but I suppose I must first write to him. I think that I shall get a letter in return for the pictures I send him! I have not said a word about our youngest - little Eleanor Harriet; She is thriving famously & will soon I trust attain to the dimensions becoming a baby of 3 months. You will congratulate us upon having a very nice cheerful, contented & useful wet-nurse - There be no hope of her becoming a proper sized child if she had such nurses as poor little Juxon Henry had - He has cut one eye-tooth without any suffering & thus relieved us of a load of anxiety, for hitherto the poor little fellow has looked as if he were dying at the cutting of each tiny front tooth even; so you may well conceive our deep anxiety when the dread ordeal of the cutting of the eye-teeth should approach - Happily - mercifully the dear little fellow has got one thro' without telling us even of its approach. May the others come the same way - You have not seen any of our babies - for all there are but babies - so I will send you life-like representations of all 3. I hope to get 2, one for you & one for N.F.L. From the 20 portraits of dear Minnie you will think that I might sent you enough likenesses to build a house with, but we are limited in the supply of glass;¹⁵³ & so only 6 of the 20 were preserved. I must not conclude without telling you that for the last 2 Sundays we have had the Church Services performed by an Artillery Officer & a sermon read by me. We trust to continue the observance while the weather permits of our going out in the day time. We have a good congregation - some 15 Europeans - Our Clergyman is here & on Sunday we hope to receive the Sacrament. I must conclude abruptly. Dear Minnie sends you all her best love & many kisses which I double treble quadruple - Yr loving son Henry

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Phillour, 9th December 1856

My very dear Mother Minnie & I are sitting as close to each other & to the fire as we can sit, our fingers & toes being so cold that we can scarcely go on with our occupation of letter writing! Our object in sitting so close together is that we both may be as near as possible to the fire, and not at all from the pleasantness of such neighbourhood! Not that at all! for we have quite overcome those sentimental & foolish feelings which of yore occasioned you so much uneasiness & confusion of face in the presence of John! I dare say that you remember something of our billings & cooings at Leamington which the continual presence of "John" so much marred. Having told you how cold it is, how we are sitting & what we are doing, I need scarcely describe our beautiful weather and the intensity of our [c.o.] cosiness while enjoying a cheerful fire & cheerful chat with you. I cannot refrain from remarking that the occupation of letter writing is a waste of the few & precious hours of our Winter - I don't remember having omitted to send you a letter of some sort or other when my writing day comes, but shd. I ever miss a mail you must know that some better, more beneficial occupation has taken me out of the sight of pens, ink & paper. I was led to expect a letter from you or Irene by the mail that came last, as you hinted at the likelihood of a visit from my friend Sage & at your having something to say about it - You ask if the expression of "dear Juxon" is usual. I think I may say it is with

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with some of my most intimate friends in India - not in England of course! We have been greatly enjoying our present delicious weather - It is much colder than the last winter - All the children are well & quite rosy; but poor Mama has been suffering for several days from dreadful attacks of

indigestion, a complaint that she has never before experienced. I have nothing to tell you of but of out o' door recreations. Yes I have though. I have to announce that I have just entrusted to the care of a young Officer of my Regt. who is now on his way to England, a large packet of photographic pictures of us & our children. We made up a packet of 12 which are addressed to the care of Minnie's uncle at No. 18 Salulary Place, Exeter. About half of them are for her family & the rest for you, Irene & Bertram. I am sorry to say that the 2 single portraits of me are vile productions, but there is one picture containg dear Minnie & me where my likeness is tolerable. Of the score of pictures taken of me only one turned out to be a good likeness & that one dear Minnie could not part with - All the best pictures we were obliged to keep but we should get m [sic] more good ones & our large collection is now reduced to one of me, one of Minnie, each single portraits & one each of the children taken with Papa or Mama who held them. The young Officer Mr Fosbery¹⁵⁴ who takes home the pictures is the photographer of whom I have before spoken - A few days before he left he gave me some lesson in his art & I succeeded

most famously having produced some of the best pictures we have! On Mr F's leaving he made me a present of all his chemicals, & every thing but his Camera. I was too strongly tempted to resist offering to buy of him this too & accordingly I bought it for the large sum of 15£; with illimitable credit though. I am hourly expecting a package from the Chemist containing some chemicals & when they arrive I shall commence my career as a Photographer - I don't think that any one of the pictures which we have sent home will give you a favourable idea of the success of my teacher or lead you to anticipate any admirable results to his pupil; but many of them [c.o.] were done in the most careless way while the whole house was in confusion during the process of his packing up for his little journey to England. However if I can but repeat some of my first efforts I shall feel fully compensated for my lavish expenditure for a picture which I took of little Minnie is a perfect specimen of the art - If I can get my apparatus into full play before our friends the Youngs start for England I hope to be able to send you many pretty pictures which will enable you to be familiar with us, our little ones, our house, our sitting room & every person & thing about us. I think I will get my 20 or 30 servants all in a row & take a picture of them. Mr Fosbery took a very interesting one of his Company of Soldiers - 100 men - all in line & military attire There will be no end of my despatches of photographs to you -

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As soon as I have had some practice at the pictures on glasses I intend to do them on paper. This latter mode is infinitely more difficult; but the facility of keeping & storing them, or despatching them by post & their comparative safety under all circumstances well repays the extra labor & difficulty. I feel, too, that you all at home wd. be delighted to see represented to the very life every thing by which we are surrounded. I was much amused at hearing from a friend of mine, who was lately travelling with Dr Wallich (whom you may remember as the kind friend who took me into his house when I was first at Berhampore) that he (Dr. W) remarking upon portrait taking & making, said that I ought to hanged [sic] if I did not get my wife taken 50 different ways! Had I an opportunity of getting a good likeness of dear Minnie I wd of course most gladly give 50 Rs (5£) for one, & then I shd. have to get one of myself for her - So you see that for 10£ I shd. have but 2 pictures! but now for 15£ I can supply all the family, all my friends with likenesses & ourselves or of themselves by the bushel!! I am already engaged by all the Officers to take them, each in the company of his favorite dog or horse! I took myself the other day with my fiddle & bow in my hand; but being at the time dressed in shooting coat & costume I looked exactly like a poor itinerant fiddler picking up ha' pence in the street. The picture was however a failure, which I sadly deplored as I was much interested in the representation - Now you must be proud of having a son a photographer - Henceforth you

will hear a great deal about my progress in this interesting art & there will be a pleasing variety in the "blowing hot and blowing cold" style of any correspondence. I have not as yet added my usual paragraph about the state of the money market - You may say, dearest mother, that I may always omit it, as I am always (at least, often) promising & never performing! However I shd. have sent you some money by this mail but for a threatening "dun" from the Agra Bank, whose acct for my remittance of 200£ is not yet settled; or rather, it was not settled a week ago - I sent them the 2nd half of nearly 70£ which I have pd. in 2 instalments - Now I have another difficulty the purchase of the Photographic Apparatus & a gun - & a compulsory retrenchment from my Pay for the Regimental Mess amounts to 22£. Our lords & Masters in Leadenhall St. have lately enacted that all their Military servants shall be members of Regmtl Messes & preliminary threats they direct the clipping from every one, one month's pay as an admission fee or [c.o.] donation & every month a subscription of 2 days' pay! The income tax is a joke to this. The benefit we Drs & married men acquire is the privilege of buying out of the Mess a bit of cheese at 8 shillings a pound & pickles at the price of Burgundy It is to the Medl. members really a case of plundering as any one of us after having paid the donation may never see a Mess afterwards - never belong to a corps or any

2v

establishment having a Mess. Already we pay a day's income to a Band of the most detestable musicians; so now we pay in the year 36 days pay for things in the maintenance of wh: we have no interest or benefit of any kind. I have not said a word about any of you dear ones at home. I hope dear Mother that the cold winter will not be a trial to you - While enjoying in every sensation & every nerve the bracing, delicious cold of this country, I never fail to think of the great trial your winter is to you. We are seriously thinking of retiring from the service after 2 years as the hot weather & the rains are times of increasing suffering to me & I fear not be able to outlive many more. If we can stay here all 1858 as well as next year we could save enough to retire upon until we get our Medical Fund. It will depend upon my last experience of a hot weather. I shd. have as a pension less than 200£ a year! but I must think of health before all other things. The Medl. Fund adds 300£ to the other little sum, & if I retire in the beginning of /59 I shd. have to wait 4 years for the larger pension - However it is of no use talking about these remote contingencies - I hope poor dear Sibella is getting better in health - Give her my affecte. love & the same to Irene, Frank & Co. Henrietta & dear Bertram - I have marked all my pictures with the names of the future proprietors giving most of them to Bertram who has not seen me since I was little more than a boy & has not seen Minnie. Two vile pictures of me I leave to be scrambled or tossed for! I think of you daily dear Mother & at this season of Xmas with unusual frequency & love if possible - Henry

There are no further letters home from Juxon to his mother or to any other members of his family. By 1861 she had moved to St Ishmael, Ferryside, Carmarthenshire, on the coast of South Wales and was living with Sibella and Irene. She died 11th December 1867 at Hill House, Westbury-upon-Trym, Gloucester, while Juxon and his family were still in India, aged 90.

JUXON'S PHOTOGRAPHS OF PHILLOUR





Ayah, Eleanor, Maria, Harry, Minnie and Juxon at the time of the Mutiny.

1857 was the year of the Mutiny which began in January at Dumdum, Calcutta, with disturbances over rumours that the cartridges used in the new Enfield rifles had been smeared with animal fat which was abhorrent to both Hindu and Moslem troops. In February and March there were disturbances in Barrackpore, in March at Umballa. Similar unrest occurred at Meerut in April and May where the troops mutinied on 10th and then marched towards Delhi. One can only speculate on the increasing fear felt by Juxon for his family. Phillour was an important military station on the Grand Trunk Road with Delhi to the south, and at the time of the mutiny contained a vast quantity of military equipment but no European troops whatsoever with just the 3rd N.I. to guard both the cantonment and the fort and magazine. After the news from Meerut, Colonel Butler, commander of the 3rd N.I., had made efforts to secure the telegraph so was able to keep in touch with other stations nearby. On 7th June, a fire broke in the cantonment at Jullunder and the native troops mutinied. Meanwhile, aware of the danger of such a large amount of ammunition at Phillour falling into rebel hands, a small detachment of the the Queen's 8th foot and 2nd Punjab Cavalry had left Jullundar for Phillaur and this news had been relayed to Colonel Butler. He, with Lieutenant Griffiths, and presumably Juxon among other Europeans, managed to keep watch overnight. At daybreak of 8th June the force from Jullundar arrived commanded by Major Baines and Lieutenants Sankey, Dobbin, and Probyn and secured the fort. Some of the 3rd N.I. joined rebel soldiers from Jullunder and crossed the river making their way south towards Delhi. It is not known when the few women and children left the fort but it appears that they had already gone to Loodianah.

Little bag kept as a memento by Maria and given to her daughter, Annie, in 1885.¹⁵⁵



*This little bag I picked up in our
curtained off room in the Fort of
Phillaur (Punjab) the day I left for
India in such peril, in June/54,
I used it to keep after for the
few pieces required in our
daily journey -
I am Mother to Mrs. Annie
Sept. 2nd/85*

Note sent after Maria and the children had left with Captain Cox and his wife. It would appear that Juxon intended to follow them but instead remained at Phillaur

1

[Not dated, faded and crumpled]

Dearest Wife I send you nearly all the traps -
The chest of Drawers in 2 Durrees

Your 3 boxes

Gun case

The knife tray with knives, spoons Glass

(I have kept 5 knives & 5 forks & spoons - 10 things in all -

The 2 lamps in 1 patarraah - except some metal parts

You shd. not unpack what is not wanted

I have kept one tin box of tea -

Nearly everything is packed - 3 punkahs as well

I have sent the Photographic Box - also

the Trenchers &c &c

I keep one Candlestick & have sent the other

to you [illegible] has just written [torn]

are gone - I must write now more - God bless you & the
little ones - I hope [sic] & the Coxs are all well (Henry)

1v

I am going in Boileau's¹⁵⁶ Bugey & so don't want a Syce -
Tell Cox I can get no Tent here

Mrs J H Jones

1

[Phillour] ¼ to 1 p.m. 8th June¹⁵⁷ [1857]

Dear Wife We are all safe & sound in the Fort here. I wish you were here, but I trust you feel safe where you are as we do - At first was thankful that you were all gone, for we were taken quite by surprise - I was on the parade when the Cavalry appeared by the butts! They could have caught us in a moment - The Seihks with you are staunch & true I trust - If the bridge is now broken the mutineers cannot escape for Troops are following them from Jullunder - I have been watching these fellows with a telescope and they appear to be pitching their tents. Mr Dobbin¹⁵⁸ has just run up a large gun to give them a shot - We are expecting the 2 Regts. of Infantry for they have not yet arrived - Our men did not turn out to fight but they did not encourage the mutineers to do any mischief - I must say goodbye - God. bless and comfort & keep you & our dear little treasures - Henry.

Troops are momentarily coming to, but I have nothing - Bless you

1v

addressed: With Captn Cox
 Mrs J.H. Jones
 Loodeanah

Mrs J H Jones

1

[Phillour] 10 A.M. - 10th June [1857]

Your letter of 6 o'clock this morning has just reached me darling. I need not speak of anything but of my deep deep thankfulness for your safety my only treasure. The Force has nearly reached the river by this time & then I trust that your terrors may be over. You will of course come over here We are all as safe - Too safe when I think of the perils & terrors you are in the midst of - The men in the Fort will most likely run away when they see our force, All will be over & safe & quiet again by the time you get this - I need not say how bewildered with agony for your sake I have been ever since yesterday. I must not stop to add another word - God bless you - keep & comfort you & our little treasures - ?? Henry

1v

I have not forgotten yr dear Friends
addressed: Mrs J.H. Jones
Loodeanah

1

[Phillour] 10th June [1857]

The worst is past my own dear wife, & I trust you will not suffer in health from the fearful terrors that had surrounded you for 2 days & nights. I was unable to sit down one moment to write to you darling yesterday, but now I can do so. The sense of relief from the flight from Loodeanah is so great that I feel that all cause of alarm even has gone with those villains. I am looking out for a letter from you every moment. The last news we had from across the water was that Olpherts¹⁵⁹ wrote at ½ past 4 yesterday - viz, that the occupants of the Fort had fled & that he was going in pursuit of them. I hope dearest that you will soon come over here for though the accommodation for you and & the dear little children must be wretched I think you wd prefer our being together - Poor dear darling Minnie, shall I find you much altered, looking very wretched, very pale & worn out? I hope not. Oh how I should rejoice to see yr dear face again & those of our dear little treasures. Poor little Minnie give her a kiss and Harry boy too & say Papa sent this kiss & this letter. How my heart has ached for you poor Minnie & for poor dear Mrs Cox. I have felt one little consolation this moment in finding that in every station in India nearly, there is the same fear & alarm - I allude to what Mr Staples mentions in his

1v

letter from Rawal Pindie - Since writing the last word I have had a letter from Mr Griffith. I hear this instant that you are all on your way here - I hope so dearest for I long so much to see you all again God bless you my poor suffering wife. I am deeply deeply thankful for the safety of everyone of our little circle. Your loving hubbie

1

[Phillour] 6 p.m. 10th June. [1857]

Dear Wife I have found a messenger just starting from the Fort for Loodeanah, so I will send a few words by him - The coachman, syce & grasscutter & Dhobie will start from this at dawn tomorrow taking heaps of linen for you all - I send the keys of yr 3 boxes & the Drawers - It is to be left to yr. authorities to determine whether you can come - Nothing but your danger shd. induce you to come. Mr Dobbin is going tomorrow to Loodnah. I have everything in the fort except the contents of the godown - I send this open so I can only send you a kiss from the children & tell them to give you dozens of them - What fearful scenes you have gone thro' my poor pet. - Henry

addressed: Mrs J.H. Jones
Loodeanah

There are no more letters between Juxon and Maria but their movements can be traced through the births and deaths of their children. Maria did return to Phillour because their son, Bertram Stirling¹⁶⁰, was born there 11th November 1857. He was baptised at Jullundur on 9th December 1857 but the family were living in Phillour where Juxon was still noted as Surgeon 3rd Regt. N.I. Another son, William, was also born at Phillour 26th December 1858 and baptised there on 30th December. This time, Juxon was described as Surgeon, Bengal Army, the East India Company rule having ended on 1st September 1858.

Of Maria's maternal family in Dartmouth, there is one very significant letter that she made a rough copy of to explain what had happened to her and the family after she left Phillour with the children, and made her way to the comparative safety of Simla.

1

Please darling Granty¹⁶¹
read & forward

Phillour!!! Octr 15th [1857]

My very dear Uncle Luck¹⁶², I have always before written to dearest Granty but thinking you would consider the letters partly to you. Now I cannot help writing to you direct, knowing you will not mind my sending my letter first to Dartmouth, as I did not write by the last mail it being utterly useless, as there was an outbreak on the Moultan road and all daks here stopped. Dearest Uncle Luck, it is so soothing & Comforting to get such loving & affecte letters as you write to u[torn] feel it so deeply, I know full well we should have all the sympathy your warm heart could give, & it is not throw away upon us. And now I must tell you how I came here. I had bad accounts of dear Henry for many days & was very anxious when one day I had such a bad report, I set off from Simla immediately & came down as fast as I could & arrived two days ago, having left my precious darling children behind

1v

It was a dreadful trip, parting for the first time with my children, & not knowing how I might find my own dear Henry, but by God's mercy, he was All right on my arrival, which took him quite by surprise! I was expecting him upon leave, & so thought we should both go back to Simla immediately, but two days before I came he found he could not possibly get away, so I much rejoice that I came down. My darlings come down next week under a good Ayah's charge, & we are

longing to have them with us. We [torn] into their little room which is all ready for them & look at the three little beds & Minnies chair & table with such a longing to have our pets. Mrs Trench¹⁶³ is taking care of them & she writes daily to tell me how they are which is a very great comfort. I am so very happy now I am back with dear Henry, & we are living in Cantonments again in such a

comfortable house. We all are in wonder & indignation at the apathy of the English Government in not sending out troops Overland. If they only would believe our terrible our great danger, they would be more active. If Delhi had not fallen when it did¹⁶⁴, Sir J. Lawrence said he could not have held the Punjab another week. We were in the greatest peril. Lucknow was only relieved by Gen. Havelock a few days ago¹⁶⁵, & today a telegraph message tells us of a great fight at Agra. One of the Moveable Columns had arrived there & were pitching their tents when the rebels attacked them suddenly on all sides, & after a struggle we thoroughly routed them & took all their guns. Even now the eyes of all are not open & Lord Canning who ought to be turned out of India is behaving so ridiculously, & so leniently that the rebels are not punished. It is disgraceful.

1

What you say of the way they ought to be punished is correct, & by & by when you hear all the horrors committed you will wish tortures could be invented to punish the wretches in this country. On entering Delhi we found a man, supposed to be a civilian, crucified in the palace, another tied down by ropes like a horse, & cut evidently with hot swords all over, Can you fancy anything so horrible? Yet, the King is spared. Some of his sons have been killed. A European, a Serjeant of the 2nd Grenadiers, has been assisting them in Delhi all these months, & was caught with the Kings sons & hung!! Too good a death for him. The gallant Mr Yorke¹⁶⁶ fell at Delhi soon after his noble behaviour at Loodianah. I don't know whether he was connected with the family you mentioned. You are quite mistaken as to Col Mackenzie. It was to save him the matter was hushed up as much as possible, but his behaviour was very bad. As for his wife's book it is a tissue of falsehoods from beginning to end. Even people who were her great friends would shrink from her now. I know should I ever [rest missing]¹⁶⁷



Reverse of brooch: In Juxon's hand "Minnie Jones, Phillour, 1857"

Maria kept one letter sent by her old childhood nurse while they were still at Phillour.

1

Dartmouth Dec 11th 1858

My Dear Mrs Jones I must now thank you and Mr Jones for all your kindness to me But I want words to express my gratitude to you I Cannot write all I feel May God Bless and all your Dear Children how I wish I could See them your Dear Grandmamma¹⁶⁸ prayed for you and all yours with the Night Before she died her facultys were quite clear to the very Last

1v

Your Grandpapa¹⁶⁹ was rather Lost at times but would recolect himself and ask all about you and say that he an me would come an fetch you home another time I should be sent to take care of you an the babes

Dear old gentleman he wasted away Gradually for three mounths But was not ill more then three or four days at Last then quitely fell a sleep in jesus I am till [sic] with

Mr Fredrick¹⁷⁰ how Long he may want me do not know my work is not very hard at present if it was I could not do it my strength would not allow it all are very kind to me an I hope to be able to remane a little Longer with them

I have no time to say more at present

from your ever gratfull an obedant servant

Sarah B[torn]¹⁷¹

[addressed: Mrs Jones

note in pencil: My mother's old nurse of her childhood. A Swinhoe¹⁷²]

MOVE TO PESHAWUR

When their little daughter, Eleanor, died 4th October 1859, they were living in Umballa. Juxon was appointed Surgeon-Major from 3rd January 1860. Another daughter, Irene was born at Umballa on 8th April 1860. She was baptised 1st July at Peshawur and Juxon was noted in the Register as Surgeon in Artillery. Another daughter, Annie, was born at Peshawur 13th April 1863 and baptised on 27th May when Juxon was noted as Surgeon Major in the Bengal Medical Service. Their last child, Thomas, was born in Murree on 3rd October 1864 but baptised at Peshawur 26th November, when Juxon was described as Surgeon Major Royal Artillery Division.

Juxon was marching from Jullundur to Peshawur in medical charge of a Sikh regiment from 20th April to 28th May 1860. He not only recorded the number of ailments suffered by the men but also the route taken and the state of the weather, and personal notes about letters sent.

April [1860]

Friday 20 Left Jullunder 6p.m. Strong wind from North

21 Rain during last night & up to 1.30 p.m. during the day - Very cold

[21st Reported departure to Dr Brown¹⁷³. Letter to Dr Green¹⁷⁴ applictn for 31st N.I.¹⁷⁵]

Sunday 22 Clear. Requisition for 4 Bullock Hackery¹⁷⁶ [c.o. & the other to be exchanged for 4 bullock Hackery]

23 Clear. Very hot. Cloudy from 3.30 p.m.

24 Cirr¹⁷⁷: At Umritsur at 10 p.m. very high wind & rain after midnight. Hot all day. 1st day of distress from heat.

25 Nimbus. Very cool till 10 am. Thermtr reached 93½

[25th Umritsur. Wrote to the Barrack Master promising to endeavour to obtain the Pay of the Conservy Estabmt of the Hosp: of the 45th while it was at Jallundur

" Addressed a letter to Coll Kaye¹⁷⁸ consenting to pay original Bill for Mess Entertainment - Wrote to MSJ¹⁷⁹]

26 Very cool last night. Clear & rather hot during the day - Storm in direction of Lahore.

27 Dust-storm for 1 hour & a few drops beging at Midnight-past. Clear

28 Lahore, last evening. Halted this day. Therm: lowest 65°

S 29 30th Encamped about a mile beyond the Rao's . An abundance of the date Palm (Khujors)

[29. Addressed Pay Master about Conservancy Allowce. I sent Matthews' last letter. Asked for last pay Certificate]

30 Encamped on a course, strong grass, showing that the ground is flooded either by the river or rain extending as far as ravine [unclear] on all sides

May 1 Do Do Do The sides of the installed road are here & there

2 Do Do Do bounded by bricks & pairs of posts are occasionally met with whose use is obviously to show the situation of the road when flooded.

3 Goojranwala. Encamping ground bare - Yesterday & today sun obscured by dust & Cirro¹⁸⁰ -

[3rd May. Goojranwalla - Returned letter to Dr Brown. Wrote to decline appmt to 22nd N.I. to

Secty P.S.G. Mdl Deprt¹⁸¹ Returned to Barrk Mr. Jullundur his letter & the Pay Mr's upon it

& Last Pay Certificate of Native Dr Tutteh Mahomed, Jullumdur]

4 Coarse grass

5 Appearances of storm last eveng during the march Wuzerabad Dak Bung

S 6 Thermtr broken last night - Reached 97° in Aneroid thermtr

7 Goojrat - Encamped on a beautiful plain covered with drop grass & encircled

[7th Walked to the field of Goojrat]

8 by trees - 7th Cloudy - Nimb & Cirri & storm threatening wch: passed off with a high wind

[8th Deos there -]

9

10

11 Jhelum deep : Smith's servant broke the Left Internal Malleolus¹⁸² by jumping off a Hackery

12 Passed at the Bristows.

S 13 Cirro-cumuli - No wind - close & hot - At 2 pm commenced a great storm from the West wh: however passed off to the north & we had no rain -

14

15 Baromtr sunk $\frac{1}{2}$ inch since yesterday - Sahuwur. 88° in the Tent! Cirr: cumuli 28.50

16 28.40 Nimb & strong wind from the N.W. Cleared before 1p.m. Very threatening storm during the last half of the march; but no rain fell

17 28.22 Nimb & Cum: Storm close at hand towards the Hill

18 28.13 Arrived at Rewut 1 march from Pindee, at 9 pm yesterday - very heavy rain from about 6½ pm till midnight - Passed the night sitting in the buggy in the Terai!

19 Pindee - 28.23

S 20 28.28

21 28.50 Hussun Abdal. Cloudy & cool till noon - Heavy stream of wind & rain at dinner time wh: delayed the march till 7 p.m.

22 28.78 Huttee

23 28.80 Khirabad. 121° in the Sun - 105° for some time under the bed while very cloudy 98°

Strong wind all the afternoon. Heat in camp fearful

24 Tattis today - but not yesterday - Heat most distressing

25 28.82

[25th Akora - The Sepoy died who appeared to be affected only with Nostalgia - Kaling Sing 2 Co.]

26 28.87 82/ Nowshera 112° in the verandah of the Tent

S 27 28.80.90.82.80 Tarov

28 28.65 Peshawur

29

30

31

One hour after leaving the Camp at Tarov, I saw exactly at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 2 a.m. right in front of our course the largest & most brilliant meteor that I ever beheld. Arcturus¹⁸³ was immediately before us about 45° above the horizon & this meteor appeared some 6 or 8° below it. It inclined to the north in its course & disappeared near the horizon about 45° from its point of starting. It was about 4 times the size of Venus & appeared a perfect sphere or light, just like the glass globe of a brilliant lamp

[note; Included a list of ailments with numbers suffering per day and the lowest & highest temperature]

The majority of the letters that follow were addressed to or written by Minnie, Juxon and Maria's, eldest child. It was she who probably kept them and took them with her to England in 1869. As family were together most of the time, either in Peshawur or the hot-weather hill station, Murree, there are few letters until Minnie was sent alone to school in Simla.

1

Murree 13th June [1863]

My dearest little Minnie

I have been made so happy by the perusal of your dear long letter because in it you assure me that

you still love me - I hope you don't allow that fat looking Capt Schevenas or that black looking Capt Turner to pay you any attention if I heard that you gave either of them or any other gentleman a single Kiss I should be made very miserable and would go an pine away in a forest - many thanks dear little Minnie

1v

for those nice little flowers which you enclosed in your letter, I am going to keep them carefully as tokens of your love in that nice little box which you gave me. What a number of gifts I have of yours dear little Minnie, 2 boxes and 2 cards, I prize them all very much for your sake, you must come quickly to Murree to receive my gift. I wonder whether you will like it?

Tell Mama I wish she had kept me at Peshawur instead of the Horse and fed me on bread and sugar what a lucky animal he is to be thus treated -

I am so happy to think that I shall jump dear little Irene next month at Murree, but this pleasure is still far off, you are all very cruel to stay away so long for you know I am longing so much to see you all again. Tell Papa with my love that he will enjoy his smoking and reading much more at Murree than at Peshawur and that he must bring you all here quickly.

And so you and Anna have been racing your ponies, I hope you did not allow that fat girl to beat you, are you such friends with her now?

1

Goodbye dear little Minnie, with many kisses which I should like to give in person instead of on paper.

Believe me, Ever yours devotedly

T Wright¹⁸⁴

Give my love to Mama & Papa and to all your brothers & sisters¹⁸⁵

Letter from Thomas Wright to Juxon gives a flavour of his closeness to the family, particularly in the use of the "familiar" name, Henry. The campaign against a rebel force of "Hindustani Fanatics" was much harder for the British than they had anticipated and fighting continued until just before Christmas with 238 killed and 670 wounded on the British side with the rebels losing about 3000 men.

1

Camp Amboyla Pass

23d October 1863

My dear Henry

You may like to know the progress of events with us and I write a few lines to acquaint you with them - On the night of the 19th we marched from Nowakilla with the avowed object of marching via Muchuy, Rustum Bazaar, through the Amboyla Pass & to encamp at Kogah, thence to proceed on the following day to Cherorai, where we were to form an entrenched Camp, and Hence to send small flying Columns to operate against the Hindustani Fanatics in the Mahaban Mountains & on the banks of the Indus - To mark our intentions a column of Troops had been sent to the Durrund Pass near Tifuna as if we purposed to follow the old road taken by Genl. Cottons' Force in 1858 - and this feint acted most

1v

successfully for we had little or no resistance in the Amboyla Pass which could have been held by a few hundred resolute men of some Thousands, for I don't think I have ever seen one so capable of defence. We heard also that the other road had been prepared for our reception. - But the information regarding the road and Pass had been obtained proved most incorrect, the Pass instead of being short and easy as described, proved to be most difficult and long - the Baggage of the Force which was allowed to be most excessive, & the large quantity of stores which it was necessary to carry, have so obstructed our progress that instead of reaching Kogah the first day as we had hoped, the Force has halted seven miles short of it to admit of the

baggage coming up, and this is our fourth day here, and it has not arrived yet - and until it reaches Camp we cannot move onward - but all this time are are eating up the supplies which were to subsist us for fifteen days, so that we shall soon experience a difficulty in this respect, - but I dare say this may be obviated by making the country through which we pass subsist us -

I must now mention something of our Political relations with the Tribes (in mentioning Villagers or Tribes I suppose you have in your possession the map of the Peshawur frontier to refer to - -) The only tribes & people we had any dealing with at starting were the Hindustanee Colony at Sitana the Judoons who had been sheltering them and otherwise offending and the Hassanzyes of the Black Mountain in Hagma - The Judoons, as was expected, have submitted, these Chiefs are now in Camp

1

the Hassanzyes, it was also thought would do the same as soon as the Hindustanes men dispersed -

Our plan of operation was [c.o.] to go through the Chamla Valley, the tribes inhabiting which, it was not thought would resist our approach, having made no preparations to do so, and having once established our Camp Churrai, we would disperse the Hindustanis and drive them through the Judoons into our own country, and then require of the Judoons to capture & surrender them to us. The plan could have succeeded admirably but for the detention of the Force here as already explained, and its presence has had the effect of exciting the tribes of the Buneyr Valley - The Chamla people have tendered their submission, but the Buneyrcees don't like it and appear determined to resent the intrusion -

Proclamation announcing our intentions to molest none but the Hindustanians [c.o.] preceded our advances, but it appears the Buneyr did not believe our protestations of peace to them

2

On our reaching the crest of the Pass a few shots were fired at our troops, & they rapidly retired on our crossing the heights - [c.o.] but the Buneyr Tribes have crossed the hills a little beyond our Camp apparently watching our intention - ever since we have been here -

Yesterday it was thought advisable to send forth a reconnoitring party to ascertain the nature of the ground, this consisted of 200 sabres under Probyn and about 100 Infantry, the whole under Col. Taylor Engineers, the Infantry was left at the mouth of the Pass near the village of Nawakila where the hills were occupied by the Buneyreers in great numbers for the purpose of covering the Cavalry on their return to Camp - and the Cavalry went on to Sonah [sic], coming back near the the Pass, the Buneyreers came down to cut them off, the Cavalry charged [c.o.] and put them to flight at once but killed but a few owing to bad ground, after which came back to Camp, covered by the Infantry - It was now nightfall, and the Buneyreers

2v

came with their whole strength on the 20th Paryat Infantry, and followed it into Camp, where they made a regular attack on the whole Camp. This of course failed, but it necessitates their being punished and so for the time being, we shall have to diverge from our original plan of operation which may keep us out a day or so longer than was originally contemplated. The Chumla Valley is very pretty and that of Buneyr described as a perfect garden. I can scarcely think the government will approve of being dragged into hostility with a tribe which [c.o.] has hereunto been friendly with us, but I suppose it was unavoidable.

We are leading a life of continuous pic-nic-ing, always very dirty and hungry, eating & sleeping - whenever the [unclear] was to be had.

Please tell Minnie¹⁸⁶ with my best love & thanks that I have received her kind letter of 18th and the others preceding it, and say how thankful I feel for all her kindness in seeing to the packing of the "Cellos" and my other traps, I am very sorry that she should have been so much troubled with all my rubbish when she must have had so much to do with her own packing. I shall be rejoiced when all this business is over to return to our old Duets¹⁸⁷ -

I must close in great haste to be in time for the post, Trusting that Minnie & the bairns as well as yourself are all in the enjoyment of health, and with best love

Believe me my dear Henry

Ever yours very affectionately

Tom and

Please tell Minnie that I will write to her by the next opportunity ¹⁸⁸

addressed: Dr Jones

Royal Artillery

Peshawur

stamped: NOWSHERA OCT 30 63

PESHAWUR OCT 31 63

Letters from Minnie to her father in Peshawur

1

Murree June 5th [1864]

My darling Papa

how I do so long to see you the few days I have been away from you seems a whole year and more to me I hope you are quite well. Harry wrote a letter to Mrs Kaye¹⁸⁹ the

1v

other day all by himself I told him how to spell some words I wish you could see it it is so nicely written

Could not you ask Mrs Kaye to let you see it he is going to

try and write you one. I hope you have not caught any cobras since we left have you got that man who catches them still I hope you have. does Mrs Kaye get frount [sic] from our garden now too.

1

Have you got that snake that ran away Mrs Kendall¹⁹⁰ often comes to sit with Mama and we go to swing at her house Dr Kendall is coming up tomorrow he starts today. Mama is very week but that is

2v

all you must not mind she is going to write to you you must not mind if it is a short letter. Mrs Kendall is sitting with Mama she has brought her work

2

how I should like to take a peep at you and see what you are doing. Harry is writting to you and all by himself I am sure you will be s-o glad to get a

letter from him and his first letter too poor boy he is not at all well he had a pill last night. Annie is such a dear little thing I wish you cold see her She learns something

2v

new every day. Uncle Tom is going to Pindee tomorrow evening. We bought 5 sears of nice ripe fruit just now With love to you believe me your very affect. little daughter

Minnie Stirling

Jones

God bless you dear Papa

1

Murree June 12th [1864]

My darling Papa I have not written to you for such a long time I think it is so naughty of me for I ought to write to my Papa every day Harry does very often he is to day writing to you. Uncle Tom came up from Pindee to day this morning I mean he gave us each a rupee is not it kind of him mine is that sort of rupee that you kept for a curiosity I am so glad for I have been looking forward to getting one for such a long time and I have got it at last. You will see Uncle Tom very soon at Peshawur he expects to go on tuesday. I have seen Miss Macintire¹⁹¹ notwithstanding all her fine fethers and colours she looks like an Indian Sqaw I do not think she is likely to be married soon she is so stout and black. Dr Kendall has got a fever and is not well. Harry has just got a letter from Mrs Kaye and she says that you had Chotaharsre¹⁹² with them the other day under the trees and they showed Harrys letter to you did you like it I wrote to Mrs Kaye the other day on the 9th but she has not answered it yet but I wrote to Col Kaye the other day and he sent me

1v

such a nice kind long letter I was so glad to get it. There is such a nice cake on the table I wish I could have a bit it is right before me enough to tempt me is not it. Mama gave Harry a new knife the other day such a beautiful one so nice and sharp Mama gave a rupee for it but Harry has cut his finger in eaght places with it his hand is so sore. I have 33 rupees am I not rich I will be richer than you in a few days if you do not take care do not you think I will. I am sitting by the window writing to you and the breeze is so delightful and the hills are so pretty oh Papa I wish you were here it is

such lovely weather it would be ten times as nice with you I am sure. Do not you think Harry writes very well I think very well. It rains so very much I am quite tired of it the other night it hailed so much that we brought in platefuls of hail to eat it was so nice and cold Annie eat some too. How are you dear darling Papa I hope quite how dreadful it is to be separated from each other whom God hath made

to be together. Will you please give my love to Col and Mrs Kaye when you see them. We all send you our very best love with love to you believe me to be your affected little daughter

Minnie Stirling Jones

P.S. how I wish I could see you again dear Papa I love you very much

1

[addressed in another hand:

Stamped

Dr Jones

Artillery

Peshawur

1

Murree June [stamped July] 23rd [1864]

My dear darling Papa. I have got such a lot of things to tell you that I do not know where to begin. We went for such a nice ride with Uncle Tom right down to the flats today before yesterday Morning the road was very narrow and muddy the road was only a yard broad and we had to go one by one and as we were coming back from the flats which was a very pretty place the prettiest place I have ever seen Harry had been riding in front all the way to the flats Uncle Tom after him and I last of all but as we were coming back I felt that my pony wanted to go very fast I think it was because we were going homewards he pulled as hard as he could and ran away with me I was so very frightened I could not tell what to do. Harry tried to save me by running after me and he made his horse so fast and he slipped and

1v

down he came on his knees and poor little Harry rolled down the khud poor little fellow Uncle Tom kept his pony from running away and Harry caught hold of his pony and jumped up again and said he was not hurt but I think he was. You ought to have seen the mess he was in he was all covered with mud and his blue puguree¹⁹³ was quite spoiled. Two men caught my pony at last he ran away with me for a mile and a half is not that a long way. Mrs Curtis¹⁹⁴ got a little boy at 9 o'clock in the Morning is not that nice. We all went to tiffin at Uncle Tom's house yesterday afternoon it was so nice I wish you had been with us. You will be coming soon dear Papa. It is Sunday today and we are going to have prayers Uncle Tom is with us. Harry and I have prayers together every day it is so nice

I got a long nice letter from dear Mrs Kaye last night. I have just written a long letter to dear Col Kaye. Mama has been better and stronger the last 5 days are not you glad to hear it.

We all send you our very best love With love to you from me dear Papa believe me to be your very affected and ever loving little daughter

Minnie Stirling Jones

God bless you darling Papa I pray for you every night.

1

[addressed in another hand: Stamped

Dr Jones
Artillery
Peshawur

24th

stamped: JUL 23 PESHAWUR

AMATEUR CONCERT.
Peshawur 14th. March 1865.

PROGRAMME.

PART I.

1. OVERTURE TO FIDELIO, by Beethoven. Band H. M's. 90th. Light Infantry.
2. SYMPHONY, by Haydn. Septet, Piano Forte, Violins, Tenor, Violincello, & Flute.
By Mrs. Jones, & Messrs Fricke, Brandes, Jung, Oertel, Wright, & Warter.
3. IL LAGO DI GARDA, by Biletta. Quartet Song with Piano Forte.
By Mesdames Curtis, & Lambert, & Messrs Jarrett, Wilmer, & Curtis
4. AIR, by De Beriot. Piano Forte, and Violin.
By Mrs. Curtis, & Mr. Fricke.
5. ANGIOL DI PACE, by Bellini. Song Trio, with Piano Forte.
By Lady Garvock, & Mrs. Watson, & Messrs Waterfield, & Jarrett.
6. QUARTETT, by Pleyel. Violins, Tenor, & Violincello.
By Messrs Fricke, Brandes, Oertel, & Jung.
7. COME WHERE MY LOVE LIES DREAMING. Song, & Chorus, with Piano Forte.
By Lady Garvock, Mesdames Kaye, Irvine, & Messrs Wilmer, Curtis, & Hume.

PART II.

8. GRAND POT-POURRI, from Rossini's Operas: Mosè in Egitto, Semiramis, & Il Barbière. Harmonium.
By Mr. Ackermann.
9. "MISERERE" from Il Trovatore, by Verdi, Duet with Chorus & Piano Forte.
By Lady Garvock, & Mesdames Kaye, Curtis, & Lambert, & Messrs Jarrett, Wilmer, & Curtis.
10. ANDANTE & RONDO, by Haydn. Septet, Piano Forte, Violins, Tenor, Violincello, & Flute.
By Mrs. Jones, & Messrs Fricke, Brandes, Jung, Oertel, Wright, & Warter.

Maria gave birth to another son, Thomas Stirling, on 3rd October 1864 in Murree. She was performing in a concert at Peshawur 14th March 1865, playing piano while Thomas Wright plays 'cello in items 2 and 10. There is a photograph taken of the family in Murree which includes baby Tom lying in Minnie's lap a little later the same year.¹⁹⁵

Juxon was due to retire in March 1867 but had decided to stay on in India, possibly because of the daunting cost of educating their children in England. The family were all at Kussowlie¹⁹⁶ on the 1st November 1866. At this time Juxon and Maria were moving back to Umballa for the coldest part of the year, taking the two youngest children with them as well as Harry, whom Juxon was already teaching, and leaving all the older children with Mrs Vice,¹⁹⁷ whose daughter was in charge of their education. The letters that follow are mainly from Maria to Minnie (affectionately known as Pins).

1

[Umballa] Friday afternoon 16th [Nov 1866]

My dear Darling Pins, I wrote you all a few lines yesterday from Kalka¹⁹⁸ & would have written more but the pen was so bad darling. Kiss darling Berty Willie, & Coco for us all & tell Coco to kiss you. We came here this morning before five when it was quite dark, & Uncle Tom got up & gave us tea & bread & butter. Annie & Tom remained sleeping in the Garrie. We left Kalka at 7 o'clock when it was dark but we cd not get the carriages before, the men wanted so much for them & we had to pay 40/ for the two carriages & when we came up we only gave 10/ for each carriage. The tire of the wheel of Papa's carriage came off & I don't know what we shd have done had not an empty carriage soon passed & they changed. It gave a great deal of trouble. Papa has been out & went to Peake & Allans¹⁹⁹

1v

& brought you a beautiful Bible with your money. Uncle Tom has written in it & Col. Davis who is going up to Kussowlie in a few days will take it to you with a bottle of Glycerine for your poor hands darling & Coco's in fact for all of you. We think we shall have to stay with Uncle Tom as there is not a house to be had. I have had a sharp attack of Ague to-day & am feeling tired but quite well now. When Annie arrived at Kalka she missed you all very much & asked me so often why I had left you all behind & tell Coco she said "I like Coco so much why you leave her?" I forgot her other speeches about you all. I hope darling you are all happy I thought of you yesterday as putting your clothes to right & to-day as learning you lessons. Be a good girl my

darling & try & do everything to please Miss Vice. I know you will. I will write a longer letter next time & to-morrow will write to Berty. Tell them all how much we love them. God bless you darling Minnie Ever with my fondest love to you & love to all the Vices & Mrs Nicholas²⁰⁰

Your own loving Mother

[Juxon's hand] My very dear child Minnie Mama was too weak from an attack of Ague to go on with her letter & so has asked me to fill up all the blank part. Mama & Harry have both told you of my purchase of a bible for you, so I can only add that it is the strongest, nicest & prettiest in Peake & Allen's shop. But my own darling Minnie, you should not value the outside (though I know you will till you are very much older!) except for its strength & fitness for keeping the inside in a fit state for reading. Uncle Tom has written in the book to mark it as his present to you. I am writing with my paper straight before me & my elbow off the table & quite touching my side!! I hope you

will do the same when you write your letters, or history -

1

I am helping Harry²⁰¹ in his composition of a letter to you & thus I am prevented from writing as I otherwise should. Uncle Tom's house is so neat and beautiful & cosey, so much nicer than his former one which you know. We are all so

tired & sleepy as neither Mama nor I had much sleep, for her carriage was so shakey that she expected it every instant to tumble down like a carriage made of cards!! I have room only for loves, kisses & blessings for you all & very kind messages to all the Vices - Yr loving father

addressed: Mrs Vice
Kussowli
For Miss M. Jones

1

Umballah Sunday [18th Nov 1866]

My own darling Minnie

I cannot tell you how very much pleased we were with your very nice letter darling we got this Morning. It was so nice & long, telling us everything we wished to know & so very well expressed. It cd not have been nicer in every way my own child & it made us very happy darling that you were able to write such a letter. Darling try & not cry for Mama but be happy for my sake. Minnie pet I know you will practise every day when you know it is my wish, so my child try & conquer All those feelings you have against it & say to yourself "I will practice for Mama's sake & show her when she comes how I have tried to improve" Hold you hand properly darling & try

1v

with all your heart & don't cry about it. You will see how kind Miss Vice will be with your music as in everything else. It is for your good darling I have parted with you my child, though it was very hard to leave you my darling Pins. You must tell me everything about yourself even if you go on crying but you will try darling & be happy & not fret. Your letters can never be too long for Papa & Mama darling & to-day your very very nice letter pleased us all more than I can tell you darling. I shall always look out for your letters & to-day I was so anxious for the post for I knew I shd hear from you. Kiss darling Coco for me & tell her she must write me a note & Berty & Willie too. How nice Coco must look in curls, little pet. How

I long to see you darling children. Col. Davis is going this week to Kussowli. I think on Tuesday & he tells me he will go & see you all & I shall be so glad if he does. He will take your Bible & Glycerine & if I can get you a pair of gloves I will send them but I have not been out of the house yet. We are going to dine at Col. Davis' to-night. The General dined here last night & he has only one arm the other was cut off after a fight & Annie was so surprised looking at the wooden arm with such wonder. The General made her shake hands with the wooden arm! When Annie saw me dressed in my bracelets she said "Mama, your very pretty Girl"!! The Hoskins came to-day & I have been playing some of my pretty Hymns. I am so glad we brought

the Piano with us. Five of my chickens died on the road but the rest are all right. I shall be so very glad to get the cushion darling & shall value it so much. If you tell me what wools you want I will send them to you for I shd so much like to have that first cushion dear. We cannot get a house & so we must live here for some time. I thought of you all in Church to-day darling. Mind & wear your new frock always if it is nice & warm. I hope you went to see Mrs Arbuthnot²⁰² for she was very kind to ask you. Papa has just come in saying "Mama I am so pleased with dear little Pins letter". I am so very sorry Miss Vice is not well. Give her my love & thank her for all her kindness to you all. Do all you can to spare her trouble. God bless you my own darling child. Uncle Tom was as pleased as we were with your letter & sends you his

best love with ours. I will get the slippers made up at once darling. Ever your own loving Mother

[Juxon's hand:] A thousand loves & blessings for you dearest Pins & give the same to dear Bertie, Willy & darling little Coco. Chicory Chocks call her

[No envelope]

Umballah 19th [Nov 1866]

My own darling old Girl, I was half hoping I shd have had another letter from you to-day but I fancy you must always be busy now darling & I am sure almost I shall hear from you to-morrow. I heard from Mrs Arbuthnot to-day & she gave me such a nice account of you all. I am very glad you all went to see her. Col Davis will reach Kussowlie to-morrow evening most likely & is going I believe direct to the Brewery. I daresay very soon after you get this you will get the Bible. I have not been able to get your gloves for I have not been out of the house & Papa enquired of so many people yesterday & nobody cd. tell him where Wallace lived! Uncle Tom has gone out into the district to-day & I have not seen him to-day. Mr Hawkins²⁰³ the Dy. Comr. dined here last night.

I told Annie a gentleman was coming & she said "Sahib with the broken hand"? & when I told her no she said she only wanted that Sahib & this morning she said "I no like that Sahib with the "bunna walla" hand but I like that Sahib with the broken hand"! She said of Tom to-day "there he goes to break more (glass)" for he has broken some panes of glass and we are obliged to put all sticks away. She said she called the baloo²⁰⁴ to eat her the night I dined out but the baloo said "I won't come to eat Annie"! You don't know what funny things she says now. Papa & Harry are going out in the Buggy to the Bazaar to get some things. I have not been out except to dine at Col Davis. He said he wd. take you a bottle of sweetmeats & I hope he won't forget it. He has such a beautiful house & such furniture. Darling I am so glad Miss Vice says you are all

such good children & give her no trouble. It made me so happy my darling Pins & you will always try to be good & learn darling to please Papa & Mama. Kiss all the dear children for me & tell them all to kiss you You are my old Boody. I don't feel very strong but only because I am tired with unpacking. Papa has such a long way to go to his work & yesterday in the middle of the day he was sent for to go to see a child We cannot get a house here but we are so comfortable here. Harry, Tom

& Annie have a small room & we have to go through it to get to ours which is a very pretty bow room & we have pink curtains at the windows. Darling I must say good bye as my back is aching so. God bless you my own own darling Pins. Give my best love to Berty Willie & little Coco. Ever your own loving proud Mother M Jones
I love you so much my darling

addressed: Miss Jones
care of Mrs Vice
Kussowlie

1

Wednesday evening [21 Nov 1866]

My own darling Minnie Pins We were again made so happy by getting a dear letter from you this morning. Darling I know you cannot write often or as long letters as you wd wish & another thing darling I shd. like you to play as much as possible & not to take up all your spare time to writing though I do long for all your letters my pet! You write such nice letters. Whilst you have a cold & sore throat don't on any account bathe or let the others bathe. Tie something round your throat also. I was so pleased with dear little Coco's note, dear little soul. I am sorry Miss Parsons is so much

1v

with you but don't have anything to say to her & above all never enter her house. I thought she was not be in the house at all. Tell me if she is rude to you at all. You will get your Bible to-morrow darling & I do hope you will like it. The dersi is making you some cuffs my pet, 3 pairs. I am so glad you found your new dress so comfortable. I am wearing my new dress & Papa & Uncle Tom like it very much. I have not been out yet as I have not been feeling well but to-day I am much better. The General came to call

to-day. Annie has just asked me where he is as she wants to kiss him! She was sitting at my feet on the couch & said she was coachman & I was in a dak Gharri & she said "Lie down then Sahib, the dak going very hard"! The Ayah told me to give her "bohut bohut salaam" to you. My darling I hope you like your lessons & will always try to get on & please us. Papa comes home every day so tired from his trip to the other end of the stat[torn] He wd. write to you but he always feels so tired. Uncle Tom sends you all his best love. I am so sorry that poor woman died, poor young creature. Who takes care of the dear little baby? The post goes out so early in the morning that I

1

have to write the day before. It is now dinner time & I dare say you "boody" are just sitting down to tea. Tell Berty & Willie I am looking out for letters

from them. Dr Sylvester²⁰⁵ sent a lot of Crests for you to-day. I shall take care of them. Give my love to all & my very best to you my darling old girl. If you have time to finish

a letter send it as it is darling. Harry wd. so have liked his letter. God bless you. Ever your own loving Mother

.....I have put kisses here for you darling

[addressed as before]

1

Monday morning [26 Nov 1866]

My dear darling darling child I am so very anxious about you for it will be a week to-morrow since I heard from you darling. I have been looking out for so many days for the letters. Mr Eagle²⁰⁶ said in a note you cd. not go to them as you had a cold & I was thinking of you all Saturday as spending a happy day with Mrs Eagle²⁰⁷. I hope darling I shall hear to-day. I have not even heard how you like your new Bible. I wrote to Miss Vice yesterday & again to-day asking her to let you write every third or fourth day by excusing you from lessons for a short time.

1v

I have been suffering so much from Ague that I am very very weak. I take lots of Quinine & fancy little Tom taking a pill, a large one too! He saw the jam & said "I. I" so I let him touch the jam & he eat it until he came to the Pill & then he opened his mouth & swallowed it down & did not mind it at all. He says "Come Annie" "come Mama" so very prettily & tries so hard to talk. Harry is writing to you. He has been out with Uncle Tom & leaped all the walls & ditches in the

riding school. Send Remdeen to see if Mrs Murray is still at Kussowlie. I dreamed I was with you all last night & Willie had such a beautiful pair of kid gloves on! Your studs came back mended last night. Uncle Tom won't be up this month but next month he is going to Kussowlie. I want to know all you do darling & if you think you are getting on. You must try very hard & see how much you can learn before I come up darling. Kiss my little Coco & dear old Berty & Willie & tell them all to be good children & Mama loves them so very very dearly. Papa & Uncle Tom are both out but they always tell me to send their very best love

1

to you & the others my darling old Boody. Darling tell Mama if you have been unwell since I left. you know what I mean darling & no-one shall see your letter.

God bless you my child
Ever your own loving Mother

[addressed as before]

1

Umballah Wednesday [28 Nov 1866]

My own darling Minnie I only just now got your nice letter of yesterday & I began to answer it to-day as sometimes I am hurried in the morning & the post goes out very early. Darling I don't on any acct wish you to write oftener than every 4th or 5th day as Miss Vice does not approve of giving up time from lessons. I don't wish you darling to lose any of your play time & it is a great tax upon you

writing so often. I won't be anxious again my pet so be sure & don't write often & I will tell Miss Vice of it. I am so vexed at what you tell me of Mrs Arbuthnot for she has been very very kind to you but she will know it is not your fault at all. She writes very kindly of you darling

1v

Miss Vice says you are all very good, only Willie a little obstinate sometimes but it is a great comfort to me to hear such a very good acct of you all & I am sure it will make you try more won't it? Darling I cannot give you a Crinoline for I detest it for girls & you look a million times better without it darling. I will explain this to Miss Vice also. I myself am giving it up & here where I see many visitors I never wear it. All the Butlers have just been here to call & I showed them your picture Georgy Butler said he saw you as he passed through Kussowlie. I have escaped Ague to-day so far & am so deaf from the large dose

of Quinine I took this morning 3 large pills & Harry gave them to me all at once & so nearly choked me! I had to whip Tom this morning for he hit Annie so hard on her head. I hope that very soon "Lilians Golden hours"²⁰⁸ will come but I have not heard of it yet. When I send anything [torn] wd you like your Desk or any of your Books? In your "Boys own Book" there is something written by Mr Whymp²⁰⁹. Harry found it. It is about postage stamps & Mr Whymp had been telling Papa about it one day. I must tried to get you some Elastic. I bought some worsted needles for you yesterday & I will send them in this if I do not forget which I hope I shall not.

Mrs Murray is in the station but so very far away from this I don't know how to send for her. She sent her servant to tell me she had come. I wrote to Berty &

1

Coco by this Mornings post. God bless you my darling old girl. How are you getting on with the cushion? Papa is

sitting at another table very busy with papers. He sends you his fondest love with mine my pet. Ever with my best love to darling Berty, Willie & Coco your

own loving Mother
Don't write often my Boody
Uncle Tom's best love to you

[addressed as before c/o Mrs Vice]

1

Wednesday morning [5 Dec 1866]

My darling old girl, I was so very glad to get your dear little note yesterday & to hear you had recd. the parcel. Your next letter will tell me how you like the things. I am so vexed at Coco's being naughty. I will write by & by to Miss Vice about it. She only needed a little punishment for I think she has been much spoilt lately by the Vices. I will write to Coco also. I had intended doing so to-day but shall not have time I think. I wrote to Willie yesterday. I am tired this morning as I was up very late last night again, for Col. Davis dined here & as the Arbuthnots were still with us we had plenty of music. I don't think the Arbuthnots are coming any more regularly. We are all going to

dine at Col. Davis to-morrow night. You

1v

wd. have laughed to have seen little Tom yesterday. I called for the whip in fun & he ran away & got somebody to give it to him & was back with it giving it to me & holding out his hand to be beaten! When I told him to turn round to be beaten he did it so much enjoying the fun! He says so many words now. He & Annie saw an Bear & Monkeys yesterday & in the day Annie said "Mama I are Dotty, the Baloo eat your little Annie." She told me another time "I call the Baloo to eat me up." & when I said "What shall I do without my Annie", she said "Then why you say I Tom Finger's little girl!"?!! I was so much better yesterday feeling so strong & I played a great deal on the

Piano, practising darling as you must, the same bars over and over again. Those letters that Harry asked what they spelt you must arrange. They spell an official name (a funny one) & it begins with a "T". There is an Ayah here wanting service as she has a number of good chits, but ask Miss Vice to let me know by return of post what wages she will give & if she will take the husband too for without the husband I don't think any Ayah will go. Annie said she sd. like a pup very much tell Mrs Nicholas, though I had to explain what a pup was to her! I am longing to see my cushion & shall value it very much darling. The little mat you made me so long ago, I keep on my dressing table. I am so very sorry that poor Willie goes on that way again. I don't know what is to be done I am sure. It will be too cold I suppose to put him on the floor.

1

Harry goes to the Harris sometimes for Cricket but was so put out yesterday not to find them at home. Goodbye my own darling Minnie. I keep as much away from Emma as possible. God bless you. With our fondest love to you all my darlings Ever your own loving Mother Harry, Annie & Tom send you so much love & many kisses

[addressed as before]

1

Monday Morning [10th Dec 1866]

My darling old girl, Won't you be glad to see dear Uncle Tom to-morrow? I hope you will get this to-morrow morning telling you of his visit. He leaves this to-night with Mr Whympier. I am so sorry I have nothing to send you this time but useful things. Papa had bought a pair of boots for you but I don't think they look large enough though they have been made longer than your foot. They are very expensive 13/ so you must take great care of them. Try them on carefully & if they do not fit quite loosely send them back by Uncle Tom & we will get you another pair. Papa will send you another bottle of Glycerine & tooth powder. I am so very sorry your hands are so bad darling. You shd. have used the Glycerine as soon as you got it.

1v

I will also send sugar cane. Little Tom fell down two steps from the bathing room door yesterday & he has got all the skin off his nose nearly! He scarcely cried at all though he cut his forehead too. Harry called him such a brave boy for he bears pain so well! I am so angry at you having been

scolded after having been told to tell me of Coco that I will never attend again to any message of any kind that may be sent through you darling. I don't care what it is I shall take no notice. They must always write themselves. Miss Vice made no remark about Miss Parsons business. I shall send stamps by Uncle Tom darling. Col. Davis arrived here last night. I was not very well

again yesterday, only aguish but I feel all right now. I went to the Races on Saturday Mr Whymper drove me & it was so hot on the stand. A Bride was there, Mrs Becker²¹⁰ & she was dressed in the newest fashion & had no crinoline & about one petticoat. Her dress was very thin & clung about her & she had such a curious bonnet, a four cornered thing on top of her head! Another lady was there without crinoline also, so you see they are quite going out & if they were not nothing wd. induce me to let you wear anything like Crinoline ever darling. God bless you my own girl, Kiss the other darlings for me & tell Coco to kiss you for me & with my best love to you
Ever your own loving Mother

[addressed care of Miss Vice]

1

Tuesday Afternoon [11th Dec 1866]

My darling Minnie I hope your are having a very happy day with dear Uncle Tom to-day & have spent it with him at the Brewery.²¹¹ We agreed last night that that wd. be the best way of his seeing you all & he said he wd. arrange it so I have been thinking of you all my children as passing the day with him & I know how happy you will be. He left this a little after ten last night & I daresay Uncle Tom will tell you what fun we had here. Col. Davis dined here & Mrs Arbuthnot came after dinner & they had such fun with her pretending my little round pillow was her baby & every now & then pretending it was crying when she was singing. She pretended to throw a book at Uncle Tom and then she chased him round the room.

1v

When she was going they made Harry take the pillow to her to take away & she took it & ran after Harry all round & round the table! Two of my chickens have been carried off by Kites to-day. Harry threw stones at the kite but it wd. not drop the poor chicken. Did you like the Oranges & sugar cane darling? I hope the boots fitted. I sent you some envelopes & stamps one rupees worth of blue ones & 4 anna ones & a little bit of velvet for your neck. I had nothing else to send. I got your dear letter yesterday & was so glad to get it. I am so sorry I have nothing that you want to draw from & am so very glad to hear you

are getting on. Don't work too hard at your cushion darling. Any time will do to send it to me & I shall value it so much & Coco's mat tell her they brought me so little wool I had no choice so I sent 2 shades of mauve & 2 of red. The blue was so ugly I sent the mauve instead & hope it will do. Is Willie going on being naughty? Take care of the Glycerine for it costs 3/ a bottle. I hope other people won't use it again but just my children must do so. I am so grieved your hands & ancles are so bad darling. How nasty that Mrs Byrne²¹² kissing you! I told Anne she was "Snooks" child & she said "Then I call a chimpanzee

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to bring a gun & kill me"! Little Tom has no skin on his nose from his fall poor boy. Good bye my own darling. I am very tired to-day.

I don't think I shall go to the Ball. I saw Major Lane yesterday. With so many kisses & my fondest love to you all my darling children Your own loving Mother

[addressed as before]

1

Thursday Evening [13 Dec 1866]

My own darling Child

I got your dear letter yesterday & am so grieved to find Mrs Vice has been again scolding. One word from me will stop it but of course I won't say anything unless you like, though I shd like so much to stop it. I know Miss Vice is kindness itself but I wish she wd interfere to stop her mother. I hope darling you had a happy day yesterday with dear Uncle Tom. He has talked of you so much & I am so very glad he has seen you all my pet. I have been

1v

ailing all day or I shd. have written you a long letter. Now I am writing after dinner so can only send a note. I have sent for your pony & want it sent down at once; directly Miss Vice receives my note with this. If I am well to-morrow I am going to a Parade with Mrs Arbuthnot. Uncle Tom commands the Cavalry Parade! Don't kiss Mrs Byrne or let her kiss you. I wd. just as soon you kissed the

Mehtur.²¹³ Tell Berty he is not to go to Miss Parson's & he must say he is not to & it is my order. These things vex me & I am very glad darling you tell me of them. Of course I won't mention them darling. Don't cry when that Mrs Vice scolds you. Say I wd mind it darling. I only wish Miss Vice had you all to herself. God bless you my child. Kiss all the pets for me. With my fondest love
Every your own loving Mother M. Jones
I am so glad the boots fitted darling

[addressed as usual]

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Saturday afternoon [22 Dec 1866]

My own darling child

I have never ceased thinking of you my pet & wondering how you are getting on. I do trust my own child you are suffering less pain. My heart aches so much for you my own darling Minnie to think of your terrible fall & great suffering my child away from Mama. I long to hear how you are my pet & whether you enjoyed your visit to the drawing room. It must have been a nice change for you if no cold hurt you darling but you must take good care of yourself & get no chill. The two cakes have just been sugared & I hope you will like them. I sent that work box Uncle Tom once

gave you & there are some of your letters in it. I also send you the book you lent me darling "Laura Everingham"²¹⁴ & the "Old Helmet"²¹⁵ you lent me. Mrs Arbuthnot who also lends you two books "The Pilot"²¹⁶ & "Days of Bruce"²¹⁷. She brought over others but I don't quite like them for you. I sent two or three of your own books & wish I had something new to send you. Darling I was so pleased with you for wishing to spend your money on Coco to save me expense. You dont know how very much it pleased me, but darling I bought your ear-rings with 5/ of your money as I thought you wished. Only fancy who is taking your

things but don't tell anybody he is going to Kussowlie for I have a very particular reason for the Johnsons²¹⁸ not knowing. Uncle Tom is going to Kussowlie to-morrow! I am so very sorry he will not spend his Xmas here but he is going up on business about our house so be sure & don't tell darling. Papa went to an auction to-day for we wanted a side-board very much & he bought one & also three nice cows which I am so glad to have.

I was wiping Annies nose & she said "don't take of my nose you little monkey". She is so funny. When you ask Tom what his name is he says "Tom" & he says so many words now.

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Fancy! Annie is pretending to read a letter & she is saying "I don't know where my little Minnie is, up at Kussolie" she is going on talking so funnily.

God bless you my precious old girl. I am so very anxious for to-morrows letter darling. Kiss the little ones for me. With my fondest love my child
Ever your own loving mother

[addressed as previously]

Letter from Minnie to her parents in Umballa

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Cristmas Eve [24 Dec. 1866]

My own dear darling Mama & dear darling Papa & all

I wish you a very merry Xmas & a happy new year for though it is only Xmas Eve this will reach you on Xmas day. You cant think how much better my mouth is I can eat nearly anything & I have got up today out of bed & you cant tell how nice it is. Fancy? all the children came home to-day from their walk (& Charlie²¹⁹) saying they had just seen Uncle Tom and that he had told them that he would come down after his brekfast to see us but brekfast has long been over & he has not come. The Apothicarry (Mr Kelly²²⁰) has just gone away after dressing my face & says that it is getting

1v

on so nicely but my hand is not as well as he could wish so he tied it up in a handkerchief. Mr Whympers has just sent us oh such beautiful things I can hardly tell you two large bottles of English sweetmeats for Berty & Willie - Such a beautiful thing for me a kind of marble stand with (a quilt or something the colour of gold) goat dragging a glass inkstand you cant tell how pleased I am with it

and a large trumpet & horn for Berty & Willie & a whip each, Coco a little tea-set and two boxes of fishes, Miss Vice a box of soap Mr Vice a box full of large bottles of Eudecolonge was it not very kind of him I have just written to thank him and Mrs Vice also & has [sic] sent him a number of Xmas presents. Fancy! before I could say anything the Vices had sent Berty, Willie, and

Coco, down to the brewery to Uncle Tom and have just come back saying Uncle Tom has gone down to Mrs. Byrne's I really dont know what to do dear Mama for Charlie says he saw Uncle Tom this morning so the Vices made everything ready for him the Chaprassie who brought the things from Mr Whymper says he has not come & when the Vices asked me if you had mentioned him I said no. Mr W also sent Mrs Nicholas some hair oil and a rattle for baby²²¹. Fancy! this morning I got such a kind note from Mrs Arbuthnot & such a pretty set of studs - have you seen them? I am just going to write & thank her. I hope you will like what I have sent you dear Mama for Xmas & hope you will get the mistletoe. Miss Vice says

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I must not write anymore on account of my hand - so I must stop soon. You dont know how sorry I am dear darling Mama that you should have been so frightened about me for I am nearly allright now. I am so looking forward to the cakes and other things, Miss V has made 2 such beautiful cakes for Xmas 11/ each. The house is so nicely decorated. I was so glad to get darling Harry's letter & to know dear Mama that you have been able to ride my pony. The Vices I think are going to the Saviour Church²²² tomorrow & they all say I must wear a veil because my face looks so bad but of course I shant. Fancy! I have been playing & running outside to-day. That nasty Mr Johnson & Mrs Byrne are coming to spend their Xmas here tomorrow & I am so very sorry. The Children say that Uncle Tom told them he was coming here. Dont be uneasy about us dear Mama

God bless you my darling darling Mama & Papa I so wish I could see you all again. All the Vices wish you all a merry Xmas & a happy new year.

I wish you could see what Mr W has sent me

Letters from Maria to Minnie at Kussowlie

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Xmas day [25 dec 1866]

My own darling Minnie

I had scarcely recd. & read your dear Xmas letter when the coolie came with the parcel. I cannot describe darling the happiness it has given me opening it darling looking at all the dear things. Fancy you having made that very pretty jacket all yourself my pet! I love it my child for your dear sake & value it more than any jacket I have. It is such a surprise. When I saw it I thought Miss Vice had made it until I read the dear little note. How well you have kept your secret darling. The tears came to my eyes with pleasure as I looked

1v

at your dear work my child. You beat your mother darling for I cd. not make such a pretty jacket. In every way it is nice darling so nicely made & so prettily braided my darling. I am so very much surprised at you doing it so nicely your first attempt & I am so glad to see you are so handy with

your needle my child. How hard you must have worked, I am so surprised. I am saying nothing about the dear cushion which I do so admire & love for your dear sake my pet. I shall have it made up at once & use it always with such pride that my little daughter

made it darling. I have hung up the mistletoe in the drawing room. - I began this, this morning after reading & then the Arbuthnots came & she stayed to tiffin. I walked over with her to her house & have come back in the Buggy. I showed your dear work & they were so surprised and admired it so much darling & Mrs A. said "I cd. not make such a jacket". She got your letter when here and was so pleased with it. I did just peep at your studs but Uncle Tom did not quite like my opening the letter. I wanted so much to see what she had sent you. Papa has been five days at work mending his fiddle. He opened that big English box which we packed at

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Murree & every thing was wet through & the fiddle in a thousand pieces, such a terrible pity. Little Tom was singing to himself today "Come Minnie, Come Toto" over & over again! Did I tell you the Artillery give a Ball on the 31st, & have asked us? I don't know if I shall go but perhaps I may for a short time. How glad you will be to see Uncle Tom. I had a letter from him & he said he was just going to see you darling. He went about our house for Mrs Byrne made Mr Johnson write such horribly impertinent letters we did not know what to do. Mr Johnson is a great rogue & nobody

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trusts him or that Mrs Byrne. I am so sorry they are spending this day with you all. You don't know how very deeply thankful I am your dear mouth is better. I do so hope your head is also by this time. I have been so very unhappy about you darling thinking of all your sufferings & of having your wounds dressed darling. I am so very very glad you have been out my pet & now you must get all right. Annie looks so lovely in her cap. If I have not time to write to Miss Vice tell her so with my love. She never had anything so becoming on before. For little Coco, I must write a line to tell her how I love

2v

the dear little pin cushion she has sent me, the little pet. I am so glad the things arrived to-day darling.

God bless you my beloved child. How very kind indeed of Mr Whympers sending you such beautiful presents. I shall write to him myself. I am so grateful to him.

Ever with our fondest love my darling children

Your own loving Mother

Kiss darling Bertie, Willie & Coco for me darling.

The Ayah is so surprised & delighted at your work!

Harry's best love & Annie's & Tom's

Sweetest kisses my darling. Little Tom has a bad finger. It had jammed in the door & I think he will lose the nail poor boy.

[addressed as usual]

Umballa Friday [25 Jan 1867]

My darling old Pins, I got your very welcome letter this morning my pet. You still write every other day & glad as I am darling to get your dear nice letters I feel what a great task it is to you with all your lessons darling & really wd. rather you shd. amuse yourself when you have leisure. I have had the Mare again all this week but her owner (Major Taylor)²²³ is to be back again to-day or tomorrow so I shall lose her again. There was a Parade this morning of all the troops & I rode "Bessie". I thought of how frightened you

1v

used to get at the Guns. Bessie never moved when the Guns fired. I was a few yards in front of Uncle Tom's Regt. when they suddenly began to Gallop & I had to gallop too just in front of them & I did not mind it in the slightest! There were plenty of people on Parade looking on. I have four Hens sitting on Eggs now. The Hen that went to lay her Eggs in Uncle Toms room began to sit on her own accord in the room at last so I put her in a Box & she has not once

Moved as I put her food in the Box. I am so sorry Miss Vice has lost so many fowls. Ask her if she wd. like to buy a couple of Game fowls, as large as small turkeys, such magnificent creatures. I have ordered a pair. They brought me some and asked me 9/ for the two & Capt Arbuthnot got them for 4/-. Another man says he will bring me some more. I want so much to write to Willie & Coco & hope to do so in a day or two. Never mind their writing as it gives you so much trouble. Did Berty get my letter? We asked little Tom something last night & he said "don't know" as well as we say it! It did so surprise us. Annie had an arrow in her mouth & ran against the wall & it hurt her so much she

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cd. not sleep all the night before last. She brought me a bit of paper just now & said "I got paper, I write to dear Minnie". Harry goes shooting with Papa & shoots so well that he killed

three out of four birds he aimed at! I am so glad Charlie liked his pencil. Never mind about your hat darling only I would be very careful about everything now. Papa & Uncle Tom send their very best love and so do I, Harry, Annie & Tom

God bless you my child Ever your loving Mother

I am so very sorry the dear baby suffers so much. Tell Miss Vice to alter the Dhace's ²²⁴ food for a few days. Perhaps she eats what disagrees with baby

[addressed as previously]

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Thursday 31st [Jan 1867]

My darling old girl

I have just written to dear Coco & now must write you a few lines darling. I hope your have ere this received your Book. It will be a great treat to you reading it again. I wish Harry's book had

come in time for his birthday. The Harris boys are coming to spend his birthday with him. Papa met Georgy²²⁵ yesterday & asked them. It was Mr Kolbul's day for coming yesterday but he was not able to come as he was helping these Italians who are going to give a Concert here. Major Wahab²²⁶ came just as we had finished tiffin & we had some music with him. To night Mrs Trench is

1v

going to dine here & she is also going to spend Saturday here & I forgot at the time it will be our music day when so many people are always here. Did I tell you that after all Dr Sylvester has to go back to Bombay. He feels it so very much indeed leaving the Regt. He is selling all his nice things & his beautiful Carriage only just received from Calcutta. It is very hard for him. A Dr Grant²²⁷ is coming in his place & I think he expects to go next week. Tom is always speaking of "poor Minnie darlin Tote" in such a sad tone

pointing to his chin where you were hurt. He is growing such a fine boy & so handsome. Annie is also growing a big big girl & does say such funny things. I have had a nice cushion for the couch made & new pillows & it looks so very nice & your pretty cushion looks so nice on it & so handsome. The Ball was a very good one I hear & people did not leave until four in the morning! The Buggy is mended again I am glad to say. 12 o'clock. I have just recd. your nice long letter my child. Don't go back to Miss Vices room if are so comfortable. I think much of your getting good nights rest. On no account lift any more heavy stones. You may injure yourself for life & remember this is a positive order whoever asks you to lift anything heavy. You cannot guess darling how terribly you may hurt yourself & never recover it.

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I shall be very glad when all those boys are off for not being gentlemen I particularly dislike your mixing with them. It was very good of that little Hay giving you those nice presents but remember

he is not of your own rank & so I shd. not like you to be seen mixing with him & the others & they can do you no good but on the contrary harm. How very kind Mr Whymper is to you all. I want you to take nice long walks this nice cold weather darling. Tom says "beast" now & he cannot help laughing when he is angry he said "beast Harry" "beast Salah" God bless you. Papa & Uncle Tom send their very best love & so does Harry & kisses from Annie & Tom.

With my fondest love your own loving

Mother

[addressed as before]

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Saturday [2nd Feb 1867]

My very dear child

I am expecting Mrs Trench at eleven so must write you a short letter today darling. She is coming for the day & this is music day too so I shall have no time. Yesterday was Harry's birthday which I hope you all remembered. I went out calling & drove Harry to the Harris' & he came back with Georgy & Eddie in their Buggy. I went quite to them & their end of the station & altogether paid eleven visits I called on the Bernards. He was at Phillour when first we went there when you were

not quite two! He said he should so much like to see you again after so many years. I called on Mrs Montague²²⁸ who acted. Last of all I went to the Twysdens²²⁹ where Mrs Trench was. They were at tiffin so

1v

I had some tiffin & they made me send the Buggy home & stay to go with them their Mail Phaeton²³⁰ to a Race that was to come off. I was only between two ponies but lots of people were there. I was quite surprised to see Uncle Tom come on the ground for he had gone out pig sticking & we did not expect him back until early this morning. The Harris' stayed to dinner but I was too tired to play cards or anything. Amy²³¹ wanted to come so much but her Mama said she got so rough & rude playing with boys. I have been out for a drive this morning with Papa & Annie went with us. I have heard nothing more of the Concert I told you

of. You will be soon getting snow at Kussowlie & I wonder what you will think of it It will be grand fun for you all darling. Coco will get my letter to-day & I must write to dear old Willie to-morrow. To-day I have no time. I do hope they are trying to get on with their reading. Tell them to try. Give my love to Miss Vice & all. With our fondest love to you all darling children, ever your own loving Mother

12. o clock. Just received your dear note. So very vexed about the book darling. How horrid about Mrs N.

[addressed as before]

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Monday [4 Feb 1867]

My darling old girl

Harry was so pleased with your nice letter to him yesterday darling. I always get your dear letters regularly every other day but I still [wish] you would not write so often dear as your letters are my child, for you can have but little time & I like you to run about as much as much as possible. I hope you have got your Book to yourself ere this. It was most unkind & selfish taking it from you. I think Mr Whympers will be here this week & when he returns I will send what Miss Vice wants. It is deadly poison so I

1v

hope she will be most careful of it. She must let me know what quantity she wants of braid also. I am going out paying more visits to-day & then I shall have done.

Uncle Tom went away last night after dinner & I think he will be away a fortnight. On Wednesday we are going to have lots of music. Mrs Tweddell²³² is coming & she plays most wonderfully. Col. Wroughton²³³ is coming & he is going to make me a pie & a pudding for the tiffin.

Mrs Trench is coming so we shall have quite a party with Mrs Arbuthnot & perhaps Mr Whympers! We had such fun when Mrs Trench was here on Saturday. Col. Davis was here & stayed tiffin & we did laugh so much You don't know how glad I am those boys are gone for I did not at all like them being so much with you darling They are not fit companions for you. Kiss the dear children for me

& give them our fondest love. Breakfast is on the table & I will say good bye my pet. God bless you darling. Ever with my fondest love & kisses your own loving mother
3pm. Paid my visits & on my return found your nice letter of

1

yesterday. We thought you must have had snow & I know you will have great fun. I am so glad you & Susan get on so nicely now & say your prayers regularly my child. I am so glad also

your have your book darling Give my love to Miss Vice & all. Is not the snow pretty?
Good bye again darling.

[addressed as before]

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Wednesday [6th Feb 1867]

My own darling Pins

I have just finished the dhobie & now begin this whilst breakfast is coming & I fear my letter will be a very short one for Mrs Trench is coming early & Mrs Tweddell also to spend the day besides Col. Wroughton & Mr Kolbul. It bothers me a little for I think it will be such a crush at tiffin. Mr Whymper is not coming So does Miss Vice want the things sent or will she wait for an opportunity? I had asked Mr Whymper here

1v

for a change as he is so very poorly but he is too unwell to move. Annie took a pencil & paper & wrote you a letter two days ago. She asked leave to put a crest (stamp) on & send it by Muddu Ali to the dak. She told me all sorts of things she had written to you about. I did not tell you that when Uncle Toms gharrie was at the door the other night she & Tom began to cry to go to you & Tom wd. have his hat on to go to "Minnie darlin", We cd not pacify them for a long time.

I suppose you have plenty of

snow now & I hope you have lots of fun throwing snow balls at one another. We are going to have tiffin at Col. Twysdens on Friday & on Monday we dined at the Arbuthnots, only ourselves.

12 o'clock. Annie is saying "I want so much to write to Minnie"! I have borrowed the Mess table for to-day & they are now putting it in the room. I have a pair of boots coming for you & Bertie from Cawnpore & I hope they will fit. I must end now darling. Kiss the darlings for me. How are they getting on? Ever with our fondest love & kisses, your own loving

Mother

& many kisses from the children to you dear & all

[addressed as before]

1

Friday [8th Feb 1867]

My very dear child

I was so glad to get your letter yesterday & am glad darling you did not write the day before as you were busy & besides had to write to Charlie to thank him for his very kind present of the knife. Papa & I are going to the Twysdens for tiffin to-day & Annie is begging me to take her & when I told her she had not been asked she said "you ask me then, & say Annie will you come with me to-day to Col Twysdens"? She is now writing to you. She came running in this morning & saying "I very tired I been for Minnie: she is outside" I told her to bring you in directly so she went away & came back saying "Minnie very tired & wants to sleep & will come in by & by"!! I had three little turkeys hatched to-day & I do so hope I shall be able to rear them.

On Wednesday we had lots of nice music. Mrs Tweddell sings &

1v

plays most beautifully & it was such a treat to hear her. Her singing is exquisite. Mrs Trench was so full of fun & kept us all in a roar of laughter. Mr Ferris called at tiffin time & stayed so we had a large party altogether. I am sorry that Mrs Trench has gone away for I do like her very much. She has to go away much sooner than we expected to meet her husband at Agra. She had such a pretty petticoat & petticoat body & the dersh is making me some like them. We had a letter from Uncle Tom yesterday. He was to reach his Farm on Wednesday. What will you say to our selling your pony? You must not mind it. It cost so much to keep it & we have no use for it here. In the Hills you must ride Harry's pony

in turns with him. I think the Harris' will buy your pony. It has gone for them to try & the money we have asked (50/) will be only for you. Yes certainly ask Miss Vice to buy a hymn book for you The cheapest kind will do. You do not mention the snow again but I hope you have great fun in it darling. I am very glad you are amusing yourself by making a doll & I daresay it will be very pretty. You should make Annie one! Capt & Mrs Arbuthnot have just been here chatting & now I must go out darling. Papa teaches Harry many hours now & he says he cannot possibly leave him & go out to tiffin so I must drive myself. Good bye my child Kiss the dear children for me

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& give them our fondest love. Ever with the same to yourself, your own loving mother. Love to all the Vices dear.

[addressed as before]

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Sunday [10th Feb 1867]

My very dear child, We were very glad to get your dear letter yesterday. It is very nice having such fun in the snow but I can quite understand your being tired of the dull gloomy weather. It certainly is not pleasant whilst it lasts. All my little turkeys (five) have been hatched & I am so pleased. I only hope they will live but they dont seem to eat anything & I believe they are very difficult to rear. On Tuesday some chickens ought to be hatched & more the next day! Col. Harris has bought

your dear old pony for 50/. You don't know how very sorry we were to part with him & Harry said it nearly made him cry to see the Harris boys riding him. The money is yours & now you have 10£ (ten pounds) enough to buy you a watch as soon as you reach England darling so you must not mind

1v

losing your pony. It was a great expense keeping him. I am so delighted at the progress you tell me the little ones are making. I shd. be so glad to hear them read well & find them getting on. What are you doing yourself? What History are you reading & do you remember what you read & think you are getting on well? I will get the copy books for the children & send them as soon as I can. Mr Koelbul & Major Wahab came yesterday for music & Mrs Arbuthnot also, and we had a lot of capital music.

[In another hand] Mrs & Miss Lyster called while we were playing & they formed our audience - Can you guess who writes this? Dear Pins, I was reading Mama's letter while every one is calling Harry to prayers

[Back to Maria] It is beginning to rain here to-day after threatening a long time, & I daresay it is looking nearly as dismal as you have it at Kussowlie but then we have not the pretty snow to look at as you have! Mrs Murray told me to remember her to you when I wrote

I went to her house on my way to the Twysdens the other day to see a dress she is making for Mrs Trench. Papa did not go after all to the Twysdens to tiffin. I went alone & in the evening they took me for such a nice drive in their Mail Phaeton. I did so enjoy it. I hope I shall have some horse rides when Uncle Tom comes back if "Bessie" is not sold which I hope she will not be. At all events I can ride Mr Whymper's pony. Do you hear anything of Mrs Eagle now since she went to Simla?

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Good bye my darling old Girl. Kiss the little ones for me & give them our fondest love & with the same to yourself darling Ever your own loving Mother

Annie is longing to go to Kussowlie to be with you all again.

[addressed as before]

1

Tuesday 12th [Feb 1867]

My darling old girl, I had just taken up my pen to write to you when your nice long letter of Sunday came. Do be careful my darling how you ride. I am so grieved to hear of your fall. You might have hurt yourself seriously particularly as the ponies were kicking. I am so glad you had such a long walk to Sanawar²³⁴ & trust you are not the worse for the walking. Plenty of exercise is the thing for you old woman. You must remember the Bushmans²³⁵. It was their brother gave you the pony. I am quite surprised at his writing to Miss Vice without mentioning it to me. Tell Miss Vice that Mrs Bushman is a lady, visited everywhere. Her husband is Veterinary Surgeon (Horse doctor) & they are never anything very nice

1v

The child seemed a nice little thing when I saw her the other day when calling on the Bushmans. I

will try to write to Miss Vice myself about her. I am so vexed at Coco's behaving so badly It is so very silly & I wish Miss Vice wd. punish her for it. However I shall not mention it darling. 13 chickens were hatched yesterday & there are still two eggs under the hen & perhaps they may still be hatched. The little turkeys are getting on so nicely & they like onions better than anything, like you Pins! How very pleased Annie will be with the doll. She is always talking about you & wants so very much to go to Kussowlie to you. Papa has such trouble with Harry

he is so slow at learning. He has a letter half finished for you & I hope he will finish it soon, but he does take such a time writing! In case I do not write tell Miss Vine what I have said about the Bushmans. I thought there must be a row sometime or other with that Miss Parson, horrid old thing. They are getting up more theatricals here but I don't know when they will come off. I am very glad that Berty & Willie went to the Brewery. It wd. be a nice walk for you all darling. I have not heard again from Uncle Tom & I don't know when he will be back. Mrs Murray was here yesterday & she enquired for you as she always does. She has made that dress of Mrs Basdens (yours!) fit me & it has made me a beautiful dress. Aren't you glad? There

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is to be a grand Ball the day after to-morrow but I am not going. I have just told Annie of the doll & her face does look so very bright & happy. She says "darling

Minnie dood puss generous"! Good bye my darling old girl. Give our best love to the darlings & with the same to yourself dear
your own loving Mother

[addressed as before]

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Umballa Thursday [14th Feb 1867]

My very dear child

I was so very glad to get your letter this morning & to hear you are getting on with your lessons It is very nice your reading by yourself also & that is the way to get on. Harry's letter is finished at least by Papa's help! He is so stupid at letter writing & what he wd do if he went to school I don't know. Papa has him some hours a day now teaching & it is such trying work for him. Annie is so very anxious for her doll that she told me to-day it was quite hot, & I said when it was hot I wd. go to Kussowlie! Her letter was on thick paper but I will send it when I send anything. It is only strokes,

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done by herself, not a letter written for her. Shall I send your saddle when I can? You might be able to ride sometimes as you had a pony the other day. I am so interested in my chickens, & now have 34 & more most likely hatched by this time. We had music as usual yesterday, but on Saturday there is to be a large pic-nic in the Civil Lines so I don't think anybody will come. Papa & I play a little every afternoon now "Bessie" is going to be raffled for 100 tickets at 16/ each. I wonder who will be the lucky person to win her. We did not take a ticket for we never win anything ever, but should I not like

to have "Bessie"? I am sorry Mrs Vice wd. not let you go to the Brewery to dinner. I only wrote yesterday & told Miss Vice she cd. let you go & that was before knowing you had been asked! Was it not odd? What had they done about Mrs Bushman's child? Miss Vice says Coco will soon read as well as she does but that Berty & Willie are so backward in their reading. Annie wd. soon read I am sure if I began to teach her for she is such a clever child. Tom calls the fowls "owls" & always takes any of his dinner he leaves to the "owls!! I don't remember even the name of Dr Chester so I cannot fancy his knowing you. Tiffin is on the table so I will say good bye my darling old girl. Kiss the

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dear children for me & give them our fondest love & with the same to yourself your own loving Mother

I hope Miss Vice is better

Please give her my love & Mrs Vice & Mrs Nicholas

[addressed as before]

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Monday ½ past 2 [18th Feb 1867]

My darling old girl -

I was afraid I shd. not have been able to have written to you to-day for Mr Whymper has been sitting here & has only just gone. He goes again to-morrow evening & by him I shall send your saddle & boots for you & Berty. Be sure & tell me if they fit nicely. I also send two bits of ribbon for your neck, mauve & blue nothing else this time darling. Thank Miss Vice with my love for her letter. I had the cord sent me from the Bazaar to-day but the man won't take one pice less than 1/4 a yard & as Miss Vice said I was not

1v

to got beyond 1/ I have sent it back. Bell the tailor wants 1/8 for the same cord. I can still get it if Miss Vice wants it & send by another opportunity. So Miss Vice is going to take the little Bushman. She & Coco will be able to play together & I hope she will prove a nice child. It is such and windy dusty day so disagreeable. Papa works so hard at the Piano & is doing it so nicely. He has let in a new bit of wood for the Pegs beautifully. Harry was singing "Bengali Baboo"²³⁶ yesterday to Tom & he was

so delighted that he kept on saying "more Baboo". Afterwards Annie sang a song & it was such fun & Tom leapt in "I, Mama" so we let him have his turn & he sang such sweet notes, of course no words! Annie was so delighted to see Mr Whymper yesterday when he came & he said Coco told him not to give Annie his love!

I think Uncle Tom will be back on Thursday. We had a letter from him from Lahore yesterday. Tiffin is on the table so I must send you only this short letter to-day. God bless you darling With our fondest love & kisses to you all love your loving Mother

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[addressed as before]

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Umbala 19th [Feb. 1867]

My darling old girl

I send you the ribbon with my best love also the boots & saddle. I got your very welcome letter this morning & will get the wools but I expect there will be delay in getting them. I wd. rather have your own cushion finished if you can do it dear. A man has just come here with Cocoa nuts & I send one for you children. There are things like eyes, knock out one & drink the milk first & then cut off the top & eat it

1v

as you did that once here. I may not be able to write tomorrow so don't be looking out for a letter for two or three days. It will be my Dhobie's day & also music day, always a difficult one to write on. Annie has just said to me "I don't know what to do for my doll, it is getting hot at Kussowlie I know it is"!! She is for ever saying we must go to Kussowlie quickly!

We have had such lots of visitors to-day & I am so very tired now. One of them I knew at Berhampore when you were ten months old & have not seen him since! Mr Whymper is going to dine with us to-night & leave from this for Kussowlie. God bless you darling With fondest love to you & all Ever your loving mother

I am so glad you have such nice long walks my pet.

Tell me exactly how the boots fit.

[no envelope - probably carried with the coconut by Mr Whymper]

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Umbala Thursday [21st Feb 1867]

My darling old girl, I was so tired yesterday I cd. not write but I had written to you on the two previous days. To our great surprise Uncle Tom arrived yesterday about tiffin time. We were so glad to see him again & he enquired directly for you and the others. He is going to dine with us to-night, for last night he dined at Mess as it was Dr Sylvesters last night & he left for Bombay after dinner, very sorry to leave a Regt. he has been with so long. Mr Koelbul & Major Wahad came yesterday & we played all the afternoon. Now Uncle Tom is back I

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am going to ask Mrs Tweddell to come again that he may hear her beautiful singing. My chickens are all getting on so nicely & on Sunday another brood ought to be hatched. No man has brought any wools yet & if none are brought I will ask Mrs Murray to get them in the Bazaar for you. I shd. so much like to have that cushion but shd like the one you began with Mrs Curtis²³⁷ as it was your first piece of work. Tom still always talks of your "tote" on your chin! He is such a handsome boy.

Take care of your saddle. See that it is put in a nice place & that your girths are not lost. Our Syces are always changing ours when they are. I hope I shall have some rides on "Bessie" now as Major Taylor²³⁸ says [cut] can come back here [cut] Uncle Tom is here [cut] in the 94th is making you all Boots & I think they will be very strong. Harry's are so nice. I hear Mrs Nicholas is tired of having that baby²³⁹ but don't tell them I said so. How do they get on with Miss Parson now? Good bye darling. I am writing this before breakfast. Kiss the dear little ones for me. Did Coco get my letter? With out fondest love to you & all

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Ever your loving mother.
I sent Miss Vice some money yesterday. I hope she recd. it all right.

[addressed as before]

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Umbala Febry 23rd [1867]

My darling child I hope I shall hear today that you are all right again. I was grieved to hear you were feeling ill & had those nasty dreams, a sure sign you wanted a dose & I am so glad you were going to have Castor oil. I did not know your cushion was packed. I will send the canvas for another. Papa hurt his leg so terribly yesterday. He broke he thinks a muscle in it. It went with a slip & gave him terrible pain.

He was walking with Harry a long way from home & Harry had to go to Uncle Tom's hospital & get a doolie for him to bring him

1v

home & he c. not move all day. To-day he is better though quite lame & is now tuning the Piano. We went out in the Buggy this morning & went to the Shoe maker's who is making your Boots. They are to be ready by Wednesday. I went to a Parade yesterday on Mr Whympers pony & enjoyed it very much. I rode nearly all the time with Dr Grant who has come in Dr Sylvesters place & he seems a very nice man. I hope to have a ride on "Bessie" to-night. Tell Miss Vice I will get her the cord & it is no trouble.

This is our music day. When you send a sheet of paper in an Envelope always put an anna stamp on darling for when you put a blue one on I always have to pay an anna besides. Only remember with a sheet & envelope. You ought to walk more than you ride this nice cold weather & then you are more likely to keep quite well. What are Berty & Willie reading now? I shd, like to know what they can do in that way. What a pity it is they are so stupid. God bless you my child Ever with our fondest love & many kisses from the children to you all Ever your loving Mother

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[addressed as before]

Friday [1st Mar 1867]

My very dear child, I [cut] glad to get your little [cut] yesterday telling me you were all well. I began my letter before 7 o'clock this morning for I am so [cut] some days & can scarcely [cut] to write then. Yesterday M[cut] Mullin²⁴⁰ came & we had a long practice & just as she went at 2 o'clock Mrs Bushman called & she stayed & had tiffin here. I don't think her little girl²⁴¹ will go to Miss Vice until the 1st April unless it gets hot here. I am so glad you saw the Taylors. I did not know they were at Kussowlie. Yesterday I had two long letters from Major Curtis. I think being likely he will be at Kussowlie this season Mrs Curtis sailed on the 10th At one of the Railway stations on the way down, Georgy²⁴² saw a train

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coming into the station, or "[cut]house" as he called it & [cut] the line to stop it. He was only just snatched up by a man in time to save h[cut] When in Calcutta he went to [cut] some games in charge of [cut] nurse & when she wanted to go home she cd. not find Georgy anywhere! Can you fancy Mrs Curtis' fright when she found that Georgy was missing? She went in one direction & her father in another hunting everywhere. At last she found him in one of the large Calcutta shops close to his home, being feasted with sweetmeats by the people in the shop! He said he was tired of staying with the nurse & was quite big enough to go home alone! For both these things

he got two good whippings from his grandpapa [cut] not been out this morning[cut] yesterday I had such a nice ride on Mr Whymper's pony & did so enjoy it. I have not yet ridden "Bessie" & [cut] now don't know when I sh[cut] One of the little turkeys [cut]d yesterday I am sorry to say. I have more chickens being hatched to-day. A few were out when I looked just now. How is it Willie is so naughty? I am so vexed about it I think he & Berty will both feel stopping their pocket money. Surely these children can write me short notes alone. Not one have they written since they went back & Coco cd write a note before she went to school. Did she get my last letter? Good bye my darling old girl. Give my fondest love & kisses

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to the darlings & beg them to be g[cut] children. Ever with the [cut] to yourself, your own [cut] mother.

The Ball is put off

[addressed as before]

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Sunday [3rd Mar 1867]

My very dear child, I have had a nice ride this morning on Mr Whymper's pony, & now begin this before breakfast. I rode "Bessie" on Friday evening & she was so very fresh my arms still ache so much from holding her! Just as we were starting we heard the Ball is to come off, so I went. I danced a great deal & as the floor is a bad one my feet are so very sore & painful that yesterday afternoon I had to sit without my shoes & stockings! The dances were so very quick, one after another that I cd. get no rest but I enjoyed myself exceedingly. I wore my English silk again.

On Tuesday we are going to have a musical party in the afternoon after tiffin & I so look forward to it. Mrs Macmullan, Mrs & the Miss Nicholls²⁴³, Mrs Arbuthnot Miss Gowan are coming & Mrs Tweddell I hope Dr Grant, Mr Bax Capt Jackson²⁴⁴ of Uncle Tom's Regt. Mr Smyth & Mr Robertson of Papas old Regt. & I think one or two others! Uncle Tom is proposing a little dancing too, which wd. be great fun. I have your wools & Miss Vines silk & wait for an opportunity to send them. The dersh is going for the canvass to the Bazaar to-day. When you write to me darling, look at my last letter & see if there were any questions to be answered. I have asked very often about your Boots whether they fitted you.

I am now going to send another pair & if they fit you every way the man will make you more. I asked also of Miss Vice for the measure of the childrens heads for solah hats but she has taken no notice. Ask if there are any small houses for rent at Kussowlie about 600/ rent & answer me. Miss Vice wd perhaps enquire for me. Ask her to with my love. A house of 3 rooms wd. do for a friend of ours who asked me to look out for one.

1 p.m. After breakfast I got your note enclosing your exercise with which we are very much pleased. It is exceedingly well done & we are very glad to find you are so perfect in your grammar. I am also much pleased with Coco's & Bertys sums & wish to see Willies also. The other morning

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Annie came in to my room & seeing my Ball dress she said "oh whose pretty clothes these, Yours my pretty one"? to me. This morning when I was waking she said "you want to sleep my

darling son, I want you to wake"! God bless you my dear child. Ever with our fondest love
Your own loving mother

[addressed as before]

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Tuesday [5th Mar 1867]

My darling old girl -

Only a line to-day as I must try & & ri[cut] little before setting[cut] for my party this afternoon. Four or five are coming to tiffin & I think very nearly 20 people afterwards when there will be tea & coffee wine & c & c. I hope it will be a pleasant party & think it will be. Last night we went to the theatre & it was so very very good. We did not get home until half past one for there were

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three pieces acted & all so very amusing. In one piece Mrs Montague sang [cut] & it was so very [cut]ly. She & Mrs Nairn were the only ladies again.

I have your canvass & wools & as soon as I have got all Mr Whymper wants shall send them with his. Mrs Macmullen came again yesterday & we practised duets again for to-day. I called for her in the Buggy as I returned from paying two visits. Do you remember the Mackenzies

at Peshawar? They had a Xmas tree once there. They lost a little girl²⁴⁵ very suddenly when there. Do you remember? They are living here n[cut] I was so glad to see them [cut] again. It is getting [cut] here. I wish it would come down to rain. It had been threatening & thundering all night & this morning.

1p.m. good bye darling. With out fondest love to you all. Ever you loving mother.
Miss Gowan & Mrs Macmullen are here & we have just played a trio on the Piano

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[addressed as before]

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Thursday [7th Mar 1867]

My very dear child

I was so glad to get your letter with the childrens nice notes the evening [cut] before last. Tell Coco & Willie [cut] much pleased. I hope dar[cut] cold is leaving him. We [cut] got Col. Biddulph's²⁴⁶ house! The party was a great success. You cannot tell how much everybody enjoyed themselves. We had 23 people altogether Major General & Mrs & the 2 Miss Darvells Mrs & the 2 Miss Nicolls Mrs Macmullen, Mrs Arbuthnot Mrs Tweddell & Mr Tweddell Miss Gowan Mr Smythe Dr Palmer Mr Robertson. Mr Bax Capt Buller Capt Dick²⁴⁷ Dr Grant & Col Davis & ourselves. After the music we had a little dancing. We are going to have another next week. For the next party I

1v

am going to take a part in a double Quartet if I can manage it. Mrs Macmullen & Miss Gowan are coming to-day for a little practice & I am [cut] all well, having [cut] headache as I had after yesterday. Papas leg is quite well again darling only he cannot take long walks. As he was coming home in the Buggy this morning with Harry, they saw some Partridges. Harry came home for the gun & shot two partridges! I forget if I told you we went to the theatre on Monday. It was capital so different to the last & I hope

they will get up some more. I shall be so glad to have my slippers darling & shall love & value them very much for your sake my child. I have your wools & canvass [cut] but cant yet get [cut] I want for Mr Whymper. Your cushion looks very handsome in the drawing room. We have put the tables aside & the room is quite clear in the centre & looks very nice. We cleared up just for the party & shall keep it so now. In the afternoon we had tea & coffee Moselle & Claret cup usual round & cakes, biscuits & sandwiches laid out on the dining table. I never thought it cd have been such a rare party as it was & I know you will be so glad to hear it.

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Good bye my dear old girl With our fondest love to you all, ever your loving Mother
½ past 11. I was going out

to some shops to see if I can get a few wool of kinds for Mr Whymper. I have only a few colours

from the bazaar & Wallace has not got them.

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Saturday [9th Mar 1867]

My very dear child, I was so very glad to get your letter yesterday enclosing the measurement of yr heads & Willies same. The hats are like the Jullianah ones & I think them very nice. I am so very vexed at the childrens behaviour & expect I shall have a great deal of trouble with them. They used not to behave so & I wish Mrs Vice wd give them each a sound whipping which they most certainly deserve. I have nearly all Mr Whymper's wools & hope to get the rest to-day. It is extraordinary the trouble I have had in getting them. I hope you are taking care of your Boots & also look occasionally at your saddle & see the girths are right. I had a ride on "Bessie" last night but it was so late when

1v

I went out I cd. not canter on Acct. of the bad ground not being able to see the holes. I can have her now whenever I like & she is coming to Uncle Tom's stables when Major Taylor go to Kussowlie which they will in a few days. They are going to live in the house just above the Post Office where people of the name of Thompson lived last year. I am so glad you have made me a mat. I shall like it very much. Annie is in despair about the doll, & now does not believe me that you have made her one. Tom says so many words & yesterday said "Nicholas" quite plainly. He is so much admired & certainly he is a very fine boy. Can you tell me where old Mrs Byrne is? We wrote to her at Kussowlie a week ago & not getting

an answer think she must have left. Won't it be nice living in Col. Biddulphs house? We have got it certainly. Harry catches lots of fish in the evenings. He is in school for a long time with Papa every day. I went [cut] a Parade of Uncle Tom's Reg[cut] Mr Whymper's pony yesterday & it was [cut] very pretty sight, prettier than ever as they did so many more things. The Regt. is to be inspected next week & I shall go I hope to see. On Tuesday evening there will be tent pegging. Coming from Parade yesterday I stopped & had coffee at Uncle Tom's Durbar tent, but I cd. not get off for my habit is so torn! I is so very old it tears with the least touch & I have it mended after every ride! Give my love to all the Vices. It is good of Miss Vice to have taken so much trouble

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when Berty was ill. Good bye my dear dear child. Ever with our fondest love to you all

Your own loving Mother
Papa has bought 2 such nice

little teapoys²⁴⁸ made out of old casks by the by the carpenter in the 21st Hussars

[addressed as before]

1

Umballa Mon[cut] [11th Mar 1867]

My darling Pins, Jus[cut] recd. your note of yesterday evening & at once have written [cut] Mr Nicolls to take 2 se[cut] Chinch (sic) for us. I am so [cut] sorry indeed to hear poor Miss Vice is so ill & wish I cd ask her here for a change but you know how crowded we are. I am so very tired to-day for I was up soon after five to go to a Parade, the beginning of the Inspection of Uncle Tom's Regt. After the Parade we saw the jumps over which every man in the Regt. went, only four or five were thrown & one man's horse getting loose took all the leaps

1v

[cut] back again & took [cut]ll again without any rider! [cut]row evening is to be the grand Inspection & the next day tent Pegging²⁴⁹. Yesterday I [cut] the wools & canvass with some [cut] floss silk Mrs Murray sent [cut], also your Boots (which let me know exactly how they fit as the man of the 94th is only wanting to know before making more) & an envelope & bit of paper with Uncle Tom's Regt. crest. He sent it to you to see. He has other colours blue & mauve. The canvass I sent was the wrong piece & will not be enough for you, besides I wanted it for myself, so take care of it. I have this minute sent of the $\frac{3}{4}$ of a yard to a Mr Connell who is going to Kussowlie & if he has not left yet he will take it & Mr Whympers will send

it to you. I am so vexed I made the mistake. I also sent A[cut] letter to you and Miss Vices [cut] Annie & Tom take it in tu[cut] take down my hair at night & Annie cannot bear that Tom shd do it. He brings his chair over him[cut]lf & climbs up & it puts Ann[cut] in such a state when she sees [cut] him & cannot get down quic[cut] enough to stop him. He said last night "I bale, Mama" & in the day he wanted to go to Miss Goods where Annie had been so he said "I go them". Mrs Macmullen is coming to practice here to-day. She plays very nicely indeed. On Saturday I went in the "Dray" with Mrs Arbuthnot Capt. A. driving. (A dray is something like a waggonette, & holds a number of people & they have been driving four horses in it, but on Saturday they had only two. It is not comfortable & tired me terribly. Harry always is so delighted to hear your letters

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& [cut] said "If I had not all [cut]lessons to do I wd. write to [cut]"! Tell me if I have sent the proper wools for you. Kiss the dear children for me & give

them our fondest love & with the same to yourself ever your loving

Mother

My love to all the Vices. Tell Mrs Vice she had better advertize her house in the papers
I do hope Miss Vice will soon be better

[addressed as before]

1

Wednesday [13th Mar 1867]

My own dear child

I hope ere this you have recd. the canvass & wools & [cut] there are the colou[cut] for the cushio[cut]de "Bessie" to the Parade yesterday with Miss Gowan. She had tiffin here first. Such a number of people went to the Parade, some riding & some driving & it was so very pretty. This afternoon there is to be tent Pegging & I shall go in the Buggy. Miss Gowan is coming afterwards to dinner Mrs Macmullen was here yesterday for practise & she brought her baby²⁵⁰ with her, such a fine little child. How is Miss Vice? I hope she is better poor creature It must be very lonely for her

lv

[cut] Do you [cut] Go[cut]g to church twi[cut] week? I used always to go in England during Lent [cut] so many chi[cut: ckens] & I shall [cut] more & they are growing so nicely. We have not decided on a day for our next party but think it will be very soon. We have not yet got gentlemen to sing & we want a quartet very much. Papa now teaches Harry an hour and a half before breakfast & then again some time afterwards. How are the boys behaving now. I do hope they are not quite spoilt

[cut] is always beg[cut] go to Kussowlie [cut]says it is hot now & I said I wd go when it was hot! I have [cut] Miss Vices black[cut]ut not from [cut] Wallace as his is sold [cut] packets of ¼ & can get it cheaper from a cupora walla. Mine is a very stupid letter to-day but I am not feeling at all bright
Good bye darling

Ever with our fondest love to you all

Your own loving

Mother

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[addressed as before]

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Sunday [17th Mar 1867]

My darling old girl

I began my letter before breakfast I went out for a ride this morning for I ride so very little I get so nervous now. Last night I had a very great fright on horse back. I rode Mr Whympers pony to the Races with Uncle Tom & Miss Gowan who had been spending the day here. Coming back the pony being fresh wanted to go on & hearing a lot of Buggies coming began backing & fidgiting very much until he brought me right up against a Buggy & I never was more frightened in my life. I thought I shd. have gone right under the Buggy. They say it was my own fault not managing the horse

lv

properly but I think I cd. not have done anything else with a horse backing & spinning about as this one was. I felt so ill all the evening & have not got over it yet. I ought never to ride with anybody I believe Miss Gowan came back to dinner. Our party is to come off on Wednesday as to-morrow is a grand Croquet day & Tuesday more Races. To-morrow we shall have a grand practice about 11 people altogether. The 2 Miss Nicolls, Miss Gowan, Mrs Macmullen, Mr Smyth, Mr Hawkins Dr Palmer & Capt Fellowes²⁵¹ & ourselves. The Nicoll girls were here to tiffin yesterday & Mr Smyth,

& we all sing together those pretty glees of ours "The spring

time is come" &c. It sounds very nice they say. The Sparkes²⁵² are going to Kussowlie. Mary has arrived. She is very plain indeed. She spoke the other [cut] of your having written [cut] to her when I was intro[cut] to her at the tent Pegging. The Harris boys had your dear old Pony at the Races yesterday but I did not see him. Mr Maddock²⁵³ where Eddie²⁵⁴ was at school has just died of small pox. Poor man he was just going to leave Mussoorie for England when he was taken ill. We had a very pleasant party at the Macmullens the evening before last, & great fun after dinner with round games. I wore my black silk with low body & Mrs Macmullen & Mrs Macauley the only other ladies were both in black silks! I had a little ague

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yesterday from getting chilled from a drive in the Buggy so I was obliged to lie down a great deal when the others were practising. God bless you darling. Kiss the dear children for

me & with our fondest love to you all ever your own loving

Mother

Papas, Uncle Tom's, Harrys, Annie & Tom's best love. Annie & Tom sing "Bengalie Baboo"!!

[addressed as before]

1

Monday [25th Mar 1867]

My very dear Boody

It is such a nice cold morning, quite refreshing again. On Saturday we had such a dust storm which put us in perfect darkness quite suddenly. We had to light lamps. I was so frightened for Harry was out but he soon came in. It rained all night afterwards & made such a nice change in the weather. Papa talks of beginning to pack now so that we may go up when we like to Kussowlie but we shd. be in no hurry if the weather kept pleasant as it is now.

I rode yesterday but not to-day, nor can we have the Buggy as the horse is not well.

1v

Annie learns a letter a day & is getting on nicely

Tom said to-day "Minnie, come on; Mama, Minnie hear me"! He says go many words now. He pretends to take down Papa's & Harrys hair now after dinner & they put Pins in it, & it does so amaze him. 9 o'clock Just recd. your letter of yesterday darling & quite surprised to get it so early. About the deals I wrote to Mr Nicoll for 2 but got no answer but I daresay he got my note & it will be all right. I wish I had known before about the Boots for the children for I cd.

have sent some by Mr Whympers coolie. I have some for Berty & Coco in the house but none for Willie but I daresay the 94th shoemaker has made them by this time. They will all miss Mrs Nicholas very much when she goes to Dalhousie.

I have a lot of treacle. Wont you be glad? I sent for it with some sugar. Uncle Tom & all his officers went to be photographed this morning by Major Bamfield²⁵⁵ & I hope it will be a nice picture.

I am all right again, only some days feel rather weak that is all. With fondest love & kisses to you all

Ever your loving mother
Love to all the Vices

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Uncle Tom's best love

[addressed as before]

Juxon's retirement from the Army occurred 31st March 1867, but he stayed on in India with his family. He and Maria with the youngest children went up to Kussowlie so all the family was united for a couple of months. Then Minnie was sent to school in Simla and the letters from Maria begin again. Meanwhile Juxon continued to educate Harry at home.

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10 a. m. [Kussowlie c20th Jun 1867]

My own darling Child

I start off your Bedding on the pony, being so anxious you shd. get it to night. I opened your Box & took out a suit of clothes for you darling & your brush &c. I hope to get coolies to send the boxes by & by. I hope darling you will not feel the sun very much. Ask Mrs Trench for anything your want & give her my best love. Dr Grant is here for the day. He says he passed you on the road. I put a stamped sheet of note paper

1v

in the bundle in your frock. God bless you my child. With our fondest love & many kisses from the children

Your own loving
Mother

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[addressed: Miss Jones
care of Mrs Trench
Siree²⁵⁶ Dak bungalow
or if left "The Dingle" Simla]

1

Kussowlie Friday [21st June 1867]

My own darling child

I am most anxious to learn how you have got on, for I fear the sun must have been terribly hot for you. I only trust you did not suffer much from it darling. Just as the pony was leaving with your bedding, some coolies arrived so we sent all your things by them & I hope they reached you safely. I just remembered your silk cloak & put it in the box darling. I will write to Mrs Trench to-morrow. I cant possibly do it to-day as I must write one or two letters & am going to the Brewery. Yesterday I was very weak but to-day am much stronger I know you will be glad to hear I rode the pony to the Vices last evening. They asked me to go down & sent their syce to saddle the pony. Emma²⁵⁷ misses you sadly & says she will not ride any more! As soon as they can afford it they will

1v

send her to school. Dr Grant (Uncle Tom's Regt.) was here yesterday & went on in the evening to Umballah. I had a letter from Mrs Mackinnon²⁵⁸ this morning & she will receive you at any time. She tells me she always walks with the girls in the morning, breakfast at ½ past 8. School from ½ past 9 until 3 o'clock, excepting ½ an hour between for play. Dinner at 3 tea at 6. From 7 to 8 learn lessons for the next day, then the elder girls work for half an hour while one reads aloud. Your time will be fully occupied my child & I know you will try hard to get on. If the Kit has not left, send the nice oil cloth back by him that we wrapped your bedding in. Annie said to me yesterday "Do you

know what I am going to send Minnie? I am going to send her a letter. I will write it & I will do it so nicely". Was the soup good for Mrs Trench or did it go bad? I am having your new chemises made & as soon as ever your things are ready I shall send them. Rip out the "4" marked in one of your sheets as I shall send you 2 more darling. I have to send you a clothes bag & a brush bag. If you can buy a bit of brown holland you cd. make yourself a nice one better than the one you have. Or never mind darling I will do it for you. My darling God bless you. I hope you did not feel the sun very much yesterday. With our fondest love Your own loving Mother
Best love to dear Mrs. Trench.

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addressed: Miss Jones
care of Mrs Le Poer Trench
"The Dingle"
Simla

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[22nd June 1867 - first part of letter missing]

...letter to you this morning. It may do you good darling. The dersi is busy making your new chemises & I marked 2 of them this morning for you darling. I have sent to Mrs Murray to know when your dress & cloak will be ready. I wore my new dress this morning to the Wedding²⁵⁹ & I took all the Children but Tom. The bride looked very nice in a white silk & veil & wreath. All the rest of the people looked dreadful so black & common. I felt quite ashamed. Dora²⁶⁰ cried so terribly her brother (I suppose) took her out of Church. I myself was feeling so unhappy about you I cd. scarcely stay in the church darling. Mrs Smithett²⁶¹ was in Church & she told me she was coming to see me this afternoon. The Vices have asked me to go there. They had a Croquet party

this evening. I wish Emma had gone with you for you wd not have felt

1v

so wretched my darling. I was so thankful to get your dear little note from Siree last evening when the Syce came back. I am so sorry your bedding did not reach you in time, but I hope you remembered that your night gown was inside your pillow You will have found your suit of clothes tied up in your bedding but did not your boxes reach you with your bedding darling? We went to the Brewery yesterday, only ourselves nobody else & how I wished you cd. have gone with us my own pet. Harry sent back for the Gun & shot me 4 Pigeons. I must finish your cushion darling & I will bring it up with me & show you. I took it out of your drawer this morning my pet. God bless you my own precious child. You don't know how Mama loves you my

[written on the paste-down of the envelope:

own child. My darling be a good & brave girl for Mama's sake.

Papa & all the children send you so much love

T. O

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& so many kisses my child. Ever
your own loving mother. I told Mrs Trench not to
send you to church with Jane.
I am much better my child.

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Kussowlie Tuesday [25th June 1867 - looks like second letter sent that day]

My own darling child, dear Pins. I hope ere this Mrs Trench has recd. my telegram asking her to keep you from School for the present. Your dear letter alarmed us so much we must have further particulars about the school before sending you my darling. I sent a telegram to Mrs Mackinnon a little while ago but it was returned as the line was broken. I hope Mrs Trench's went all right for I am so anxious darling. I can manage for Sundays for you if that is the worst, for Mrs Trench wd. take you or Mrs Sparke²⁶² I am sure if I asked her. Of course darling I will never tell Mrs Trench anything you tell me but you must write everything to your Mother. I shd be so sorry my own child if you did not write as you did & tell me everything that is in your heart. I like you to write just as you wd. talk to Mama my own darling & your letters are just like that my child.

1v

For your own sake my darling I cd. wish you to be where you cd get on for I have always felt it deeply how your time was passing away without you learning anything, so if I decide on your going to School, you will know in your heart my child, I have done it solely for your good earnestly trusting it will be for your good. We are all horrified of the appearance in Church of the school. As far as that goes, you need not join them. I have written to Col. Vaughan²⁶³ enclosing a note to Mrs Mackinnon & I will write to Mrs Trench now. Altogether I am so worried & anxious you must not mind a short letter my own child, very different to you own long ones my own darling. I got your

Sunday afternoon most sad letter last evening my own child as I was sitting in the Verandah marking some of your stockings & it half broke

my heart darling & I cried until I cd. cry no longer. My child it is dreadful to think of your great unhappiness darling. I only wish I cd. go to you now but my child if I go now I cannot do so later therefore it is better for us both that we shd. wait my own. Mrs Trench will tell me everything she thinks of the School darling & she will keep you until she hears from me my child. The spots on your face darling proceed from y[torn] constant fretting & crying my pet. You don't know how bitterly we feel your misery my precious child. Darling it shows Mama how much you love her & darling I cd. not tell you how dearly I love you my child my own darling Minnie. I am so knocked up with writing I can scarcely hold my pen so cannot write to Mrs Trench for which I am very sorry. Give her my best love & tell her so. I wait for her report to-morrow before fixing the day darling for your going to school.

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God bless you my own precious darling. I am so vexed to send such a shabby letter but I am so very tired, quite well only tired with so much writing my child. The children crowd round to kiss your own dear letters my darling. They are so precious to Mama.

Be very brave for Mamas sake & cheer up my child. How I feel for your sufferings my own more than I can tell you darling. Ever your own loving Mother
My own child I love you so very dearly

addressed:

Miss Jones
[c.o. care of Mrs Trench] Mrs Mackinnons
"The Dingle"
Simla

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Kussowlie Thursday [27th Jun 1867 - half of letter missing]

My own darling child. I hope most earnestly my darling that you are at last feeling happy & comfortable. I am so longing for your letter & as it will be written a few days after you will have been in School you will be able to tell me my child better what you think of the School & of your companions my own darling. My note was not sent to Mrs Mackinnon I am glad to say but when I sent it, I was suffering such terrible grief about you my child. The letters yesterday my own written after you had seen the School made me quite happy. When the Kit returned in the afternoon I felt again so miserable to think of what dreadful sorrow you had been in particularly on Monday before you saw Mrs Mackinnon's. I put the leaf & flower so carefully away darling. I had a note from Mr Macmullen this morning to say

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they wd. be here on Sunday on their way to Umballah. Mrs Mackinnon writes that they are very much pleased with what they have already seen of you & that she will write again in a short time. So my darling you must do your best to get on that Mama may be made happy by hearing good

reports of you my own precious child. I thought so much last evening that it was our last evening last week & you left this day darling. Your dress & cloak have come from Mrs Murray & the dersh is just making your clothes bag when all will be ready to be sent. You must be very careful of your new dress & keep it for your very best or it will soon spoil. I put a few pictures.....[missing]

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Kussowlie Friday [28th Jun 1867]

My own precious child, I am so very anxiously looking forward to getting your letter my darling which I am to expect on Sunday. As Charlie²⁶⁴ told me that all the girls letters were read, I have just written to Mrs Mackinnon to beg that your letters to me may not ever be looked at.

Of course darling it is necessary in a girls school to watch carefully over the girls but it is a different thing a child's letter to her mother. I have asked Mrs M. to tell you this so I hope she will do so at once. My darling I wish your lessons had begun at once so that you might have been thoroughly occupied which wd. be the best thing for you. I have not been to the L. Asylum. It poured with rain up to 10 & then brightened a little, when Miss Vice & Mrs Nicholas passed in jampons²⁶⁵ & called up to know if I were going. Harry & Berty went off with the pony between

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them. I met Mrs & Miss Vice at the top of our path last evening & so had a chat. I cd. not help crying when I talked of you my own pet & I wish for your sake that they wd. send Emma who is longing to go. Col. Vaughan says he shall go & see you very often which I am very glad of my own darling child. You must try & be happy for Mama's sake darling. Annie brought me a piece of paper last night & said it was a letter from you & I must kiss it & she made the children kiss it also my darling. I am very well to-day but yesterday afternoon I was so weak & poorly they said I had better not go to-day & this morning as usual I was knocked up after my dressing but it passed off & now I feel so much better than I have been lately & if it were not again so

very threatening, I think I shd. have gone to Sanawur²⁶⁶. I had a small centipede on my cloak when I was in the jampan & Miss Vice knocked it off for me. The coolie left yesterday afternoon & I hope he will keep the box dry I sent you the list in a separate letter yesterday my darling. Tell me darling if you want anything more. I tried to get you a net & cd. not darling. Do you want any of your Books my pet for if you do I wd send them the first opportunity. Have you a dressing table my darling? Did you like your brush bag? You don't know how Mama's heart aches for you or what I wd. give to see you now my own darling Minnie my own pet, but cheer Mama by telling her how you are getting on. Be very good, willing & attentive my

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child & avoid all harm. God bless you. With our very fondest love & so many kisses from the children especially Annie & Tom, your own loving

mother. We talk so much of you my precious old girl.

addressed: Miss Jones
care of Mrs Mackinnon
The Bishops School

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[Kussowlie] Saturday [29th June 1867]

My own precious darling child. I am so longing for your letter my darling & hope to-morrow to get it & I trust that Mrs Mackinnon has told you you may write it without its being looked over. I shall be very glad when your lessons have commenced for I feel how much better it will be for you darling when your time is quite occupied & when you feel that you are doing something. Harry & Berty came home just at dark having enjoyed themselves very much, though Berty had nothing to eat all day but a small bit of bread Harry had in his pocket! Mrs Nicholas sent Harry some way off for her parasol & Berty trying to run after him lost his way. They enjoyed it however very much & Miss Oliver (those Olivers by the Vices) was very kind to them & got them some Lemonade & said Harry should have half his pocket money if there was anything to be paid for throwing at Aunt Sally²⁶⁷!

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There was no Aunt Sally though but for the school boys & they broke every thing in a minute! One of the Asylum boys came to this Compound a few days ago and asked where somebody lived. We gave him a slice of bread & cheese in the garden but in he marched into the house & the boys just stopped him coming in where we [sic] at tiffin! Afterwards he did not go away but will you believe it in the afternoon when I was undressed lying down he walked right into my bed room! We cd. not get rid of him until Uncle Tom ordered him away! Well 2 days after without our knowing he was here he came straight into the dressing room! Berty pushed him out & shut the door. He found four other boys outside & they said they wd. not go away! Berty chased them down

the road & knocked one big boy down & left him crying, so I hope they will not come again!

Annie is kissing all your letters so tenderly & says she wants so much to write to you. She is now saying "Mama when Charlie goes back to Minnie say Annie sends you her best love, say that to Charlie". Those are her very words. Mrs Trench has 6 prs of new stockings for you my darling. I wish I cd have marked them for you my own pet. Uncle Tom is at the Brewery again so I have not seen him to-day & it is now breakfast time. The three little ones have been downstairs writing & Harry is with Papa at School darling. I hope your dress & jacket fitted you darling. Mine is such a horrid jacket, I must get it quite altered. I put yours on & it fitted me so nicely! Mrs Murray took a piece out of your Linsey²⁶⁸ jacket to make it a little

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smaller for you. All the children send you so much love & so many kisses my darling. I may not write to-morrow as the Macmullens will be here. God bless you my own child. I am so longing for your dear letter. We send you our very best & tenderest love. Your own loving mother. Tell Col. V. if you want any Books or anything sent my darling old Boody

[addressed as before]

[Kussowlie] Monday [1st July 1867]

My own darling girl my very dear Minnie, Your long & eagerly looked for letter reached me this morning & I cried so over it my darling. I was so thankful to get it & the dear little leaf which I put carefully away darling with the others you sent me. I did not write to you yesterday. It was the only day I missed doing so darling, but I wrote a line to Mrs Mackinnon to tell her Uncle Tom was going to see you and beg her to allow you to be with him as much time as he cd. spare even if he called in School time. How very glad you will be to see him won't you darling? I only sent those little gilt buttons you liked and some marking cotton by him. He left yesterday afternoon & all the children said so many times that he was to give you their best love, screaming it after him as he went down the road my darling You are in School now my child & I earnestly

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trust that your lessons will make you happier my own child. Of course it is a very great trial to you my darling as it is to all children to go to School but when you think my own pet of the advantage to yourself my own, you will bear it darling & be Mama's own brave girl. I have been most unhappy about you darling. Uncle Tom has often said when he has looked at me "Are you fretting about Pins, Minnie"? He was going on purpose to see you when a letter came obliging him to go. My child I intend if possible to go to Simla next month or in Septr to see you. I had better delay it a little so as to make a nice break during your stay at School. Then I shall see what can be done about holidays darling. I will do my utmost about getting you your Sundays out my child.

I will write to Uncle Tom to-day (I did speak to him about it) & if not too tired to Mrs Trench also.

What a great disappointment it must have been to you darling not to have gone to Mrs Trench's on Saturday. I felt so much for you dearest. About opening letters my child. It is necessary to watch very carefully over girls & you must not be angry my darling about it, but must feel it is intended for your good. As long as our letters are not looked over my child never mind the others. If I sent you a teapoy have you room for it in your room, for I cd easily send you one or ask Mrs Trench to buy one. I am very thankful that you do not join in the rowdiness of the other girls. Never do. Even a girl of your age has influence over others my darling & seeing that you do not join it might check them my darling & be

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careful not to fall into the way of their pronunciation.

The Macmullens were here yesterday & were so very sorry they did not know you were at Simla until they got my letter the day they left, for they wd so gladly have gone to see you. They spoke so kindly about it. Mrs Macmullen who was at a very good School in England said all the girls letters were read, even to their Mothers, so you see darling it is the rule though it seems hard. I shall go to the Vices after tiffin & tell Emma all you say. I shall try to get them to send her to School with me if she has not gone before darling. I am glad the box reached you at Mrs Trenchs where you cd. unpack it by yourself my child. You can alter the list & put down the number of Chemise you have. Your clothes

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wont want much mending excepting your stockings. It is very good for you having to do it darling. Remember my own child, this is your time for learning & for training so make the most of your

advantages & do your utmost to get on. My darling I am glad you write me all you feel though I shd. be very thankful to know you were more cheerful. My pet I know how dearly you love me & it is very great happiness to me my own child. Yes darling I have an Alpaca jacket, & I am going to send it to Mrs Murray to alter it for it is nothing more now than an ugly loose jacket! You must not give way to grief my darling but be very brave my darling. I have put your chest of drawers in my room by my bed & am going to use them. Your little things are all in

2v

one drawer darling & your little cabinet on the drawers with the things you left in it. Darling if I cd. only afford it some of the others should go to School, so don't fret at your being the only one sent away my pet. I am so glad Gillie Parker amused you my child. We have this moment been written to to ask if our house is still to let! I do trust we may get something for it even if only 500//

God bless you my own darling child. I shall long for your next dear letter. Of course all you write to me is sacred. I wd. never mention it to Mrs. M.

Ever with our fondest love & so many kisses from the children

Your own loving Mother

When I next write to Mrs M. I will say you spoke of her kindness.

Envelope addressed:

Miss Jones
Care of Mrs Mackinnon
The Bishops School
Simla

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Tuesday [2nd July 1867]

My own darling girl, dear, dear old Pins, I only write a line to-day to enclose a note from Emma. I went there yesterday afternoon & sat until very late & had a good cry about you my pet. Emma will go I think next month to School, that is as soon as ever Mrs Vice can afford it. She is now in a little trouble about her house as the native has just been in Court about something. When this is settled she will send Emma, as soon as ever she can. Emma is so anxious to go, you can't imagine! Charlie's box had not come with his clothes, & he does not know where it is, & he has had no change of clothes & has not been able to go out at all! Mrs Smithett is coming to see me to-day & will I think come to tiffin with Maude²⁶⁹. Annie had such a blow yesterday Running into my room she fell against that high backed chair, the very

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Corner of it. I at first thought she must have cut her eye poor pet & it bled so long & so much. I have been packing up jam for Uncle Tom's mess & am so tired I cannot write more darling Minnie. I hope you have seen Uncle Tom. Emma's note was sealed but I opened it to send it better. God bless you my darling. Be a good diligent child.

Ever with our fondest love

Your own loving mother

So many kisses from the children

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Kussowlie Wednesday [3rd July 1867]

My own darling old girl, I had a note from dear Uncle Tom this morning written on Monday just after his visit to you. How your must have rejoiced in seeing him again my child & having a ride with him yesterday. I suppose you rode his pony. I shall be so anxious to hear all he will have to tell me of you my child. Mrs Smithett spent the afternoon with me yesterday, coming to tiffin with Maude. I enjoyed her visit, though I had been very poorly all the morning & I was not at all well to-day. I shall be all right by & by again I daresay. I had a letter from Mr. Whymper yesterday & he sent me a basket full of beautiful artichokes. I have just written him a note

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to thank him. I am tired with the Dhobie not being very well before & also I have lost the key again & the worry of it has been terrible. We have had every durie²⁷⁰ in the house up & cannot find it. I think Tom took it off my table yesterday. I did not tell you of the large snake we killed near the house on Sunday on the steps. It was nearly 6 feet long! There was a very large one outside Uncle Tom's window the day before & it ran into a hole of the Verandah the dersi sits in & escaped, & this night have been the same one.

My darling child I think so very much of you & hope my darling you are getting

more reconciled & happier my child. Do your utmost to get on dearest. We had a great storm last night & such [torn] torrents of rain & the air [torn] so nice to-day after it [torn] Ayah always enquires [torn] & sends you her bote [torn] Annies face is sti[torn] from her terrible [torn] little thing she & [torn] others send you so much love darling. I have not been able to give them any lessons since you left, I have had so much else to do but I must try & begin again. I cannot write more to-day darling for I am very tired. God bless you my darling child. I don't know if you will see dear Uncle Tom again. I was thinking he wd. be coming back about this

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time. Ever with our best & fondest love your own loving Mother.

[addressed as before]

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Thursday [4th July 1867]

My own darling child, just as I had send off my yesterday's note to you the coolie arrived with your most dear & loving note of Sunday. These letters are very precious to me my darling, so full of love for Mama my darling old girl my "booty". I put the leaf & flower so carefully away with the others after kissing them my child & getting your kiss off them! I had a note from Mrs Trench this morning & she said she wd. try to get you with her on Sundays but she was afraid Mrs Mackinnon wd. object. She is going to get you a net & some soap darling. She says she will make a point of going to see you once a week. It is such a lovely morning after again perfect torrents of rain in the

night. We have not found the Key yet so we were obliged to send for a masterei & have the lock picked. What can have become

1v

of the Key I cannot imagine.

I went to Mrs Murrays last evening about altering my jacket & she is coming to-day to see it on & I hope she will make it all right. On my way home I called in at the Vices for a little while. Don't let Emma know I undid her letter. It was sealed up in a small bit of paper, so awkward to send! Charlie has not heard anything of his box, poor boy & they think now it must be quite lost. Mrs Vice I suppose is much worried, but she is terribly cross! I have not heard again from Uncle Tom, since I got those few lines saying he had seen you, so how you liked your ride & when he is coming I have no idea. Darling I know how much you must wish to send me something but I take the wish darling as a very dear gift my pet. It makes me very happy to know you love me

so much my darling. Mama loves you more than I can tell you my pet my darling old Pins. I told Annie about having kissed your things & she asked me so much about you. Tom says when we ask him about the Key "gone in the Khud"!

Emma is so anxious to go to school & says she will never want to go out even for a day! Charlie goes back on Saturday. Capt. Keir²⁷¹ wrote to ask about our house "Stanley Hall" & had the refusal of it for those Gullys²⁷² who were at Peshawar. We have only asked 500/ for it & I do hope they will take it. Even that will be something. Miss Lyster²⁷³ (Mrs Elliots sister) is to be married on Monday week I hear. A lady with a little boy came to see me the evening before last, but hearing a lady (Mrs Smithett) was with me, wd. not come in. The Ayah said her name was "Rogers" & I cd. not make out who it was, but I think now it must have been Mrs Rotton²⁷⁴

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as Mrs Vice says she was in Church last evening with Mr Rotton²⁷⁵ & that they were going to Simla to stay with the Parkers. My child, although we are separated, my thoughts are ever with you my loved darling so

don't think you are alone in the world but think that Mama is always thinking of you with such tender love darling.

God bless you my child. Ever with our fondest love, & so many kisses from the children your own tenderly loving Mother.

[addressed as usual]

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Kussowlie Friday [5th July 1867]

My own darling child, I was so terribly distressed at getting such a very miserable letter from you this morning. I was so in hopes my child you were trying for Mama's sake to be such a brave good girl my darling & it makes me so unhappy dearest to find you are still suffering such sorrow. I fear dear Uncle Tom's visit which ought to have been such a joy to you has only unsettled you darling & if that is the case darling, what wd. a visit from me do? More harm than good my child. You are undergoing what nearly every young person has at some time gone through. All have felt the

bitterness of first going to School & very sad it is at first but it is for your own good. I

1v

have sent you my own child. The change was necessary I firmly believe for your future happiness as you will I hope see by & by. Do your utmost to profit by your advantages. You must not ask darling to be taken back. It only gives me bitter pain to have to refuse you. Your schooling has been already been [sic] paid for, a great part of it. It was very good of Mrs Mackinnon to allow you to write darling. Try & show how you feel her kindness by being a good diligent & cheerful girl. She is very much pleased with you in every way & the only faults she mentions are your stooping & holding your pen badly. You know how much it wd. please her for you to conquer those two faults my child. Mrs M. cd make

School unpleasant to any child but she is most kindly disposed to you, & thinks so well of you that I trust you will do all in your power to keep her great opinion. Don't give her reason to think that Mama's letters unsettle you my pet. Darling I can't think [cut] what made you think I was [cut] with you. What was it? I have never felt so, & when I have written have been thinking of you in such love. Sometimes I have been very poorly indeed when I have written darling & it has been as much as I cd. do. You don't know how fondly we love you my darling old girl, & repay it by being a happy child. Promise me to try darling. How kind of Uncle Tom to give you that hat. I shd. like to have seen it darling. I had Tom made a little Scotch cap yesterday & he looks very nice in it. He is asleep now. Mrs Eagle is coming to Kussowlie on Monday & has asked me to look out for a house for her for a fortnight. She speaks very highly

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of Mrs Mackinnon & Miss Birch²⁷⁶. God bless you my darling child. Ever with our fondest love and so many kisses from the children

Your own loving Mother

Little Anne took all your dear

letters yesterday & opened & kissed every one & brought them to me to do the same. Mama does so love you my own child. For my sake my darling be very cheerful. Mrs M. praises you very much darling.

[addressed as before]

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[Kussowlie] Sunday [7th July 1867]

My very very dear child, I cd. not write yesterday darling for I was ill all day & cd not sit up at all scarcely. I am quite right to-day. I was expecting my letter from you to-day my darling but shall get it to-morrow I hope my child. I suppose you have the Saturday afternoon for writing. Berty, Willie & Coco are going to Miss Vices for Sunday School at ½ past 2. She wrote & asked me yesterday & I am so very glad of it for really the little ones ought to have lessons sometimes. I think Annie might learn too but I cannot ask her to take more than the three. We have had Service at home & Uncle Tom has walked to the Brewery. He came back on Friday & we were so glad to hear all about you my own pet. I asked what your hat was like darling. It must be very pretty. The drab & blue & you

must take great care of it so as to save my having to buy one for you.

1v

I hope your letter will tell me darling why you wanted medicine. Mrs Mackinnon told Uncle Tom she was going to give you a dose. I hope it was nothing particular my own child. To-morrow's letter will I earnestly trust my darling tell me that you are happier & struggling for Mama's sake my child against that terrible sorrow my own pet. Believe me your going to School is for your good & try & feel very grateful that you have been placed there. If you try darling you will soon be cheerful & happy. Think how pleased I shall be to find you have got on very nicely my darling. Miss Mackinnon speaks very well of you which pleases me very much indeed. By trying darling you will soon get over that bad habit of writing & how glad I shall be! I met Emma the night before last & gave her your message &

she said "Tell Minnie I shall very soon go to School". She is looking forward to it! Charlie went back yesterday. Capt & Mrs Arbuthnot called yesterday evening & their visit was too much for me I was so weak. However I got over it & went for a little turn in the Jampan. She is looking so coarse & fat. They have taken the house the Andersons lived in last year. Annie showed me a blow she had on her leg yesterday & she said "I don't know what to do with all these blows, I got lots of them"! Mr & Mrs Whymper will be back to-day I believe. Did I tell you he sent me a basket-ful of Artichokes from Simla? We have not yet found the Key! Papa put the Piano yesterday where the round table was, near the window & the table is in the middle of the room. I like the change. Col. Wroughton²⁷⁷ at Umballa is very ill & is going at once to New Zealand where his wife & children are. Mrs Arbuthnot asked a great deal about you darling. We have a great of rain here

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I never can see Simla scarcely now. It was clear the evening before last & I took the glasses to look at "Jacko"²⁷⁸ darling where your school is. I shall not be able to write to-morrow for I must do what I can

to help Mrs Eagle about a house. God bless you my own precious child. You don't know how very much I love you my own own child.

Ever with our fondest love your own loving Mother

[addressed as before]

A rare letter from her father

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Sunday - July 7th [1867]

My own darling child Minnie - You will not think, from my not having written to you, that I have not felt for all the grief that you have undergone; for you know that I am too much occupied with teaching Harry & learning Algebra myself, to have time to spare for writing - I hope dear child that you are getting over your youthful trouble, for it is what every one who leaves their home for school has to go through, and to get over. So I trust that you are not to be an exception to the rule of

"getting over it". Mama has just come into my room to ask me to write to you & she says that Harry & Berty are both writing to you. Sunday is certainly my only day of leisure - I think, darling Pins, that by this time you must have begun to take an interest in your progress in music, French & your other studies & that this will kick out your sad longings for home & relatives - How nice it would be if you could get on so far with the piano as to be able to play, not only with me, but with Uncle Tom & myself - Fancy even playing a part in a trio! Uncle Tom & I had a little music yesterday for the 1st time, for I give myself no relaxation from the task of learning Algebra particularly while Uncle Tom is here. So you like my plan of teaching French better than that followed at School. My few lessons must have been of great use to you. I wonder how Harry is getting on with his letter

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Tiffin is announced & if I finish this before going to it I shall not have my tiffin till 5o'clock! Mama tells you all the news & the children will tell you their amusements - how they caught a young king-crow, too young to fly, & how they are trying to keep it without a cage! It's present abode is the little room where we keep the casks of beer. It is so very nice having Uncle Tom here particularly for Mama; for I am all day long at my books & never speak to any one except at meal times! How Harry will learn Algebra which drives me half distracted, I don't know - Charley went back to school yesterday - I suppose you heard that he packed a box with nearly all his belongings to take home with him & that it never reached him, and all the time he was at home he could scarcely leave the house for want of clothes - We have not yet let our house, tho' some body has been written to about it, who wants a house here - The person is Mr Gully whom you may remember at Peshawur. Of course you remember Mrs Gully - I heartily wish they may take my house. We have had tremendous rain all the morning & so no one has been to Church. Harry does not know what to do on a holiday he is so accustomed to industry! Berty, Willy & Coco are to go to Miss Vice's Sunday School, but I don't know whether they will be able to go today

it is so wet. I dare say that the climate of Simla is very dismal during the rains; but you will find it the pleasanter to work when it is dismal out of doors - at least I do; & by & by it will be fine enough to see at Simla - Since I wrote the last word I have had an offer of 440Rs from Capt'n. Gully, for the other house, & I have accepted it! So I have lost 700Rs besides 50/- more for expenses of Chokedar, advertising furniture &c. There is a visitor in the next room, Capt'n. Jackson & I feel that I ought to put down my letter & join him. Uncle Tom is gone for an hour or 2 to the Brewery & but for this I think he too would have added a word of greeting to dear Pins - There is such a lot going on that I can scarcely write - The 3 little ones are getting ready to go to Miss Vice & Willa has put on Berty's trowsers & there are none left for Berty! I have suggested their both going in the same pair! You'll have so many letters to read tomorrow that you'll not be able to do any lessons! Have you been compelled to put a white cover to your Umbrella? I suppose some day next month Mama will pay you a visit - You will have become

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quite reconciled to school by that time & Mama's visit will be a real happiness to you, which it wd not be now, dear Minnie - At school at home, boys at least, are not allowed to think of home & those whom they have left. It will do you every good, dear child, being at school - I knew that if you ever had a teacher, he or she would be astounded at the way you hold your pen! I shd be so glad to see you holding it as Uncle Tom does! How well you would write & how soon you wd be able to draw! The talking in the next room is a serious difficulty to my writing. I have seen Harry's letter. How full it is of bad spelling! But he is getting on with his Latin, Algebra & Euclid & when you come home you shall teach him to read & write English. Just now this is quite neglected as I am

teaching him what nobody else can, as least in the way that I do; for he does more in a month with me than he wd do in a year at School. I have come to the end of my paper & have room left only for "good bye's". I hope to write next Sunday. God bless you my very dear Child. Your loving father
J H Jones

[envelope addressed by Maria as before]

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[Kussowlie] Sunday [c14 July 1867] 1st sheet only

My own darling old girl, dear dear Minnie, I am so looking forward to getting a dear letter from you to-morrow my child. I am so glad you are going to Mrs Trenchs to tiffin to-day for I think it will be such a pleasant party for you with Col. Vaughan there darling. Mrs Smithett & Mrs Trench both wrote to tell me of their visit to you my child & Mrs Smithett seemed so pleased at your greeting her as if you were glad to see her. She is coming back in two or three days. Little Tom's clothes were finished yesterday & he did look so very nice indeed. The young scamp put on such a swagger that made us laugh so! He looks such a little man now & I must get him more made. I was very poorly yesterday but am all right again to-day darling. In the evening I went out

1v

& met Miss Beamish & she asked about your & if you were happier at School. She is looking very coarse & ugly. I hope you will get your Cake & jam to-day & will like them. I only hope the Cake is not very heavy my child. We had a letter from Col. Thompson²⁷⁹ yesterday for the first time since Coco wrote him that letter with which you helped her when at Umballa. He sent Coco 20/ again! He tells us Mrs Wilson is at Dalhousie with Mrs Halliday. Capt. Wilson's²⁸⁰ illness was very very short. Mrs Basden had something like Cholera when first it broke out at Peshawur, & the number of deaths there have been something awful. Mrs Whympers sent me some of her budialia yesterday & it is very nice If I had had it before I wd have sent you a bit with the cake I made darling. We have had service at home & I daresay now you may be...

[rest missing]

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[Kussowlie] Tuesday [23rd July 1867]

My own darling child, I was so very happy to get your two dear letters yesterday morning my darling. I look forward so anxiously to getting them my child. My darling you must try & not give way to crying. I know & feel deeply how unhappy you are my own child but darling all girls nearly have to go to school & believe me it is for your own good. You would have deeply regretted growing up ignorant my child. I am so glad you went to Mrs Trenchs & thankful you did not get out on the road. Just now you must be very careful if the girls are suffering from colds. I knew of the Cholera darling & it made me most terribly anxious, but Mrs Trench told me she wd. receive you at once if anything so fearful occurred as cholera

in the School. I cannot say how thankful I am it seems to be leaving Simla. Here we had some cases, one soldier & some children died but it has left now. Uncle Tom left about an hour ago & he sent his best love to you & told me to wish you Good bye for him darling. He left early as he must be in Umballa to-night. On Sunday he took me to Sanawur & I saw all the children. It was too late to go over the School for we had not thought of going when we left home. I spoke to some of the girls & wished I cd. see my own darling at School. I am always thinking of you my pet & want so much for you to be happier my darling. Oh yes I did realize you told me you were in the 1st class darling.

It poured with rain all day yesterday & all night, but we went out. I did not put the janpan top on but covered myself with the Oil Skin your bedding was wrapped in. I was so very glad to get the Verbenia. It smelt so sweet & I have have put it away with the other flowers & leaves you send me. I am so pleased Mrs Trench admires Annie so much. I have all your little things quite safe. I put them all away so carefully darling. I will send your music the first opportunity & wd. you like any of your Books or your Crests?

I cut up the plaid neck tie & cut it in two for Annie & Tom's Scotch caps. I will send 1/ in stamps to Mrs Trench & ask her to give you 1/ on Saturday darling with Papas & Mama's love. Try & enjoy going to the Band when your turn comes darling. I am tired to-day my child & must say good bye. God bless you my darling Minnie my own

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Sweet child. Ever with so much love from us all & many kisses my pet. Think how very much Mama loves you darling. Ever your own loving Mother

[addressed as before]

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[Kussowlie] Wednesday Afternoon [31st July 1867]

My own darling Minnie, dear dear child. I begin my letter to-day though I shall not sent it until Friday my pet. I was so thankful to get your dear note my pet yesterday Morning, but grieved to think it was written lying down my child. I hope now your are nearly well again & will show your gratitude to Mrs Mackinnon for her very great kindness to you by being such a good diligent child my pet. All tell me of her goodness & attention. It has been very hard your being ill away from home & believe me it has been a great trial to me darling. I shall see Mrs Smithett I hope by & by, at least I intend going to see if she has arrived & hear the latest report of you darling. I expect Col. Vaughan to-morrow. Do you remember McEwan²⁸¹ who was at the Brewery & lived next door to Mr Whympier when first he came? He has died at Murree of Cholera, poor

1v

fellow after 3 hours illness Up there Cholera has been bad I am sorry to say. I went to see the Vices the day before yesterday. Emma is looking very pale & is so unhappy without any companion & wants to go to School. She sent me a note for you on Sunday which I will enclose. It is sealed but

Mrs Vice told me to open it & read it which I shall do. I heard but don't believe it at all that Capt Eyre is going to marry Mrs Nicholas! I was obliged to discharge Salak just now he was so very impertinent. I wanted him to put on the cloth on the meat doolie & he told me it was not his work & "he wd. not put a hand to it". His manner was so insolent. Now we have no bearer & it is unfortunate just as Col. Vaughan is coming. Mrs Whymper came to see me yesterday afternoon & she waited some time expecting Mr Whymper but he did not

come until after she had left when he came with Capt. Jones²⁸² & a Mr Carpenter. The latter is a sailor & has come to the Hills whilst his Steamer is being repaired in Calcutta. He & Mr Whymper are going to Umballah on Friday for a day & will stay with Uncle Tom. Uncle Tom is so sorry you have been ill dear child. Will you like working something for the chimney piece? I shall send the canvass to-morrow by Mrs Trench's servant & send your Book & a bottle of treacle. Tell me how you manage about the Cake & jam darling, whether it is put on the table or what you do with it. Mrs Eagle cannot go for another fortnight. I am going to see her this evening & I must try to return Mrs Arbuthnot's visit which I have not done yet. Annie has just come in crying from being stung by a nettle. At prayers the other day she asked me if we "were reading to God."

Friday 2nd [August] My own

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darling child I am so glad to be able to send you a letter again my pet & hope yours to me will be more cheerful for you must try to be so Minnie dear. I enclose Emmas note. Mrs Vice told me to read it and I have. Col. Vaughan came last evening & I was so thankful to hear darling that you were well enough to go back to lessons & you must try so hard to get on my pet. I sent yesterday nearly three yards of canvass for you darling & you can make something else of what is cut off. I sent your old wools for you to amuse yourself with & some of the greens may do for this piece of work. I sent your music book, a bottle of treacle & a bit of yellow soap for you my pet. I have been interrupted by visits from Miss Vice & Mrs Nicholas. Col. Vaughan gave

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me your message darling about writing but I must wait until you are happier darling for everybody tells me my letters make you fret more for home & beg me not to write. I went the other evening to call on Mrs Arbuthnot but met her on the road. I went to Mrs Taylors & she asked me to go to a musical party on Tuesday afternoon. She has a beautiful Piano which I tried. Miss Beamish came to see me the other day and enquired very kindly for you. I saw Mrs Smithett the evening she came & heard all about you my child & was so glad to see someone who had seen you so lately. Coco has lost her second front tooth & as you may imagine does not improve her appearance! I wish I cd. afford to send her to Mrs Mackinnon's now. I went out last evening intending to go to the Bazaar but I stopped at Mrs Dundas²⁸³ & she begged me to sit with her which I did. Just as I was leaving Mrs Smithett passed so she walked

2v

home with me. We have no bearer at all & it is so very awkward. A horrid looking man came yesterday & I took him but he went for his clothes & never returned though he left his chits here! I hope Uncle Tom will be able to get us one at Umballah. I have all your things carefully put away. I

put them in the box I have lately kept my broaches &c in & then put them in a drawer & your little cabinet is as you left it, on the drawers by my bed darling. I have taken care of everything darling child. I thought of you so very very much when you were ill & feel so grateful for all the Kindness you received & hope you are also up pet. Do your utmost to benefit by the instruction you are receiving & try to get on with all your might. Who is your particular friend of all the girls?

How nice our mantle piece will look with your work darling & I shall be so proud of it Minnie. I thought green leaves wd. look very pretty so asked Mrs Trench to try & get such a pattern & she has I think. I wish so much I had finished your nice cushion for it does look very handsome.

Good bye my own precious child. Papa who is as usual very busy with Harry sends you his very best love & so do I darling & all the children

Ever your own loving Mother

To-morrow you will be writing to me darling & you will tell me you are going to be cheerful darling, won't you? I do so long for your letters my pet.

Tom talks so much now & all English!

Envelope addressed as usual

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[Kussowlie - c8th August 1867]

[First part of the letter missing]

....last heard. You will I know feel it much if you do lose your poor little companion. How imprudent to have let the poor child eat so much fruit. People cannot be too careful. It has made me very anxious darling. My child I know how much you love me & I know also that for my sake you will try hard to get on with your studies. Are you getting on with your music? Major Merrick²⁸⁴ has just come here to call. I daresay you remember him by sight. Papa is at School with Harry. They all send you so much love darling child. You must tell me if you have begun your work & how you like it. I am glad you have regular walks. They are most necessary for you. Col. Vaughan gave me two little Photographs of Simla. One of Elysium Hill where he says you walk every morning & another place very near "Holly Lodge". I was so glad to get them for your sake & look at the places where you go. I wish I cd. get a nice picture of myself as you wish but I don't think Major Bamfield Photographs now. We have had so much rain here

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lately. It generally pours half the day, but I hope we shall soon get finer weather both here & for you at Simla darling. I am very well, only sometimes aching. I don't know when I shall go to Simla. If I cannot manage it, I shall have your here in Octr before I go down darling. If I do not go, it will simply be because I am not well enough & the journey might knock me up but I shall see very soon darling.

God bless you my own darling child. Mind & let me have another dear cheerful letter darling. I feel so much how much you tried that the last should be one. We all send you our very best & fondest love my own precious child. Mama loves you so dearly & for Mama's sake you will not be unhappy any more. Your own loving

Mother

[Kussowlie] Thursday 15th [August 1867]

My own darling child, I was so very glad to get your dear letter last Tuesday my darling & to see how you are trying to be cheerful & reconciled to School. The more your try the quicker you will get happy & comfortable my pet, & I am so glad to think you are learning. How pleased I shall be to have you play nicely. Your writing is much improved & I hope you now hold your pen & sit properly even when writing to me & are not overlooked. I wrote to Mrs Trench yesterday & asked her to get you some wools, & if you cd. send me a little bit of each shade in your next letter I will get you some here & send you. I shall enclose you a few stamps in this. I do hope you are getting finer weather for this continual rain is very depressing. Here it is clearing I am glad to say. It was wrong of Capt Jones to tell you there was much sickness here for it is not the case. Most thankful am I that up to this time we have been healthy here. A long time ago one poor man & two

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children died of Cholera. That was when it was at Simla. I am so glad Capt Jones went to see you. He wrote & told me of his visit. Last evening we dined at the Tremletts²⁸⁵ to meet Col & Mrs Birch. Mr Holdsworth²⁸⁶ & Mr Nicoll were there besides ourselves. I was obliged to leave early being very tired but I enjoyed the party. Everybody asks so very kindly for you, even strangers & it pleases me so much. A Mrs Andrews who sits behind us in Church & I always thought was Mrs Biddle came and sat by me at Mrs Roberts Croquet partly & she spoke so kindly when she heard of your illness the other day. I went to Mrs Roberts' on Monday evening & she is so pleasant I quite enjoyed myself. Lots of people were there. On Tuesday I went to Mrs Taylor's but somehow her parties are horribly stupid. She is not pleasant enough in her manner to make them lively. There was a little music & then Croquet with tea & coffee. The Tremletts asked me to go there sometimes & wished you were here to go too.

Mrs Birch was dressed so nicely last night. Black lace over white & very nicely trimmed. Mrs Tremlett had a high white grenadine, & a pretty sash & I wore my black silk. Mrs Eagle received the money from home yesterday morning & is going off to-day²⁸⁷. I am expecting her every minute to breakfast & she will start from here. She wrote to me to go & see her yesterday afternoon & I sat with her some time. She gave me her baby's nice little bed. Mrs Smithett is coming to tiffin by & by. I like her very much. She walked with us round the Hill on Sunday & came back to dinner. Mrs Eagle wrote two days ago & asked if she might come to dinner as she had been obliged to discharge her only Kit for impertinence. I went to the Vices on Tuesday after Mrs Taylor's Croquet. Miss Vice is not at all well & has such a nasty cough poor thing. Mr Baly²⁸⁸ your Clergyman recommends them not sending Emma until after the Xmas holidays which I tell them is great

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nonsense. However next month darling I hope to send Coco. I must wait to hear from Col. Thompson & shall then get her things ready. Little Tom so often says "Poor Minnie gone Simla" He talks so much English now dear little fellow. He told me yesterday "Jackell eat owls, ducks, coon come out" He meant that a jackell came & jumped into the Pond after the Ducks! I am so very very sorry for the death of your nice little companion poor Nelly Mitchell.²⁸⁹ I am sure you must have felt it very much, losing so suddenly & sadly a nice playfellow. I was in hopes as she had lingered so long she must have recovered. Poor Mrs Mackinnon too what trouble she must be in too & how

hard for her to go with all her duties. I hope you all try to lessen her labours by being good obedient children. Does she teach you herself? What sort of person is the new teacher Miss Henem? I hope a nice person. I saw a lady with Mrs Scott on Sunday & think it must have been Mrs Ridgway. About the grounding of your

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Work, not being able to see it, I cannot decide on the colour so must leave it to others. You & Mrs Trench must decide upon it darling. I hope the Pills did you good. I hope your take as much exercise as you can & play about in play hours, for that will be better for you than any medicine darling. Charlie Thomas²⁹⁰ came here yesterday & had tiffin here. He & Harry afterwards went out & Harry shot me some doves! I have spoken to Mrs Thomas at the Croquet parties & she says Pussie²⁹¹ misses you very much. Her Aunt teaches her four hours a day & she has the entire charge of the baby²⁹², for they keep no Ayah! She does a lot of work besides & her Mama says she is very strict with her. Uncle Tom told me to give you his best love when I wrote & he is very thankful he says to hear you are well again. I did not mean the canvass was too long for I cut it the exact length of the Mantelpiece I meant darling you wd have to cut is in two, the width say, & you cd. make something else of the

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other strip. I think it a very good plan writing on Sundays. I was so happy when I got your little note from Mrs Trench's last week. It was such a pleasant surprise darling. I was so glad too to know you had the little holiday & Mrs Trench said too she shd try to get you yesterday. How kind she has been to you my child. Coco is so anxious to go to you, & I am sure it wd. be so nice for you darling. I had the nice doll you made Annie mended yesterday & she won't part with it out of her arms now. Berty is rocking Tom to sleep in the bed Mrs Eagle sent me just now. It is past 11 & she has not come to breakfast yet! Mrs Murray has gone to Simla & offered to go & see you & take anything for you. She has not yet altered my jacket but her tailor is to come to-day about it. God bless you darling precious old girl. Papa wd. write but is all day with Harry. He sends you his very best love & so do all the children darling with many kisses. Ever with my best & fondest love, your own loving

Mother

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[Kussowlie Friday 22nd August 1867]

[First part of letter missing]

...little fever. Last evening she [Annie] was running through my bathing room & caught her nose on the catch & it bled so terribly. Mrs Keir spent the other day with me. She came to see me & stayed until evening. Mrs Smithett came the day before yesterday in the afternoon & came back to dinner in the evening. She is very kind to me. She sent me a little velvet for Coco's Scotch cap & some braid for a little suit of Tom's yesterday. I often ask Tom where you are & he says "Minnie dear gone to Simla" Yesterday after asking where you were, I asked him where Uncle Tom was & he said "Big Tom? gone Simla, see my Minnie pretty". He talks very much now & is such a fine boy. Fancy Coco's asking me the other day if I should speak to Harry when he grew up to be a Gentleman! My pet you must not think that I should ever miss you less if we were separated for any length of time. That cd. not be with ones own dear child, only with people

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one does not care much about. My child you don't know what my love for you is darling. A Mother's love is far beyond expression & I have parted with you for your own good. My child I am so sorry you feel so nervous when Mr Bayley²⁹³ is examining you & I don't think anything you told me about it is silly. You must try with all your might to get over those nervous feelings & by trying you must & will conquer darling. Now mind & make a great effort. I shall think of you this afternoon pet, as being examined darling. I am so very angry with Mr MacDonnell. Sometimes I think perhaps those black Goldneys have done it, but shd. you see them by any chance which I hope you will not, don't on any acct mention your having had the letter. If the young fool is at Umballa he will

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get more than he likes from Uncle Tom. At all events we shall find him somewhere. I am so very vexed about it & am very glad Mrs Mackinnon opened the stupid letter. It shows the necessity of being so careful in a girls school. Mrs Trench will get you any wools you want if you cd let her know the shades, but be very careful darling of the wool for it costs a lot & you might make something else with any that is over. Mrs Trench says the work is lovely. I don't know if Mrs Murray will go & see you or not. She said she should, but I purposely did not give her anything for you that she might have no excuse, but remember darling she has been often very kind to you & receive her kindly. We expect Uncle Tom up again next month. I hear from Mrs Smithett that Mrs Trench has been very poorly indeed.

Papa sends you his fondest love darling. You must try hard to get on that you may be our clever little daughter. I saw the death of poor Nellie Mitchell

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mentioned in the paper, poor little soul. How very sad it was. I don't think they will send Emma just yet, as they seem very glad of any excuse not to have the expense. Miss Vice was so rude the other day. She declared Berty told a falsehood about who threw a stone & called out something about Jane Donaldson. He told the truth, & I afterwards met Charlie Thomas who told me exactly what Harry & Berty had [sic], but Miss V. was so rude. I told her I was much offended with her note (which was very rude). Jane D. has told many lies & amongst so many boys I do not know how she cd. pretend to know who called out. I told Miss V. I wd. not believe a word of all the students put together against my children. God bless you my precious darling child, dear old Min. The children all send you so much love & many kisses & with my best & fondest love Ever believe me

Your loving Mother

I was so grieved darling at your getting such a blow in your forehead.

[Envelope dated 22nd, stamped SIMLA AU. 23, addressed as before]

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[Kussowlie] Thursday 29th [August 1867]

My own darling child, dear old Minnie, We were so glad darling to get your dear letter last Tuesday

& so surprised at the beautiful writing! Fancy our not knowing who the letter was from. Papa brought the letters into my room & I said "I hope there is one from Minnie" & he said "No" & I was so frightened. He asked whose writing yours was & I cd not tell! Did you direct the letter yourself darling? I am so very much pleased at the very great improvement, & to learn also that you hold your pen properly & find it easy to do so. You see dear child what a little trying does, & you have benefited at least in one thing by going to School. Your music also I feel sure you are getting on with & I am so glad the time will become easier by degrees. I shd like

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you much to play well. I wrote to Mrs Mackinnon about your Frock & asked her to get one made for you as those I have here wd not do. I wish they wd. I also told her I shd write to you twice a week but if I heard it did you any harm I wd. stop it at once! Now Minnie dear it will depend on yourself, as long as you keep from fretting I will write twice! Next Monday I will write as you wish it so much my child & I do too for I don't like only writing once a week. I hope you got the little parcel I sent by Col. Trench. I bought the cross a little while ago & the string for your napkin & Papa bought the sponge, & I have half of it with you as Papa cut it in two. It has been pouring with rain all the week. You cd. not have it worse at Simla.

We dined at the Smithetts

on Sunday evening & Col. Trench was there. We talked of you & he asked if he might kiss you; & we told him for fun to beg & see if you wd. let him!! I hope you will enjoy yourself at the Parkers. I wd. rather you had gone to Mrs Trench but still the Parkers have been very kind asking you so often you cd. not have refused. You must not go to the Dyers²⁹⁴ for I shd. not speak to them if I saw them. You can say Mama only allows you to go to very few places. Poor dear Annie has fever & is lying on the couch very poorly. It is so difficult to keep them from running outside & they kept on getting wet yesterday. I was weak all yesterday from Ague & am not very strong to-day in consequence. On Friday Mrs Vice sent us an invitation for Croquet the next day &

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to go to the examination of Students work on Monday. I went to both. There were only 3 or 4 at Croquet & I worked at your cushion which I am getting on nicely with. On Monday at 11 I went in the rain to the examination. The work was very nice indeed some of it beautiful. Mrs Taylor was there & signed the papers saying what she thought of the students learning & work & those who got the best characters were very jealous one of the other. The students were all seated in the School room & the work was on a table at one end. Think how very sad! Major Fuller²⁹⁵ was expected & the examination had been put off for him, when the news came on Saturday that he had been drowned between Murree & Pindie. You will remember him at Murree

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& his pretty little children. He & another officer were in the Mail Cart & they came to a river & they wd. get out & swim across, although the driver begged them not to, & they were carried away by the torrent poor fellows. The driver with the Mail Cart & another passenger all crossed safely. After the examination was over the Vices begged me so went to-day to tiffin. I came home to do a few little things & then went back with Annie & Coco. Mrs Alexander was there at tiffin. In the evening it cleared a little & I went to Mrs. Roberts Croquet party. There was scarcely anybody there for the ground was so wet. I like Mrs Roberts very much. Mrs Nicolls²⁹⁶ had a little boy last week & a soldier plays the Harmonium in Church. Harry wrote a note to you last Sunday which I sent. I

have just heard from Mrs Smithett that

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Col. Trench has been very ill indeed at Simla & Mrs. Trench has never left him for a moment. Tom always speaks of you as "my Minnie dear"! I send Bertie & Willie to Mrs Oliver's²⁹⁷ School They went to the first time on Monday. I am to give her 16/ a month for the two. I am very sorry to say Mrs Perry cannot receive them for the winter & after all I am afraid I shall have to ask the Vices to keep them. I say "afraid" only because I should like them to go where they wd. be taught more & not get spoilt. They cd. not go to School yesterday but to-day I put them on only shoes, no socks, & gave them dry shoes & socks to take with them & change there for I dont want to lose their Schooling & this rain may go on for days more. Mrs. Olivers little girl complained of Bertie & Willie throwing stones at her as she passed, naughty

boys. I am Marking Coco's things & hope to send her soon. I must wait to hear again from Col. Thompson. If I do not take her myself I shall have you down here darling. I sd. go if I were stronger but I fear the trip wd knock me up. I intend to see if I am better in Octr. when the weather is bracing. I shall feel very much indeed not being present at your Confirmation darling child. I hope you are trying to get over your nervousness with Mr Bayley. It will be my birthday on Sunday week the 8th & I shall ask Mrs Mackinnon to give you a half holiday on Monday instead & hope to make you a Cake darling & send you if I have an opportunity. We expect dear Uncle Tom next Tuesday. I am so afraid his Regt. will be one of those sent with this Force to Abyssinia²⁹⁸ to release some poor captives

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Some English people have been kept prisoners there for a long time & the King will not give them up so they are now going to send an Army there to make him. Every Regt. wants to go nearly & Uncle Tom has asked to be sent. I shall be very sorry if he does go. I don't know what the Vices will do about Emma. I think they are waiting for Mr Griffin Vice²⁹⁹ to come first before they decide. Emma looks so pale & unhappy & she never goes anywhere, does not come out even when they have people there to Croquet. I don't know but I think Griffin will pay for her, but never say I thought so. I am so very vexed about the bathing arrangements. It does seem so very nasty to get a bath whenever you go out for the day. Now mind & ask for one at the Parkers darling. What a nice lecture on History you seem to have had.

3

I am very glad you enjoyed it so much. Major Bamfield is very angry about Mr Macdonnells writing to you & he is going to make him apologise. I told him about it as we could not find out where he was. I am very angry about it. I heard from Mrs. Moorhead from Ireland to-day. She enquired so kindly about you all. Coco bought a little cross like yours with her own money. Good bye my own darling child.

Papa sends his very fondest love with Mama & the children send you so much love and sweet kisses

Ever your own loving

Mother

Mama loves you so much & you must be so good now if I write twice a week!

Kussowlie Monday [2nd September 1867]

My own darling child, dear old Minnie, To-morrow will bring your dear letter & I hope it will tell me you had had a happy holiday if it was not too wet for you to go out. I am not very strong to-day so I am afraid I shall be only able to write you a short letter. I have been lying down all the morning & it is now 3 o'clock. I went out on Saturday to call on Miss Beamish & on my way home the Smithetts made me stay to tiffin with them. Uncle Tom was to have been up to-morrow but he wrote to-day & said he wd. not be able to come until the next day. He is not certain yet that his Regt. will not be sent to this horrid Abyssinia & that is partly the reason of

1v

the delay in his coming. He is sending up a very nice grey horse for me to ride & I hope he will be quiet in the Hills. We have had incessant rain here. It seems trying to brighten up a little to-day & I do hope it will. I had a little fever one day last week & dear little Annie had it also & altogether she has not been very well but is all right now I think. Willie wants to send you some of his little toys & wishes so much to write to you. He & Berty go to Mrs Olivers every day excepting Saturday & I am so glad they do. I wish much we cd send them to a good School & brush them up a little³⁰⁰. After our walk round the Hill yesterday after Church with Mrs Smithett & Mr Stevens we went into Capt. Eyres & he gave the children some Wallnuts. Dr McGill has been

very ill indeed but is getting better now & has gone for a change to another house. Dr Bradshaw³⁰¹ is coming here in his place. Papa saw E[torn] yesterday & told her wh[torn] pity it was she does[torn] to School instead of [torn] much time & she said [torn] were waiting for Griffin to[torn] & take Charlie as her Mama cd. not afford to have two children at School at once. They had expected Griffin last week but he has not come. Papa takes such trouble with Harry & teaches him so many hours a day. Charlie Thomas came to ask Harry to go out shooting to-day but he cd. not go. Emma has just been here & I wanted her to stay to tiffin but she cd. not as she said they wd. be waiting for her. She had been down to the house to get things. She sends you her kindest love. I am longing to see your work, for I hear

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it is lovely & I shall be so proud of it as your work darling.

God bless you my child. I shall write again next Friday my child. Ever with

our fondest love & many sweet kisses from the children who talk so much of you

Your own loving Mother

[addressed as before]

1

Mrs S. will not go this week

[Kussowlie] Sunday 8th [September 1867]

My dear darling child, I write a few lines darling on my birthday to enclose in Mrs Trench's note. I

think you will have a happy afternoon with her & so keep Mama's birthday

You will be surprised to know she is coming here with Ada³⁰² to stay with us for a change. Unless Mrs Smithett changes her mind as Mrs Trench is coming here she is going to Simla on Wednesday & will take dear little Coco³⁰³ with her. Coco will sleep at Mrs Smithetts on Tuesday night so as to leave with them early on Wednesday morning, sleep at Seree. - I have just heard from Mrs Smithett & she says she will not go whilst Mrs Trench is here darling

1v

so Coco will go back with Mrs Trench or with Mrs Smithett when she does go. I could not help crying very much this morning darling at your absence, the only one away my pet. Mama does love you so fondly & dearly with all her heart my child. I wonder if you have got your Cake dear & if you like it. I made one yesterday for us all here just like it darling.

Mrs Keir came yesterday afternoon & sat here & played. She is coming to tiffin on Tuesday. Tomorrow darling I shall get my Birthday letter, making it quite another Birthday for me. Papa bought me a hair brush & two pairs of collars and cuffs, which the children gave me. They all kissed me for you & it made my cry very

much darling. I am so glad dear you have not worn your ear-rings. Those little rings are quite enough for you now. Uncle Tom is going to give me a present to-morrow. He went to the shops yesterday & when he came back for me the shops were closed. He send you his best love. I am so glad you kiss your letters darling. Papa is tuning the Piano, it is so terribly out of tune. I see in the paper that Capt. Hawkins³⁰⁴ has met with an accident at Murree. He fell out of the Lt. Governors Verandah (upper one) & injured his head. I do hope it is nothing serious. God bless you my own child. Ever with fondest love from us all your own loving Mother
Annie & Tom send such sweet kisses.

Coco was now at school in Simla with Minnie

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[Kussowlie] Saturday [5th October 1867]

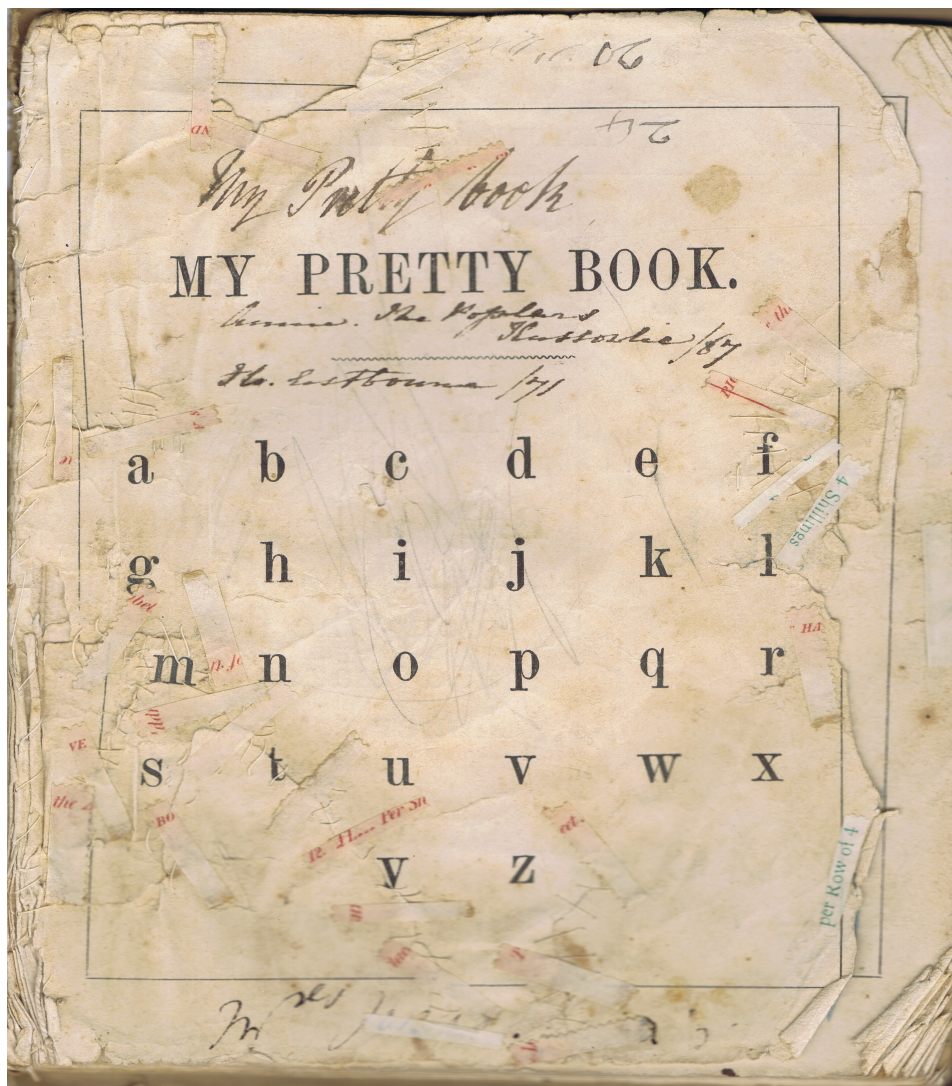
My own darling child dear old Minnie, I hope you will take my yesterdays letter to Coco as partly to yourself, so making two letter in successive days my pet. I at first only began it to be ready for to-day. I have been looking at Simla so lovingly to-day my darlings wishing I cd. peep at my two dear bairns. It is so clear some times Uncle Tom says "Come & look & you will be able to see the bairns taking their dinner"! Uncle Tom goes down to-day I am sorry to say. He sends his best love to you both & many kisses.

Your cushion is in the drawing room made up & looks so handsome. Has Coco begun her mat yet dear little soul? You of course will know that Mrs Trench has had a little girl, born the day after you were last with her³⁰⁵. We went to the Brewery at 2 o'clock yesterday just taking our tiffin with us & eat it on the croquet ground Mr Lennox joining us. They are building a new room & we were

1v

watching it. Harry was standing on the edge of the Bank & it gave way & down he slipped about a dozen feet, Harry, bank, stones & all!! He did not hurt himself fortunately. I rode home as usual from the Ghurkul & in the evening before dinner we had the Goose Game, Annie fell just now &

cut her poor little chin on a toy. She asked me to-day to give her lessons!



It appears that Maria did start to teach Annie as a date shows "Kussowlie/67". It also shows that Florence (not yet born) used the same book in "Eastbourne /71".

She & Tom are looking so well. Tom often comes & says "Good bye Mrs Jones, I going to Simla & to Minnie & Coco". He talks English so well & so clearly. Uncle Tom has just gone for his last visit to the Brewery & he said as he left "Be sure & give my best love to Pins!. Tell me if Coco found her gloves. I hope she did but if not I must get her another pair. The children & Papa saw a dak

Pony killed, down the Khud this morning. It fell about 20 feet & I suppose it must have happened last night. The saddle & bridle were by it. We must have heard of it if anyone had been riding it at the time. I see in the papers that Capt. Hawkins' wife has had a little girl at Murree.³⁰⁶ Emma Vice has been very poorly indeed with face ache & cold on her chest & they had to send for the Dr the evening before last so Charlie told me when I met him yesterday morning. He goes back to-morrow. I want Harry to go & see him but he says he does not think Charlie cares to see him he is so much younger! I have lost 2 of my ducks lately & my turkey. I don't believe as they say they were carried off by jackalls, but that

the servants have sold them.

Capt. Dundas has been here for such a long time & delayed me so I must write in such a hurry! My own child I am so happy to think you look so nicely after little Coco. It will teach you nice habits though the work may be rather hard now darling with all your own work. I hope you are getting on in everything as well as music & writing. How I shall like to hear you play my darling. I hope to write to Mrs Mackinnon on Monday about Coco's music as I think she had better learn. God bless you my precious children. Ever with our best & fondest love & such loving kisses your own loving

Mother

I am so glad Mrs Scudamore³⁰⁷ spoke so kindly to you dear

I am quite well darling

Kussowlie Oct 8th [Tuesday 1867]

My own darling child, We were so delighted to get your dear letter yesterday & to know you were having a day out. It was very kind of the Mercers³⁰⁸ to ask you two days following but I am sorry Saturday should have been a dull day for you. It must have been with only Mrs Mercer. I wish little Coco could have gone with you. How was it you had a lonely walk with Mrs Dennis if the Pooles asked every child in the School out? I wrote to Mrs Mackinnon yesterday & asked her to ask you if you wd rather come back now for 3 weeks than wait for one month of the holidays. The Vices are talking of going to Delhi at Xmas & so of course could not receive you if they did, not that I have spoken to them about it. I don't know what to do about Berty & Willie I am sure. The Vices are very queer people & I think have much altered in their ways

Mrs Nicholas alone seems the same. Mrs Vice was as loud & noisy on Saturday when I went there I cd. not understand half she was telling me & Harry said it was perfectly dreadful! Emma had been very poorly indeed all the week & was wrapped up in a large shawl. Mrs Vice said she was going to School in January & I think she certainly will when Charlie leaves Jutog³⁰⁹. If you come home now my own darling & little Coco too, I wd. send a servant to meet you at Siree. How nice it will be to see you again my own darling but you must promise not to pet at going back darling for a very little upsets me now, but the home holiday must make you study twice as diligently & then you must look forward to our being near you next year darling. Maude³¹⁰ is here playing having appeared

this morning before 8! I had a note from Uncle Tom this morning telling us of his arrival at Umballa. He is going to see the Regtl. Farm in a few days.. The Mrs Glass you speak of I knew very slightly before you were born at Midnapore. She was married at Berhampore. Fancy Miss Holbrow being there also. We are going to the Brewery by & by with our tiffin & perhaps Charlie Vice will join us. He was not well and could not go back to School on Sunday. Harry ran down just now to ask him but he was out so left word with Mrs Nicholas. Darling I wonder if in a few days I shall see your dear face again! I think it wd. be better for you to come home now darling. You & Coco can come in one jampan & one box will do for you & one set of bedding. I have night gowns & benians [unclear] of yours so you only bring one for the road. I shall write

to Mrs Mackinnon by this post again. I have just heard Capt Dundas is going to Simla If he escorted you back -

There I have been up myself to Capt. Dundas' & he will be able to see you part of the way. You can leave Simla very early the day after to-morrow, stop at Siree for breakfast where Capt Dundas will meet you most likely. Wait there until it gets cool & then go on to Hurreepore or Kukri Hutti, sleep there & on here very early the next day so as to be in in the cool.

Don't speak more than you can help to native servants darling. I will send Sukdan or the Cook on to-morrow to Siree to meet you if I hear that Mrs Mackinnan will let you come. Give her what money you & Coco have if she wants it but I wd. rather pay the dak here. Be very careful

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of the sun. Capt. Dundas will be sure almost to be at Siree soon after you darling & be very careful of money, nothing to pay for Coco at the Bungalow & only 8as for yourself darling if you stay a few hours. I feel so fidgetty doing things in this hurry. God bless you my two darlings. Your holiday will be until the 1st.

Ever in great haste your own loving

Mother

Tell Mrs Mackinnon one jampan for you both
Be careful not to speak to strangers on the road

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[Kussowlie] Tuesday [15th October 1867]

My own darling children, dear dear Minnie & Coco, I have just received your most dear letters & Papa & I have been made so happy by them my children, my dear little pets. We were so glad dear Irene to get your first dear little note, your first from School & it was such a nice letter too darling. I am so glad you like school and you must both try very hard to get on. Dear Minnie your writing is so very nice, so distinct & we are so delighted at it & to know also that you write holding your pen & paper properly. I am so glad you wrote so cheerfully darling. Try to feel so my child & by trying you will really become happier. It must I know be a trial to be at school but it must be gone through. A cheerful letter from you darling always

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does me good & makes me feel better darling. How much I wish my child I cd. have been present at your Confirmation & received the first Sacrament with you my child. I am glad to think you did not regard your dress. It cd. not be helped about the Crinoline though I have such a very great objection to one. Charlie Vice wrote & said he had seen you when he himself was confirmed. He is coming home for a short holiday to-morrow. The Vices returned to their own house on Saturday. Uncle Tom, Annie & I had tiffin at the Whympers yesterday. Little Tom came up afterwards & had been very angry with the Ayah on starting because she wd. not let him go the lower road to the Brewery!

He ran in to Papa & said

I had told him to go to Mr Whympers & the Ayah wd. not take him. He did not know they were living at the top of the Hill! He speaks English so well & how you wd. laugh to hear him say "Give me a little tea, will you"? in such an impudent manly tone, with such a funny face. He is such a dear

little fellow. I shall be so glad when Mrs Smithett returns and takes her boys away. She is to be back to-morrow. They require such looking after and Henry³¹¹ is not a nice boy at all. Annie complains of his dirty ways! I am so glad you two dear sisters are together though I miss my darling little girls very much, yet I know it is for your good my darlings. I finished the few remaining stitches of your cushion yesterday. How I wish I cd. see the very pretty work you are doing now my child. How nice it will look. I am so glad you are taking such care of Coco's clothes. Do you like her

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new dress with the red braid. Does she always look neat & nice? I often wear my new bonnet & we like it more & more. Mr Holdsworth called yesterday for the first time. Mr Abercrombie walked with me on Sunday a long way, until Mrs Vice joined me. Emma had a new dress black & white check & it looks very nice indeed. She has a cloak of the same. We have our break from Sanawur again as we cd. not eat the bread here it has been so dreadfully hard lately since Major Taylor has been using his new ovens for baking & they spoilt my last cake quite. The Vices are going to get their bread with ours. Mrs Nicholas' baby has been very poorly indeed with feverish cold but is much better now, I believe. Did you like Coco's black hat? It was made by a woman in the Barracks out of the boys old hats & yours

Papa was so pleased with your letter & was going to write but I said if he wrote another day you wd enjoy having two separate letters darling.

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Kussowlie Oct 19th [1867]

My own darling Minnie, I heard from Mrs Mackinnon this morning that you were delighted at the Vices invitation & I thought you would be. I was quite surprised when Mrs Vice asked me for she has been so grumpy lately, that I scarcely ever go there. She asked you & little Rene Pene³¹² for a week or fortnight & Mrs Mackinnon said perhaps she & Miss Birch wd. be going to Delhi in Janry & wd. bring you to Umballa & then take you back again on their return.

I saw Mrs Mercer as she passed through on Tuesday. I was in the Jampan with Annie in the afternoon & she passed. Thinking it was Mrs Mercer I called to her men & asked & then joined her & went as far as the Rajahs house. I was glad to see her as she has been so kind to you. Her children & Miss Holbrow had gone on & they all went for the day to Uncle

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Toms at Umballa & some of them went to Miss Perkins³¹³ wedding. Miss Beamish was one of the bridesmaids. Mrs Trench will be passing through next week. I hope you will see her before she leaves but I did not like to ask her, for she has been in trouble lately & Col Trench has been very poorly indeed. Mrs Gully lost one of her children yesterday & he has been buried this morning. The little creature was about 12 months old³¹⁴. I am going to make your Cake to-morrow darling & send a bottle of treacle with it & a small bottle of Ginger. The bundle will contain 2 Blankets for your beds, an old warm frock of Coco's & two of her Pinafores, making 12 so alter the number in her list in her box, also a pair of Gaiters

which might be nice for her. We shall send you 4/ darling to buy what you like yourself my child & 3 little plain collars. I bought at Wallaces. I don't think Charlie will go back to Jutog. He has been

very poorly for some time & went yesterday to Umballa for a change. I am (I can't think what I was going to say for I was interrupted by a note from Mrs Smithett asking if she might come here with her work)!

I asked Mrs Mackinnon to give you 1/8 darling but she did not say if she had. 1/ for the doll & 8as for yourself. I will send a little letter paper & a few stamps with the things. I wrote to a Mrs Pigot at Simla about taking Berty & Willie for the winter & I expect her to answer to-morrow. Mrs Mackinnon is also going to speak to her. I think

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the Vices wd. take them but I think others wd. charge less. Mrs Mercer told me you were allowed to go to the Pic-nic because you were such a good girl darling, & it is such a pleasure to me to know that. Harry has gone out butterfly catching with the Rottens. We had intended going to the Brewery with our tiffin but I have been so very poorly to-day we cd not go. I am better now & shall be all right presently I daresay. It is unfortunate as this is Harry's half holiday & Papa likes going out for the afternoon & he won't go with the children without me. Kussowlie is almost empty now & looks very desolate. Mrs Smithett often come here & last night dined here. She has just written to know if she may come with her work & sit with me.

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I shall expect to find you play the Piano as well as I do when you come home, old Boody!! It has been a great blessing darling for you your going to School instead of wasting your time at home. How is little wee Coco getting on? Kiss her for us & read her this letter dear little soul. Mrs M. will bring her a pair of gloves, which I am sure she must want, & she must take care of these tell her. God bless you my two darling children. Ever with our fondest love & such kisses from the children, your own loving

Mother

Addressed as before

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[Kussowlie] Monday Morning [21st Oct 1867]

My own darling child, I send a line by Sukdan darling & shall write a proper letter to-morrow. In the bundle are 2 blankets, Coco's frock, gaiters & 2 Pinafores. Between the Blankets darling are two or 3 little things for you - 2 collars, a pr. of garters from Harry, neck handkerchief from Annie, & in the paper box 4/ from us, & a 4a. bit from little Tom, a little paper, envelopes & 8as worth of stamps. Take great care of your things darling. I send a seed cake I made yesterday, a bottle of treacle, & a little ginger The tomato jam, Coco used to like so in the tin there is some for her

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Berty & Willie send the little toys & I have written the names at the bottom darling. You must try & be happy on your Birthday. God bless you darling pet. Kiss each other for us.

Ever your own loving

Mother

The Syce will bring back the cloth the bundle is in & also I hope Mrs Mackinnon has recd. a book from Mrs Nicoll for me & a present from Mrs Williams which Sukdan will bring

Letter from her father

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Kussowlie - October 22nd /67

My own dearest child Minnie I must send you a letter on your birth day tho' it must needs be a very short & shabby one, as I am sitting down to write it at half past 4 o'clock, tired to death with the hard labour of teaching & with the knowledge that it must be posted by 5 o'clock. I have time only for sending you all the blessings a loving father has to send & to wish you many happy returns of tomorrow. I have not time then to say any thing about our happy anticipations of a meeting at Xmas; of how improved you will be; how very learned you will be; how nicely you will play on the piano & how very nice it will be for us to play together. I am practicing my prettiest music (duets) on purpose to play with you, my darling. You must ask Coco to kiss till you are both tired, for us!! Mama will have told you all the news of the family here, so there is nothing for me to tell, while I have

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so short a time for writing. I am so rejoiced to hear that you are getting on so nicely. You can have no idea how advanced Harry is - I compared his acquirements with Charley Vice's the other day & Harry could translate the Latin & do the sum in algebra that C. could not!! Was not that fine for little Harry? Berty & Willy are to stay at the Vice's while we are at Umbala & so you will see a good deal of them, I am rejoiced to think, during your visit to the Vices. Mama must be wanting this, my letter, so I must conclude a most shocking birthday letter with many earnest wishes that God may ever bless my dearest eldest child. Kiss my darling Coco & say that I am so longing to see her. I am so very sorry that we shall not have the happiness of seeing you on your birth-day; but we must keep your birth-day as the happy day that we meet - Again & again, many loves & blessing to my darling Minnie - Your loving father

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Kussowlie Tuesday [29th October 1867]

My own darling child, dear dear Minnie. I was so glad to get your dear letter yesterday, the day after it was written for a wonder. I sent down your letter to Emma by Willie directly. It was very vexatious of Coco indeed to go & lose her letter after all the trouble you had taken with her. I am so very sorry to think you lost your holiday last Saturday, for it must have been such a disappointment to you. You must not regret having gone to School my child, for what wd. your life be without education of any kind? It is a great blessing your being so happily placed & I feel so thankful for your dear sake that you have the advantage my own darling. I have had such long talks with Mrs Trench about you darling & you don't know how

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happy we have been made by her accts. of you. She says you are such a good thoughtful girl, & more like a mother to Coco than a sister. I felt so glad when I held her baby to think you had held it darling & also stood God-mother to her. The Trenches came on Saturday & I went & sat some time with them in the evening with them [sic]. On Sunday they came to tiffin here. Mrs Smithett came afterwards and we all went out together. Yesterday Mrs Trench came & sat all the afternoon with me. She is going to write & tell you all about me & say how well I am Darling old Boody you must not fret about Mama. On the whole I am wonderfully well. Of course some days I ail but not often & Mrs Trench will tell you how well she thought me looking.

Unfortunately yesterday I had very severe toothache for some hours which made me very weak, but I went out in the evening with Mrs Trench & my tooth is all right to-day. The tooth is such a bad one I wish I cd. have it out, but I had been sitting in a draft the day before & got a cold in my face. I went before breakfast this morning to see Mrs Trench before she left. They were starting off their coolies & must have gone long ago. I had expected she wd. have stayed with me but she thought it best to go down. We have not started to pack yet but Papa says he shall do the Piano to-morrow & I hope we shall get away by the 9th of Novr. Mrs Trench says you are getting on so beautifully with your work. She gave me the pattern yesterday & now Mrs Smithett wants it. How good of you not telling me a word about the bad canvass I sent you. I feel so very sorry about it darling & wish so much

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you had let Mrs Trench get some more for you. How pretty it must be & I shall be so pleased of it darling being your work. Mrs Smithett is coming here with her work this afternoon. She is going down the day after to-morrow if she can get coolies. Maude is here playing with Annie & Tom. Tom was here playing yesterday I did not see what he was doing but presently he said "Mama ain't I a clever boy?" You must only write me short letters now for writing in great cold is very painful & you have always so much to do. Remember it is all for your good my own child & I am so happy to know you are trying so hard to get on. Continue to do so my darling & think of the happiness it gives us my pet. I am sorry you did not enjoy the trip to Anandale³¹⁵ very much.

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I was in hopes it wd. have been a great treat. I think you were feeling sorry at losing Evelyn Pogson³¹⁶ & am sorry for your sake she has left. I was so sorry to hear from Mrs Trench of Major Sparke's³¹⁷ dangerous illness. We had not heard of it. I wish you cd. measure yourself against the wall & let us know exactly how tall you are. I want you to be as tall as I am & Mrs Trench says you are growing very fast. She says Berty is so like you. Don't trouble again about Coco's writing if she cannot manage a little note by herself. Give her many kisses for us & tell her to give you the same darling. God bless you my own dear dear child. Ever with our best & fondest love to you both, your own loving Mother

[addressed as before]

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[Kussowlie] Saturday 2nd Novr [1867]

My own darling child dear old Boody. We have been busy packing all the week & yesterday Papa

packed the Piano. The house looks quite bare now & shall be glad to be settled in Umballa once more. I don't know exactly when we shall go down but fancy the 9th if the dak Gharris are not very expensive. Mrs Smithett went down on Thursday & she went on from Kalka in a Bullock Cart. I was in hopes I cd. have gone in the same sort of cart but I had a note from Mrs Smithett from Umballa this morning & she says she is half dead & aching all over from the terrible shaking she had & she was from 4 in the afternoon until 12 the next day on the road. This is Mrs Vices birthday but being Saturday they kept it last night so as not to be obliged to break up very

1v

early. Papa, Harry & I were asked & we went but Papa stayed at home. We did not come home until one o'clock this morning! I cannot tell you my own child how very much I thought of you & last year when you were with me & you danced with Mr Bishop & got so giddy! Nothing wd. induce Emma to dance last night, but all the others did. I had expected a regular tea as we had last year but there was nothing but a little tea handed round. Fortunately I took a little soup before I went but poor Harry had nothing until 12 o'clock when there was such a splendid supper. Nothing cd. have been nicer than it was. The Tremletts Alexanders, Dundas' & Mr Owen³¹⁸ were there. We first went to see the students sit down to dinner & there were a lot of soldiers

there. They dined in the upper house where they always have their meals I believe & then went down to the lower Bungalow to dance. Some of the women were in low dresses & wreaths & looked very nice & there were some Sanawur girls there just your height darling & I did think so much of my own darling old girl. There were three little orphan girls called Clarke from Sanawur. Their mother died last year & the father in the hot weather of Cholera. Poor little things, the eldest is about 15 & looks very sad³¹⁹. The ladies danced with the soldiers & it was such fun to see them. Mrs Nicholas danced with Mr Kelly the Apothecary, & I think the same who attended to your poor chin my pet. I went round the Hill last evening & joined Mrs Stanley Clarke³²⁰. I think she wd. like to put her boy at the Vices for the winter months.

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The Trenchs went down on Tuesday but I must have told you that in my last letter. I had a letter from Uncle Tom from Muritsur³²¹ yesterday. He was to have gone to the Farm on Wednesday & will be back at Umballa in a few days now. He said he was so rejoiced to hear the good accts Mrs Trench gave of you both darling. The Vices made us play on that abominable Piano last night & I was quite ashamed of it! I am going to leave the Chest of Drawers here packed & in the drawer shall put all your things, books & odds & ends darling that you might like to see my darling. How I wish Berty & Willie were at such a good School as you are my children. I don't think Mrs Oliver gets them on. Berty is still at 9 times in multiplication! He I think

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would get on but Willie is so fearfully stupid. I am glad to think Mrs Nicholas likes him & thinks him good looking too!! Annie asked me to-day to teach her "Love of my Soul". She is always mixing the first line of it, dear little soul. That young monkey Tom often runs in & says "Mama I seen Coco on the road. I did, coming here" & then again it is you he says he has seen! He & Annie have both bad colds. The snow is looking so beautiful beyond Simla now. Mrs Major Taylor³²² called out to me last night that she was coming to see me to-day & I daresay she will stay to tiffin as she was to have come last week & was prevented. I heard from Mrs Clerk's two days ago. She said she wished so much she cd. have offered to have taken you with her home. She teaches

Pussie herself, & Georgy goes to a day school. She does all the needlework of the house nearly & yet is very weak & delicate poor thing. My little god-child she says is such a pretty child. She saw the Dorans³²³ one day in London. You must read this letter to Coco darling & give her many kisses for me & she must do the same to you my pet. All send their best love to you both & such sweet kisses. Holidays next month old woman!!! God bless you my two darlings. Ever with Papa's & my fondest love

Your own loving Mother

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[Kussowlie] Saturday Afternoon [9th November 1867]

My own darling child

I am so tired with packing I don't now what to do but must write a line to my chicks! We hope to start to morrow morning for Kalka & go on if we can the same evening but we may stay a night there. Direct your to-morrow's letter to me at Umballa care of Col Wright³²⁴. We do not know if he is back or not as his last letter came long ago. 3 of our Hackeries³²⁵ left yesterday & one more goes by & by or in the morning. I have just

1v

sent Berty & Willies beds & Almirah³²⁶ of clothes to the Vices. I went to a croquet party at the Tremlets on Thursday. You & darling Coco are going to stay a few days with them first of all, then go to the Vices on the 22nd Decr. & then in a few days on to Mama!!! I think so very much of you having got that prize darling. I cannot write more my darling

I am very tired & still have much to do.

God bless you my two pets, dear dear children.

With our fondest love & kisses from all

ever your own loving

Mother

[addressed as before]

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[Umballa] Tuesday [12th Nov 1867]

My own darling precious child Last evening I was so delighted to get your dear letter of the day before, even quicker than when at Kussowlie my darling! My pet you must not cry & fret for it does no good & does not bring Mama nearer! I am a very little way further off now darling & it will not be long before we meet. My darling old girl, I was only thinking myself that you wd. be wanting a dress & you shall certainly have it. I cannot delay this letter to get money but I will send

you 10/ to morrow & you buy yourself a dress. I leave it to your own taste & if it costs more will send you more money but now when people are going down things are very cheep. Get a nice dress for I like you to look nice. I know you are now very careful for Mrs Trench told me so & said you were so good always saying you wanted nothing & I feel quite sure you need the dress.

1v

You can get it at once for I will send the 10/ next post. I am writing directly I am dressed for fear of being late for the post for I don't know when it goes. I came in here so very comfortably yesterday morning at five o'clock. We left Kussowlie on Sunday at ½ past 3, & it was dark when we reached Kalka, at least moonlight. We got one Gharrie for 40/ so at ten o'clock I left with Annie & Tom, the Ayah & Munnoo. Papa & Harry stayed behind, slept at Kalka & came on yesterday after breakfast in the Mail van, reaching this at tiffin time. I had the most comfortable & quickest journey I ever had. I found Uncle Tom here. We had not heard from him for so long we did not know where he was & he only

returned the day before we came! Yesterday was dear old Berty's birthday & the Vices are going to keep it to-morrow with little Alf's. Charlie came to see me yesterday. He was staying here with one of the Mr. Parkers. Darling, the Vices cannot receive you until the 22nd of Decr. so the Tremletts who are so kind said instead of your remaining at School for those few days you two should go to them & they would have Emma over or you shd go to her. I am sure you would like the Tremletts very much. They are so nice & kind. I shall have you down so quickly from the Vices but you must not be an old Goosy & be afraid of the Vans! I am so glad you had a nice trip to Prospect Hill darling & don't wonder at your being so tired after it. Uncle Tom asked so much about

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you darling & was so pleased at your getting the prize. Emma's likeness was taken the other day by a Capt. Sladen³²⁷ who is living at Hudson's garden below the Vices. I like being down in the plains so much again. It seems so nice and pleasant here. Tom so often says "Good bye Mama I going to Simla to Minnie". What a change you will see in him. He does talk English so nicely. I was so tired with packing but not ill. Papa is busy unpacking & I must do some when I have finished this. We undid the Piano before Papa came yesterday & put the big Durree down. The room will soon look just as usual. I am so glad the Blankets keep you warm enough darling. This cold ought to make you

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so rosy! Kiss dear little Coco for me & tell her to kiss you darling. You must not cry or be unhappy any more old girl. The holidays will soon come now darling. I had a letter from Mrs Smithett yesterday from Sealkote & she enquired for you both. She is so fond of Tom & he calls her "Miffet"! It is such a pleasure to me to know how you are getting on darling & that you try so hard my pet. God bless you my children. We send you such fond love & so many kisses my pets. Ever your own loving mother.

Berty & Willie are so longing for you at Kussowlie, poor old boys. They are very good little fellows. Willie had four more teeth out, & did not care a bit! Is it not funny?

2v

P.S. I was playing with Annie & calling her "little bear" &c, so she said "You can call me any

creature's names but if you call me anything horrid I will send you to the Kotwal³²⁸!

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[Umballa] Friday 22nd [November 1867]

My own darling Pins, We were so delighted to get your long nice cheerful letter last Tuesday my child & so nicely written too. I am so glad the money reached you all right. I was getting quite fidgetty about it after my great carelessness in not getting a receipt for the letter. Dear Uncle Tom said if the letter had been lost he wd. give me a 10/ note to make it up but I should have been very sorry for he has so many calls upon his money. How quickly the time is coming for your holidays my darling & we are so longing to see you my own pet & dear sweet little Irene. I think I shall have you down directly after Xmas unless you would rather stay a few days more at the Vices, for I know what a help you will be to me darling. I only fear it being dull for you if I am tied up. The reason Mrs Vice cd. not receive you until 22nd is because she will be having the students examination for a few days before that & she wants as much quiet as she can have. You will like the Tremletts very much & they are

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very intimate with the Vices & Mrs Tremlett said she wd. prevent its being dull for you & I am sure she will. I went to Mr O'Meara³²⁹ on Tuesday & he finished my tooth very nicely & he did not hurt me in the least the second day. He had put something in my tooth the first day to deaden the nerve & so though he filed & sawed at my tooth, I never felt it at all! He is so gentle & kind. On Wednesday I went with the children to the tent pegging & saw Uncle Tom take out pegs for the first time. After the tent pegging they had what they call an assault of Arms, the Lance against the sword, the Lance without the point & a wooden sword, but still the blows were very hard! Two men rush at each other on horseback & attack one another. Mr. Twiford³³⁰ & Capt Buller had a fight & the swordsman (Mr Twiford) wore a mask of wire to protect his face. Little Annie got so frightened & her

hands so bathed in perspiration that I had to wipe them. She told me she did not like it at all! Tom quite enjoyed it! To-day there is to be a grand assault of Arms on the 21st³³¹ Parade ground, & prizes are to be given. Some of Uncle Tom's men against the 21st men. Mrs Leigh³³² will be passing through early next month. You were my only child when I last saw her! Tom & Annie were speaking of you all the other day at tiffin & saying "Poor Minnie, poor Coco, poor Bertie, poor Willie" at last Tom said "poor Harry". Annie directly said "no, Harry is not poor for he is with Mama & the others are away"! They found a cloak of Coco's on my box yesterday & both came into the room holding it saying "Poor Coco's cloak" & Annie said "Kiss it Tom" & then kissed it herself, & then brought it to me to kiss. It was so pretty to see & hear them. Tom is such a man. What a change you will see in him darling for he has quite sprung out of a baby into a manly boy. He tells everybody his name is "John Bull"! Annie

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is prettier than ever. Harry still goes out fishing or with the gun. He said the other day "Mama I shd. like to write to Minnie every Sunday". He has not begun yet! Everybody says he has grown very much. Yesterday morning I was standing outside & Major Goad³³³ came in to tell me he had seen you both & that he could not persuade you to give him a kiss to bring me!?? I am always so glad to

see anybody who has seen you lately my darlings. Major Goad is going to England in a few days with Miss Goad. It will depend what your dress is whether it requires trimming darling. Some dresses are better untrimmed so you must decide. If trimming is required I daresay you can get some inexpensive & yet very nice. Is the new school near the present

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one? It cd. not be in a better situation. Papa is so longing to play the Violin to your accompaniment darling & I do hope you will find it easy for he is so looking forward to trying with you. He goes now after breakfast to play to for an hour with Major Dumbleton³³⁴ who plays the Violin & we shall get up a little music again soon. God bless you my darling little girls dear dear Pins & Coco. We all send you our best & fondest love & such loving kisses. Ever your own loving

Mother

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[Umballa] Friday 29th [November 1867]

My darling old Pins, your last letter again gave us such pleasure, & only think my darling of your getting another prize! I feel so very happy & pleased at it darling, & so does Papa, more so than I cd. very tell you darling. It is indeed a proof of how you have been trying to get on. As you say it is of no consequence darling what your Prize is, as long as you have won it. We are so delighted my child. Two prizes in such a short time! I am sure it must encourage you to go on trying darling. Only a very short time now before the holidays. I must write to Mrs Tremlett & ask her the exact day she can receive you darling Pins & Coco. In your next letter tell me if you know how the other girls travel & if there will be anybody to take care of you on the road for it is not very nice young girls travelling alone & I must make some arrangement

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for you. I must write to Mrs Mackinnon about it. I have not heard the last week from Kussowlie & cannot tell the reason. I have heard only once from Berty & I cd. tell the letter was not his own! I have been walking about the Compound this morning enjoying the fresh cold air & feeling very well. I do so much needlework now, the rest & quiet keeping me well & strong. Tom told me to-day you were at Simla, & Coco at Sabathoo!! You don't know what a handsome boy he is & such an impudent young monkey. You will be so delighted with him & darling Annie & pet them so much I know. Poor Major Sparke³³⁵ died the day before yesterday & was buried yesterday morning. Mrs Sparke & Mary will go home. I have been making some

Milk Punch, 13 bottles. I made some with Miss Vice's help before I left Kussowlie. Papa goes every day to play with Major Dumbleton & likes it very much. How very pleased he will be to play with you darling. Mrs Trench is sending me a box of things to try & sell for her & I hope I shall succeed. Both she & Col. Trench have been thrown from their horses. He had a very narrow escape as the horse rolled on him but he escaped with a bruised leg. She was bruised a little. They were not thrown at the same time! Fancy Harry sending three snakes he caught to the Kutcherry³³⁶ & getting 6a for them! I am so glad you have got something nice for your frock. I daresay the trimming will not be very expensive & I shd. like the frock to be pretty darling. Mrs Rotton came to see us yesterday. Dr Grant of Uncle Tom's Regt. is going off this morning to join a Regt. going to Abyssinia & Uncle Tom has gone to the

Mess to see him off. He came to say Good bye yesterday. Capt. Jackson³³⁷ went off the other day. Capt. Dick³³⁸ is going to be married in England to some relation of Col. Probyn's. Papa & Harry are as usual very busy at lessons & Uncle Tom says Harry has made wonderful progress. Never mind darling writing me short letters. I know how much you have to do & it is quite painful writing in such cold as you have now. How strong it ought to make you, through all this great cold! Mind you try to learn that little song "Minnie" but I am sure you will do so darling without my telling you my child. God bless you my two darling children. How I long to see your dear faces again. Ever with our best & fondest love & loving kisses
Your own loving Mother

Umballah Friday [6th December 1867]

My own darling child, I am going to write to Mrs Mackinnon to ask her to make the arrangements for your journey my darlings. I have been waiting all week expecting an answer from Mrs Tremlett & none has come but I shall desire Mrs Mackinnon to send you at the same time with Annie Oliver³³⁹. If my letter to Mrs M. be too late for this post as I must send to the Bank for money for your journey you cd. tell her of this darling. Only one week more old Boody & then a long holiday! You two must travel in one Janpan my pets. We were again, Uncle Tom as well, so delighted with your dear letter my child & yours my little wee Coco; made so very happy by them my dear children. How nice it is

Minnie your never once having had a bad mark. It gratifies me so exceedingly my pet & if you cd. get the silver medal how delightful it wd. be. Your going to school deary has been everything for you darling. I am very glad you have learnt that song "Minnie". I have it somewhere & so you will not forget it darling. You must not think I am ill when you see a short letter. Sitting writing sometimes tires me & makes my back ache when I am otherwise well & for that reason my last letters have been shorter than they were. I am wonderfully well darling. I am very glad your dress looks so nice. You must wear it here for I want you to look very nice. I went out to pay a few visits yesterday for the first time, & took Annie

with me. I went first to Mrs Fullertons who lives in Dr. Sylvesters house then to the Butlers. Miss Butler says she saw you twice at Simla & called out to you. Do you remember Mrs Caulfield³⁴⁰? She has just died at Simla. There is such a funny picture in Punch. It would make you both laugh. A lady is sitting on a chair & a little girl is leaning against the Wall. The nurse comes in & says "Did you ring Mama"? The little girl (who is very naughty) says "No, I rang, take Mama away please, for she is very cross & disagreeable"!

I am glad you did not go to the Parkers as there are those Jutog boys there so often, & I certainly wd. not have liked you to have gone to the Mitchells³⁴¹ my children. Annie talks so much of your coming & we joke with her so much & tell her she has

quite forgotten you if she thinks you are tall for you are not bigger than Coco was & she says "No,

big girl, big girl big as Mama" & she enjoys the fun so much. Tom scalded his foot the day before yesterday with hot oil near the stables. When I asked him why he went there, he said "I shan't go there again, that pawnee³⁴² very horrid"!

Papa has begun to give Harry lessons on the Violin & teaches him before going out in the morning. The Whympers will be here to-morrow on their way to Kussowlie. God bless you my own two darling children. Coco I shall love your little mat so much my child. Ever with our best & fondest love & so many sweet kisses from Annie & Tom

Your own loving Mother

Letter from her father

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December 8th Sunday [1867]

My dear darling Minnie Can you guess why I am writing to you instead of Mama? or must I tell you? At ¼ past 3 o'clock this morning she had a little girl³⁴³!! And at ¼ to 4 we were all quiet in bed again. Dear Mama & baby are both as comfortable as possible, the latter sound asleep - Mama says that I must particularly mention that the baby is fine, pretty, sweet little thing Is is not nice that it is a girl? for now the boys and girls are equal in number! I am to finish my letter in a few minutes as this is to go by the 1st post. It is just ten o'clock and we have not yet had breakfast. Mama is so happy that I wish you could see her. I am to tell you to go direct to the Whympers as the Tremletts are not able to receive you until the 19th. The Whympers were here yesterday, on their way from Murree to Kussowli, & when Mrs Tremlett's letter

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came yesterday saying that they could not receive you until the 19th, they (the Whympers) immediately offered to take you in until the 19th. I wish, dear Pins, that I was at Kussowlie to see you next Saturday. We must try and get you down as soon as possible for we are so longing to see you and dear little Coco. But if you stay your promised time at Kussowli, Mama will be up and about again by the time you come here - & that wd be much better than being in bed, weak & unfit for the excitement of seeing her loved children - What will little Coco say to having a little sister so very tiny & young!! Give her a kiss & my fondest love. Ive just read Mrs Mackinnon's letter asking Mama what arrangements we wish to be made about your leaving school; but fortunately Mama had

written yesterday telling Mrs Mackinnon all that was necessary. You will be very glad I am sure to go to the Whympers, who are so very kind & whom you both know so well. We shall think of your happiness next Saturday dearest Pins & Coco. What an age it seems since we saw you! I had better finish my letter, my darling children, than run the risk of its not going early, to let you both know how well and happy dear Mama is. She sends you both kisses & hugs without number, as do I, and Harry, Annie & both the Toms!

God bless you my darling children. Your loving father

J H Jones

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addressed: Miss Jones
at Mrs Mackinnon's

Simla
stamped: UMBALA
SIMLA DE 10

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[Umballa] Tuesday [10th December 1867]

My dear darling children. Dear Pins & Coco, Are you not very happy you have such a dear little sister? She is such a sweet darling and I am longing for you both to come & see her. We are going to call her "Florence". Annie says "When Minnie comes you must show her baby. you ought not to forget that"! I am very well I am thankful to say my darlings. Your dear letter came yesterday & we were so happy to get it. I have read it so often & hope you have been able to write to me after hearing of baby's birth. You go direct to the Whympers darling & I will ask them to send

1v

A servant to meet you on the road. Bring what things you like & leave anything you are not likely to want locked up at School. I sent Mrs M. 20/ last Saturday & hope she got it. Your are to travel with Annie Oliver, darlings. How happy you must be my pets. We are longing to have you down my children. Baby is asleep on Papa's bed. Mrs Arbuthnot came to see me just now & did not know anything of baby's birth! God bless you

With fondest love
Ever your own lov[torn]
Mother

The Tremletts could not receive you until 19th & I did not like you to lose any of your holidays & the Whympers are so kind & wd like to keep you altogether. Florence send you both sweet kisses. She is like Annie.

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Addressed:
Miss Jones
Care of Mrs Mackinnon
The Bishops School
Simla
stamped: SIMLA Dec 12 67

On 11th December 1867, Juxon's mother died at Hill House, Westbury on Trym, Gloucester. Her Will was proved by her son the Rev. Francis Jones of Moreton Pinkney in the County of Northampton Clerk the surviving executor

This Will was made 27th September 1848 by which trusts were set up in favour of her three daughters alone of "a landed property situate at Terrington Saint Clements in Norfolk (the remaining one third part whereof is settled upon my three Daughters by Deed)" and any other real

estate she was entitled to. None of her sons were named but all her children were to have equal shares of her goods.

She added a Codicil to this will on 25th April 1860 which was much more specific about gifts of her possessions to her children. Todd had died in 1854 but the others are all mentioned.

This is a Codicil to the last will and Testament of me Harriet Jones Widow formerly of Leamington Priors in the County of Warwick but now residing at Ferryside in the County of Carmarthen which Will bears date 27-Sept-1848 I direct that in lieu of a fixed sum of Twelve pounds and ten shillings which by my said will I have directed to be paid out of my Daughter Henrietta's share of the income of my property at Terrington to each of her unmarried sisters there shall be paid to them each a sum as will make their respective shares of such income (while the rental remains the same as or not more than at present) a definite sum of Eighty pounds but if such rental shall be increased then I direct that my unmarried daughters shall while they respectively continue unmarried participate in such increase to the extent of two fifths each and my daughter Henrietta of the remaining one fifth I bequeath to my Son Francis Jones my Silver Tea Pot my Sketch by Raphael my Family Bible and two miniatures of my painting which have his name written on the back of them I bequeath to my Daughter Sibella the Prints in frames of Lord North and Bishop Dampier, my Volume of Keble's Christian Year and the articles of furniture now in her possession which she removed from Eydon³⁴⁴ also one half of my silver Forks and Spoons and one half of my table and house linen in which half is to be included the articles of the same description which my same Daughter has already had from me I bequeath to my Daughter Henrietta my Portrait of Sir Philip Sidney I bequeath to my son Bertram Jones my smaller articles of plate consisting of a Cream Jug a Pepper Castor a pair of snuffers and snuffer dish and all my remaining books not specifically disposed of by this Codicil And I bequeath to his Wife Emma Jones my Indian Scarf I bequeath to my son Juxon Henry my Silver Coffee Pot and either any two Volumes of my unspecified Books or any one unspecified Picture which he may select. And I bequeath to my Daughter Irene my Mants Bible³⁴⁵ and the remaining half of my Silver Forks and Spoons and of my Table and house linen the division thereof between her and my said daughter Sibella to be made by my Executors and in such division the forks spoons and linen which my last named Daughter has already had from me is to be reckoned as part of her half I also bequeath to my Daughter Irene the Portraits of myself and my Brother³⁴⁶ and the drawing of Hewson also my Piano and the residue of my furniture and other unspecified effects I bequeath to my Daughter Irene out of the Two hundred and fifty pounds due to me from my Son in Law the sum of eighty pounds To my daughter Sibella out of same fund the sum of sixty pounds and what shall remain of the same fund after providing for my debts funeral and testamentary expenses and legacy duty on the legacies hereinbefore bequeathed (which I desire may be defrayed hereout) I bequeath in equal shares to my sons Francis and Bertram And lastly if conveyance by the Great Western Railway to Exeter is not found to be too expensive I desire that my body be removed thither for burial that I may lie with my many dear ones in Saint Thomas's Churchyard In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this twenty fifth day of April in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and sixty -

Harriet Jones - signed and declared etc. Witnesses - William Williams Clerk S. Thomas' Ferryside - Anne Jones Widow Trisenhad Ferryside.

On the 23rd January 1868 the will and Codicil of Harriet Jones formerly of Leamington Priors in the County of Warwick afterwards of Ferryside in the County of Carmarthen and late of Hill House in the Parish of Westbury upon Trym in the County of Gloucester Widow who died on the 11th December 1867 at Hill House aforesaid, having a fixed place of abode at Hill House aforesaid was proved in the District Registry at Bristol by the oath of The Rev. Francis Jones of Moreton Pinkney in the County of Northampton Clerk (son of the deceased) the surviving executor Effects under £200 No Leaseholds.

The holiday lasted until the end of February, and Maria's letters to Minnie were then addressed to Holly Lodge, Simla

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Umballa Sunday [1st March 1868]

My own darling child

We were so thankful just now to get a letter from Miss Vice telling us of your arrival at Kussowlie & leaving again. I have been so anxious for news, for I dreaded the late trip you wd. have up the Hill. Until you had left darling I had not thought how late it wd. be. - Now it is over I daresay you are glad you went on & had a nights rest at the Vices & so broke the long journey for the next day. I went with Annie to the Tweddells yesterday. It was such a windy day that coming back I had to tie Annie's hat on with my Handf³⁴⁷. Papa had taken Harry to the tank to sail his ship for the first time since they have been here. Papa says I must tell you that the

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Tweddells both praised my singing very much & said that duet was one of the things most appreciated during the evening. They said so much about it that Papa said you wd. be so pleased to hear it old woman!

Miss Vice said by accident one of Coco's³⁴⁸ sheets went on with you. Perhaps the bearer will return it to them again. I thought of you yesterday, when Mrs Tweddell showed me some curtains she had for sale but only one pair for one window. I wished so much she had more for they were so cheap, 3/ only. Harold came yesterday & played with Tom. His mother sent him asking if he might stay the day. I was out too but it was very nice for Tom. Florence sends you so much love

& many sweet little kisses. Annie & Tom both cried after you had gone, Annie for a long time poor child & was so sad. You were so very good my own darling & I felt how much you were trying for Mama's sake to bear up. You must try to get on as you did last year darling when I heard nothing but praise of you from Mrs Mackinnon. We have sold 16 of our sheep to the Mess & have 13 left now. You must tell Mrs Mackinnon about the wools & I will also write myself. I did not touch any work yesterday & I want to finish it so as to return the pattern. I enclose a note that came this morning from Ellen Harrison³⁴⁹ for you.

Good bye my own darling child. I am always thinking

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of you & miss my darling very much. Miss Vice says you are slighter & taller.
God bless you. Ever with

our fondest love darling

Your own loving Mother
Uncle Tom sends his best love

addressed: Miss Jones
care of Mrs Mackinnon
Holly Lodge

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Umballa Friday [6th March 1868]

My own darling child, dear dear Minnie, I was most thankful to get your dear letter yesterday by the bearer. though it was such a sad one darling. I was getting quite fidgetty about not hearing each day as the post came in. Poor darling I felt so very sad reading your letter & seeing all your things, the box, & bag & basket. Remember our bargain that we were both to try & be cheerful my own child. Of course I know it must be a trial your going to school & the dismal weather must also be depressing but be Mama's brave girl darling. I have just come out of my room after having had the Dhobie. This day last week you left us my pet & I have thought of it so much to-day. I went to tiffen at Mrs Barnes on

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Wednesday & spent the afternoon there, Annie & Tom went there also. The Nicolls had a dinner party last evening & Uncle Tom went but I have not heard anything about it. Fancy little Tom's fun. He was in the bathing room & Harry went in so he said "why you not ask me if you might come in"! They don't touch the cushions & often speak of their promise to you & if they did (touch them), they say they should be "obeying the devil"! They took the Anti Macassers for the first time yesterday, & Uncle Tom coming into the room at the time, took them away & said how vexed you wd. be if you knew it & that they must try & please you. They talk so very much of you. I heard from Miss Vice, speaking of

the great change in Coco for the worse & that her reading is shocking. She says the boys are getting on very well & wants me to leave Coco with her for the summer but I have said I don't know if we shall be able to do it. Uncle Tom's Regt. is to be inspected next week & there will be a ladies dinner party on Thursday 12th, but I shall not be asked this time as there will only been just room for the ladies of the Staff obliged to be asked. Don't allude to that in you letter darling!! They are putting the house in repair now & I don't think Papa cares to leave it now. The Macmullens will leave about the 15th. I have sent my black silk to Mrs Murray to alter. Col. Campbell called yesterday & he is coming on Saturday for a practice with us all. I have

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very nearly finished my work & it looks better now it is nearly done but still I don't like it much. The Gwala³⁵⁰ who was so impertinent to me summoned Papa before the Court of Requests³⁵¹ for his wages but Papa was told that not being in the service he cd. not be brought before a Military Court so the man will be sold!! Always wear a cloak or jacket in the house darling whilst the weather is so cold. It will soon be finer & more cheerful my pet. I went to the Club the other evening & Uncle Tom became a subscriber to the Library to get me Books. Papa & Harry have been to the tank three or four times to sail the ship. They are now as usual at lessons. I have had just baby

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in my lap & she sends you so very many sweet kisses darling. I have made Annie a frock from that pattern of Mrs Whympers but I don't like it. It is just like that cloak of Coco's of Linsey like your

dress! Dr Finden³⁵² goes off to-day. He called to say good bye yesterday & said he was so sorry he had not known you had not finished the Books as you shd have taken them. I saw him walking with Miss Nicoll just now!

Mrs Tytler was to have been out this month but her children have hooping cough & the people won't take them on board the steamers for fear of giving it to other children. God bless you my own dear dear precious child. Keep a good heart my pet. With very best love from us all, ever your loving Mother.

My hands are so cold I can scarcely write. What must yours be darling??

[No envelope]

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Umballa Monday [9th March 1868]

My very own darling child, dear dear old Boody, I may get a dear letter from you today my own child & I do hope my pet you are getting more reconciled to School again. I only want a very few lines my child for it must be so painful writing in the great cold darling. It is such a very windy, rainy day here & very cold. We are going to dine at the Mess after all & had the invitation on Saturday. There will be about 30 at dinner & people are asked afterwards in the evening, so the cloth will be put down for dancing. There will be only the Piano, no Band & I shall of course play as much as I can. Yesterday we were so amused at little Tom. The Kit announced Tiffin. Papa was reading in the drawing room, so Tom put his hands in his pockets & walking up to him said "I say Henry, tiffin is on table"! Afterwards in the afternoon he said to me

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"Thanks Minnie", having just heard Uncle Tom say it! Is he not a scamp? At tiffin on Saturday I called for the Mustard so Annie said "Be patient"!! She always says her prayers to me. Col. Campbell came for a little music on Saturday. We are going into the Macmullans house as Papa liked it so much when he saw it & I suppose we shall go into it on Saturday or Sunday as the Macmullans leave then. They are putting this house into order now, & the Outside is nearly finished. It is a pity they did not do it earlier. Dear little baby was three months old yesterday dear little soul. She sends you so many sweet kisses. How are your poor teeth darling? I do trust they have not been aching

from the great cold. We have a carpenter here to-day sawing up an old box into bricks for the children. They have not once touched the cushions! Harry wrote you a letter yesterday which I enclose my darling. Uncle Tom says his writing is so much like Papa's & I thought so too when I read his letter! My own darling I know you are trying to get on to please Mama. It may be hard work but never mind my child you will be glad of it for your own sake by & by & now you are pleasing us very much by trying. You got on wonderfully last year & if you only make the same progress this, how rejoiced I shall be darling. Try & bend your fingers when playing darling. How difficult it must be to play in this cold weather. Miss Smith passed through last week & I had forgotten to take my note away from

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the dak bungalow, but she only got it when getting into the Gharri! If I had waited for her to take you I shd. have been disappointed. A Mr Coxen wrote a reply to my note & said Miss Smith had gone. I hope you like her & that she is a clever person, able to teach you well & that she will exercise proper control over the girls & not go on as Mrs Denis seems to do. Who are the new girls this year & are they ladies? I do hope so. Poor Emma! I feared she wd. not be as happy as she thought she wd. be. God bless you my dear own precious child. With our best & fondest love, Ever your own loving

Mother

[no envelope]

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Umballa Friday [13th March 1868]

My own darling child

I was thankful to get your dear letter on Tuesday evening. I don't know how it was so long on the road my pet. I wish the weather would get finer for your sake for a bright day cheers one up much. How pleased I am to think you have had the medal daily my darling pet. It shows how much you try to be good. Mrs Mackinnon says you are trying hard just as you did last year! I must tell you something of the last few days inspection of Uncle Tom's Regt. first saying he had a very narrow escape, but by God's mercy he must have been killed. The first jump, a very severe one had become dangerous from the heavy rains & Uncle Tom's horse's feet gave way on the wall & oh Minnie darling you never saw anything so horrible, they both came down on their heads & then the horse right on the top of

1v

dear Uncle Tom. It was frightful but he escaped with only a bruise. I being in front saw the whole thing & it was so very awful. Mr. Macmullan told me it was such a fall he thought Uncle Tom's neck must have been broken & we cannot be too thankful he was preserved. He got on another horse & again went over the Jumps! That was the day before yesterday & in the evening of that day he had a Parade on the 21st Parade ground On yesterday afternoon there was tent Pegging. We were asked as I told you to dinner but Papa did not go. I did & we sat down 30 to dinner. It was not such a nice party as the last. I wore my blue silk & thought so much of the last time when you helped me to dress & put away my dress the next morning for me. Mr Macmullan took me into dinner.

There was a lot of Music after dinner but nothing very nice. Miss Becker & Miss Hurford had dresses just like mine. They both sang. I played the accompaniment for that horrid song of Mrs Tuson's³⁵³ & I think it sounded uglier than the last time, she sings it so horridly. I was not asked to take any Music so did nothing & felt as if I were in the way there being able to do nothing but sit still. Mrs Fortescue³⁵⁴ sang a good deal & so did everybody. Miss Macleod played but nothing very remarkable. Our drawing room dance went over. We were so surprised on Tuesday by Charlies appearing at tiffin time. He stayed the afternoon & spent nearly the whole of the next day here. Again yesterday he & Miss Parker came at tiffin time & stayed the afternoon & went to the tent Pegging. We got out of the

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Buggy & sat on the chairs. She enjoyed it very much. When we ask Tom, how he is, or how he feels, he said "bobbish" & it makes people laugh so much. He had a new suit of clothes on yesterday made out of a pair of Uncle Tom's trousers & he looked quite the little swell. Mrs Nicoll took great notice of him & held him on her lap for a long time. It was so absurd to see him & Mabel Macmullen³⁵⁵. She petted him & stroked him & kissed him making people laugh so. She wd. not let him go. I asked Charlie about the Railway accident & he said there was scarcely a word of truth in the account in the paper. A train had stopped & a woman not being quite sober thinking there was a platform jumped out & fell down the Bank. Upon which several soldiers jumped out to help her one on top of another & one man's arm wasENDS HERE, PART MISSING

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Umballa Friday [20th March 1868]

My own own darling child, I was so distressed darling to hear from Mrs Mackinnon yesterday that you had been suffering from tooth ache again. You mentioned it yourself in your last letter but I was in hopes it was very slight. I shall be so glad when Mr. O'Mearn goes to Simla to stop your poor tooth which will prevent its aching again my darling. Mr O'Mearn is to be here to-morrow evening & I am trying to screw up my courage to have one or two of my teeth out. I don't know whether I shall be able to bear it but I intend to ask when Mr O'Mearn wd. be here. We do so thoroughly enjoy this house and garden. It is such a treat. I & Annie sleep in the large bed room; Papa & Harry in what was Mr Macmullen's dressing room, & Tom, baby and the dhera in Mrs Macmullen's dressing room. Uncle Tom having Miss Mathews' room. Papa & Harry have been

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out with the gun the last two afternoons & the day before yesterday shot 5 Pigeons. As the Chief was passing through yesterday the 21st has an "Assault of Arms" for him to witness. I drove myself down, as Uncle Tom had ridden down before. The Butlers pulled up by my side with the Baboo as usual on the box! They enquired so much & very kindly for you. They are going to Simla on the 1st. I asked Emily Butler³⁵⁶ to speak to me & let me hear her voice but she would not, only shook her head, though Georgy said in that funny voice of his "Say how do you do Mrs Jones"! I am grounding my work in red the same as yours & it does look so very handsome. You wd. like it very much. I have no more red wool & have had to send to Mrs. Williams³⁵⁷ for some & wish it wd. come. I think we

shall make a music stool for my work. Papa says he wishes I wd. rip the black from one of your cushions & put a red grounding, it does look so very handsome, but the ripping wd. take such a time. Charlie came to see us again on Tuesday. I was quite surprised as I thought he had gone back, but he was to go the next day. Mrs Nicholas had passed through the day before & did not want to go to Jhelum³⁵⁸ at all & longed to go to Kussowlie with Charlie but did not know how to leave Mrs Paske³⁵⁹! Charlie tiffed here & spent the afternoon. I have put Tom in shirts now & as he plays about without his coat he looks such a man in his shirt sleeves! Do you remember Annie's admiring Harry in his shirt sleeves?! Mrs Barnes came over with her work one day & stayed to tiffin. Mrs Tytler is to be here about the 8th of April. Harold is here playing with Annie & Tom. Tell me how you like learning drawing as you will have had your first lesson before this. Who teaches you darling? You will like it I am sure as you were so fond always of drawing. I do hope my pet

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you are happier now & trying to be cheerful. I am very well my darling. The mare is still lame so I have no rides now. God bless you my own child. I am always thinking of you with such

fond love my darling. Papa, Harry, Uncle Tom, Annie, Tom & baby send you so much love & many sweet kisses with mine. Ever your own

loving Mother

The Ayah & Dhari tell me to send their salaam

addressed:

Miss Jones
care of Mrs Mackinnon
Holly Lodge
Simla

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Umballa Tuesday [24th March 1868]

My very own darling child, your dear letter reached me on Sunday afternoon, to my great delight & surprise for your letters have never reached me so quickly before. It was such a nice letter darling, more cheerful & so well written giving us great pleasure my own pet, I am so glad you like drawing & that Miss Smith was pleased with you. I am very glad also that you like her. How grieved I am about your poor teeth my child & Mr O'Mearn won't be at Simla before the first week of May, & all that time my pet you may be suffering so much. I am so very sorry for you, to think you suffer such tooth ache. Think of Mama's courage, having two teeth out yesterday! Without saying a word to anybody I took the Buggy when I was dressed & went to Mr O'Mearns & he took out two teeth. He did it so beautifully. When I came home I gave Papa my teeth in a bit of paper & he was so surprised as you will imagine! I am so glad they are out. One tooth was the one that ached so

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when first you came & the other the one next to it. I had not courage to have more out! I spoke to Mr O'Mearn about you & he says directly he goes up you must go to him. I have nearly finished the grounding of my work & fancy Uncle Tom has done so much of it! He told me to tell you with his best love! Baby is lying on the sofa, looking about her. The vaccination has only taken in one place, so it must be done again some other time. She sends you so many sweet kisses, as do Annie & Tom. Harry is so reproaching himself for not having written to you on Sunday. On Saturday Mrs Fortescue & Mrs Tuson came to call about getting up a Concert & they asked if people might meet here on Monday, so yesterday they came again & Mrs Barnes, Major Bamfield, Dr Clifton³⁶⁰ & Capt. Boyle³⁶¹. The Concert with two Charades between will I think come off next week. Mrs Tweddell will not join. There is to be a Rehearsal

on Thursday at Mrs Fortescue's, but I am not wanted at that. Charlie is not ill but very thin & that has alarmed the Vices who say they are most anxious about him. Mrs. Nicholas went back again from Loodiana! Miss Vice wrote & told me Coco has been slightly bitten in the ear by one of the dogs & the the Dr. said it was of no consequence she wrote to tell me! Papa says as the dog was all right it is nothing, but how awful it might have been. The dogs were fighting & she went to separate them. Papa says Coco shall remain with Miss Vice. I only wish Berty & Wi[torn] cd. do so also.

How terrible your chilblains seem to be. Ask Mrs Mackinnen to get you a pair of loose shoes from a Mochi³⁶². They would be easy for your po[torn] feet. With mild weather they will go darling & I hope you won't get any on your fingers or nose either! I was so glad to get the dear little fern leaf & have put it carefully away for your dear sake. I think the drilling [sic] must be very nice for you all. Do you like it? I told Mrs Williams to supply you with wools when you wanted them & send me the bill, you could also tell me how much you take darling. The Cripps³⁶³ are going to Mooltan & are

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selling their things. We bought a nice cow & two or 3 little things from them. You know that old Photograph of Harry sitting on a chair, taken here years ago. Tom says it is him "Yes this is a tiny boy & Tom is a tiny boy"!!

God bless you my own darling child I was so pleased with your dear letter. Ever with our best & fondest love, you own loving
Mother

[addressed as before]



Harry at Umballa 1859-60

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[Umballa] Tuesday 9 a.m. [31st March 1868]

My own darling child, I have just recd. your dear letter for which I was anxiously looking out. I am so very grieved to think you were not well when you wrote & do indeed hope my own pet that you are now quite right again. How very much you do feel any exposure to sun my pet & how wretched it is to feel sick & giddy. I wish your holiday had not ended by your being ill darling. I was bathing baby when your letter came & I wrapped her in a sheet & read it! I got up very early this morning & went out with Annie to a Parade on the 21st Parade ground. Tom came on his pony afterwards. I

have on the very pretty jacket you made me & the collar you sent me on my birthday. I wore them yesterday & Harry said "How swell you are dressed Mama." They are

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Certainly very pretty & I do so love the jacket you made me darling. Mrs Murray was here yesterday. I asked her to come to cut out a dress for me, a chintz one. It was very good of her to do it. It is very cloudy to-day & I hope we shall have some more rain to keep the weather cool that we may stay down as long as possible for it will be terribly dull at Kussowlie. I am very glad your chilblains are so much better & they will quite leave you in mild weather. Your studs have not yet been mended the mistiri has had so much to do. Uncle Tom's Band is playing very nicely & will soon be able to play at Mess. They have got on wonderfully. I went across to hear them play a set of Waltzes a day or two ago & I was quite surprised at the way

they did it. How are you getting on with your music darling? I don't know how it is but we never have any music at all here now. Papa is always teaching Harry & Uncle Tom is always very busy. The Butlers leave for Simla to-morrow & I fancy the Hollands³⁶⁴ must be going soon as they have sent their carts off. Our little baby is looking very well & she always wants to sit up. She has been out twice with the children in the evening to the dhari's great delight. In one of the Epitaphs I sent you last there was mention made of "Tripe & Trotter" Tripe is eaten by many people & is part of the inside of an animal & trotters are the feet. A "pyrotechnist" is a man who makes fireworks. I send you the last of the Epitaphs with this darling. I hope these will amuse you also. Col Twysden³⁶⁵ is going home & his things are to be sold by Auction. I don't think

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Mrs Trench will go to Simla this year & I am very sorry for it. I think she will go to Mussoorie instead. I always liked to feel that she was near you last year. The General had a very pleasant

party last week, dinner & then music & dancing. Uncle Tom went & danced twice with Mrs Tweddell. I shd. like to have gone very much. God bless you my own precious child.

With our fondest love & many kisses
your own loving
Mother

[addressed as before]

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Umballa Friday [3rd April 1868]

My very very own darling, I hope I am not at all late for the post but I have been so very busy all the morning, first with the Dhobie & sorting over some of the clothes & just now with the Godown³⁶⁶. I do hope my pet you are quite well now. You don't know how very much I am always thinking of you darling. It is so beautifully cool still after another storm the night before last & if it wd. continue so, I shd. be very glad, to enable us to stay down longer. The Butlers house is shut up. They sent me "P.P.C." cards³⁶⁷ by post. The other day on the 1st. a list of things for sale came round marked for "charitable purposes". I read the list & on it saw after one or two good things "a pair of boots (gents) worn & damaged 1/" "6 prs of socks

(gents) worn but darnable" 2/ "A chignon worn & moth eaten"! I was so disgusted at the idea of anyone selling such nasty things that I sent away the list without even looking at the box. Yesterday Mrs Nicoll came here & asked me if I had seen the box, so I told her all about it & she said "Oh you shd. have opened it, there was nothing in the box but an old dead bird & was sent round by Mrs Barnes to make April fools of us"!! Papa had shot two such lovely birds in the garden, with blue heads & white bodies, the wings edged with black & two long white feathers for the tail. Uncle Tom's Kit has stuffed them. When these birds are young they are scarlet & Harry saw one in the garden

yesterday but before Papa cd. come it had flown away.

The Dersy has made me a dress that Mrs Murray cut out, & making & all included the dress has only cost me 4/8, for I got the chintz cheap. Uncle Tom has been teaching Tom that ladies must be helped before gentlemen, & on asking him the meaning to-day he said "Annie first & then boy"! Papa has bought a new hat & he tells me to tell you, you wd. be quite proud to drive with him now! He talks so much of you darling when we are driving out. Last evening for the first time since we have been here we went to the Band for a few minutes in the Gardens. It was dark when we got there, Annie was with us. If you remember it when you are writing tell me if you have one of Coco's sheets that went by mistake in your bedding from Kussowlie. Miss Vice has asked me to ask you.

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I had a letter from Mrs Whymper last evening. A poor coolie at Murree fell into the beer they were brewing & was drowned. They missed the man & by putting in poles they felt him at the bottom!

Was it not sad? All the Beer too had to be thrown away nearly 700/ worth. Coco will be eight on Wednesday & Annie 5 on the 14th. Annie goes on as you used to singing all sorts of things for her play & going about & talking to different people she fancies

she had playing with her. God bless you my very own darling child
 Ever with our best & fondest love
 Your own loving
 Mother

[addressed as usual]

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Umballa Monday Afternoon [6th April 1868]

My own own darling old girl

We were so happy this morning darling to get your dear & very nice letter & to hear you were all well again. You must take great care when you go in the sun darling & you ought never to wear any other than a sola hat suffering as you do from a little sun. I am so very glad to know you are getting the medal so continually You do not know what pleasure it gives me darling & also to know how well you are getting on with your music & drawing. I shall write to Mrs Mackinnon about the dancing & think whilst you learn that, I will discontinue French but I gave you the drawing as an

additional thing & not in place of anything else. Poor Annie Oliver, I am so grieved for the poor girl. Show her every attention poor girl for she is much afflicted. I have begun my letter this

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Afternoon as Mrs Barnes is coming to spend to-morrow with me & as it is hot, she may come early. I walked over to see her this morning but had the Buggy to bring me back. Col. Tytler³⁶⁸ is going off this evening to Delhie to meet his wife so I asked Mrs Barnes thinking she would be very lonely. On Saturday afternoon Capt. Hawkins³⁶⁹ came to see us in that same nice Mail Phaeton he had at Peshawur. I am very sorry he has not brought his wife with him but he is going back to join her at Pindee & take her to Murree. He enquired so much of you & begged me to remember him very kindly to you when I wrote. Miss Vice writes that she is going to send you a Cake by Mrs Vice, which is very kind of her & I am so glad darling. About

buying sweetmeats, if Mrs M. has no objections, buy them in moderation & enter them in you acct. book. Girls like these things. Enter every pice as you spend it. Give Mrs Vice Coco's sheet to take back darling. I wish you were going to spend your holidays with us my own child but I hope you will enjoy them. This is the first warm day we have had & it has made Papa think of the Hills! Dear baby clutches at my chain now when I take her or my ribbon round my neck! She sends you so many kisses as do also Annie & Tom. Every morning when I am dressed I go round the garden to pick flowers & so enjoy it. Tuesday You will remember little Coco on her birthday to-morrow darling. Your holidays will commence the next day & I expect you will so enjoy them my pet after your hard work my child. Papa & Harry in their walk this morning put up some Quail & Dash was such a good

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dog as if he had been accustomed to sporting. Papa says he shall go out every day with the Gun now & try & shoot Quail. Those horrid Lees have been here again & as Uncle Tom cd. not take them in here, he took Mrs Stewarts house

for them & has had such a lot of bother having to provide all their servants & food. They leave today for Simla. God bless you my own darling old girl. Ever with our best & fondest love your own loving

Mother

[addressed as usual]

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Umballa Good Friday [10th April 1868]

My own darling child, I have this minute finished the Dhobie's work & begin my letter before breakfast. I went out for a ride on Harry's pony (really yours darling!) this morning. Uncle Tom riding "Ravenswood" & I had such a nice galop across the Parade ground, enjoying it so much. I have been riding often of an evening lately but only at a walk with Uncle Tom, whilst Papa & Harry were out shooting. We have usually gone through the corn fields & it was so pretty. Last night we had only just gone beyond the horse hospital when it began to rain. It had been thundering & lightning for a little while before & it rained all the evening nearly. We went to the Hospital to

see two more young foals that were born the night before & they are such pretty little

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creatures. They will be let loose in the Paddock to-morrow & it is very pretty to see them scampering about. Annie & Tom went to the Nicoll's this morning & she gave them a lot of odds & ends. Annie wants to send you a broach she got, only a black one but she begs me to say "when you write tell Minnie I send it". Mrs Barnes spent the day here with the children & she sang a little in the afternoon. She said she had never remarked the scar in your chin, but Col. Tytler had. I suppose he will be back soon with Mrs Tytler. It is getting very warm here & we shall very soon go now to Kussowlie I am sure. I daresay you have had your cake by this time as Miss Vice said Mrs Vice was taking it. It was very kind of her to make it for you. They seem very uneasy about Charlie who they say is looking wretchedly ill. The mosquitoes are so bad at night

that Papa, Uncle Tom & Harry all sleep outside. Uncle Tom takes his bed right out on the maidan! He is going off to his Farm in a few days as soon as we leave. 12 o'clock. We have just finished the service & I think of you my pet as still being in Church. Tom is asleep on the floor & Annie is telling of what things she has to send you! We are going to have a Kutpootlie³⁷⁰ nautch for her on her Birthday. A man came to-day who has just come to the station with one. I have those texts you gave me hanging up here in my room. Miss Vice says the children are considered by several people "Pattern children" but she always thinks them perfection when with her! Our things have been sent to the Brewery from our old house. I had a letter from Col. Vaughan yesterday written in very low spirits as he has just lost a brother he was very much attached to. He is going to Simla this year & I think will leave Bunnoo³⁷¹ about 15th May. Little Flo

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is looking so sweet & pretty & sends you such sweet kisses & wishes she could give them herself to you she says! She is in the Dharis arms close to me now. I so so enjoy this house & the pretty garden. To-morrow Uncle Tom has promised to

send all the flowers he can to decorate the Church³⁷². Mrs Rotton asked him.

God bless you my own most precious child dear dear Minnie. Ever with our best & fondest love
darling

Your own loving Mother

[addressed as before]

Letter from her father

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[Umballa] Good Friday - April 10th /68

My dear darling old Pins This day being a holiday for Harry & me, I think that the best way I can employ the hours usually devoted to morning lessons, would be to write to you. Harry & I have just had a little music & we have played our first real duet. Two days ago we recd. from Calcutta a book containing 20 duets for violins, the music being a very natty collection & by no means of the easiest kind. Harry wont spare any time from Kumzari³⁷³ & his piece of [unclear] for practicing his scales

& so I have commenced with a duet containing semi-demiquavers! & so he is obliged to stir his lazy fingers - Harry and I go out every afternoon quail shooting in the corn-fields & I hope to be able to tell you shortly that H has killed at least one kind of real game, instead of doves & crows. Four days ago we first went out to see if any quail were to be found & the next day I killed 3, the next 2 and yesterday none tho I've put up about 20. Old Dash goes out with us & is a famous sporting dog, though, at this beginning of his employing his skill, he runs far ahead & puts up the birds out of shot; which explains our ill success yesterday. Harry has had as yet only 2 shots at quail, but he has got over being startled & flurried by the sudden noise of the rising birds. So very delightful do we find the shooting that we shall most likely

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not go to Kussowlie on the 15th Mama dislikes the loneliness of Kussowlie & we have nothing troubling us here but the mosquitoes & sand-flies, both of which are in clouds in every part of the house. For 2 nights Harry, Uncle Tom & I have slept outside the house, and Mama & the rest of our family will most likely do the same tonight, for Mama does not get a wink of sleep & the little ones are dreadfully disturbed. I wish you could see my room & how cosey, quiet & comfortable I am in it. Not a sound from the house reaches me. I have got in it all my possessions; books, boxes, guns fiddles & 4 pictures. I read with so much pleasure, darling Pins, in one of your late letters of your walk by starlight & your recognising many of the stars. Harry & I have very seldom visited, since we came into our present house, any of the places we, you & I, used to stroll or drive together, but when we do, we always speak of your having been there with us. Berty & Willy are always speaking of their longing to see little Floey, which they will soon do; but you, alas! wont see her till she can run about. I should so like, too, to have some more music with you. We have had none since we came into this house! Mama says that she will not wish to have the Piano taken to Kussowlie as she never plays by herself or with me: but if you came home for a week, so dreadfully

we should miss the piano, if we left it here. So you are going to give up French for dancing & drawing. If you do, for I don't know that you have decided upon doing so, I can teach you to read French; and the speaking must be learnt in France! What a prospect I have before me of teaching Berty & Willy as well as Harry, at Kussowlie! I am afraid that I shall not be able to do it properly as Harry take up 5 hours a day; & I have in addition to learn Greek and Mathematics in order to teach him; and H cannot learn much & then teach his brothers in the same day. Dear Mama is busy with the Dhobie. She has of course told you what a pretty, nice, cool, comfortable house we have, & what a delight the garden is to her, and to all of us. Harry is all day long shooting birds in it with his golus³⁷⁴ & kills one nearly every day, I fancy. We have been shooting some very pretty birds & have had them stuffed by Tom's Kit, to take home with us to England. I have as yet only 2 that are very pretty. They have 2 long feathers in their tails, as long as the distance across this sheet of paper. Your collection for home - your Herbarium is in my room. You know that I mean your book filled with old cabbage leaves etc! You remember my lessons to you about nones, ides & calends³⁷⁵, & also to Harry. We have now begun to read about them in Caesar's Commentaries in his reading this book had made it necessary for him to learn a great deal about the geography of France - he knows the principal river & 6 different parts

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of the Alps. Do you? There is another thing in which he will soon be rivalling you. I mean in height, for he is growing, as every one says, visibly every day & in the course of a year may come near to your's - if you have quite stopped growing, that is! But I hope you have not, darling Pins. Mama is now I fancy sitting in the verandah filling 10 or a dozen vases & glasses with flowers, as is her daily

custom & she gathers them too herself, in the garden! Is not that a wonder? I have not said a word about Tom or Annie - I shd have put Annie first. Do you know that Tom has been taught, whenever he and his sister are begging together for any thing, to say: "ladies before gentlemen" & to let her be satisfied first. Little Floey is a great pet . I dont know that I have any new performances of her's to recount, for she can, as yet, do little more than lie on her back & make small noises. Uncle Tom is always as busy as a whole hive of bees & never has any music even - Besides all his old usual work, he takes an awful deal of trouble about his new Band & the Paddock where there are 4 or 5 mares with their colts & will be many more Have you heard of the trough [unclear] that he put up for giving water to the horses there? It is now breakfast time & my sheet of paper is quite filled up & so dear darling Pins I must say "good bye" - Ever your loving, very loving father J H Jones
Kisses without number - Ask the two Miss Pogsons³⁷⁶ to give them!!!

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Umballa Tuesday [21st April 1868]

My own darling child, We were so glad to get your dear letter yesterday morning & to know you were going on Saturday to tiff with the Balys.³⁷⁷ I hope you enjoyed yourself darling. It is a nice place for you to go to. We are going off on Thursday the day after to-morrow at 9 am in the Van (a very comfortable one they are going to give us). At present I intend sleeping at Kalka & going up very early on Friday morning & breakfasting with the Vices. I mention this as I shd not be able to write on Friday darling but on Saturday so you will look out on Sunday darling for my letter. You will be so sorry to hear that poor little Edgee Rotton³⁷⁸ is dead & was buried on Sunday eveng. He had been ill a few days with fever poor boy. His poor father was away at Lahore where he had to go as witness in some case & though they hurried him back

1v

by the time he arrived on Fri evening poor Edgee was insensible which adds to the sorrow if possible. I went on Sunday morning as soon as I heard of it to enquire how they were & saw Mrs Turner. She took me to the room where poor Edgee was & Horace³⁷⁹ sitting beside him. In the evening we went to the Funeral in the Buggy, Harry on the Pony. We joined at the house. There were several gentlemen but no lady excepting Mrs Wade who joined in the Grave yard. They sang "Brief life" before the service & then poor Mr Rotton had to read it over his own child poor fellow kneeling all the time. It was a very sad scene & he & Mrs Rotton are almost broken hearted. She has never been separated from Edgee. He is buried close to dear little Ellie, quite in front, touching her grave. Darling Flo is not quite the thing, being

constantly sick & I sat up half the night with her, not that I need have, for she was asleep all the time but I just liked to watch. I have just fed her with arrowroot, for I cannot help thinking the Dhari may be doing something as she does not wish to go to the Hills. Baby is kicking away on the floor as jolly as possible dear little soul. I will write to Mrs Mackinne[torn] & ask her to get you some Chintz frocks as I have no pattern of yours & also tell her about your learning dancing. If I had only kept your pattern I cd. have had them made so nicely darling. I went to the Club last evening & got a lot of Books to take to Kussowlie. There is no Brewing going on at this season so you will not fear my tumbling into the Vat!

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The ponies (Uncle Tom gave Tom the small one) started this morning with the Jampan & Dandy. They will wait at Kalka for us. Good bye my own darling child. I

think of you always. We all send you our fondest love & with sweet kisses from the children, Ever
you loving Mother
Annie was so delighted with the wafers darling

The Ayah went on with the Hackeries.

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Kussowlie May 5th [1868]

My own darling child I was anxiously looking out for your letter yesterday morning darling & must try & write mine to you before school & not as I did last time whilst teaching the boys³⁸⁰. You must try & get on with your dancing as well as you have with your other studies. It will do you much good in making you walk nicely & carry yourself well darling. You must tell me what steps you learn for Mama likes to know everything you do my pet. The weather is most delicious, a little warmer than it was so that yesterday I put on a cooler dress. I had a letter from Uncle Tom yesterday from the Farm where he will remain more than a week longer & then the end of the month he hopes to come up for a few days holiday, & then for a month in

1v

July. Dear Aunt Hennie³⁸¹ has been in such trouble with two of her children ill with Cholera The eldest Raleigh³⁸² was very ill indeed & the youngest boy³⁸³ not so bad. Then the baby's dhari was seized with it & Aunt Hennie had to attend to her almost entirely & the woman now is alive & that is all. I had a letter from her this morning written in sad trouble poor creature, but in it she said she was so glad I had such nice accts. of you darling. I have not yet seen Mrs Vice as I have not been up the Hill excepting that one evening. Harry saw her on Sunday. I walk about outside of an afternoon or I sit outside & work. There is no end to the work now & I am looking out for another dersy for a short time. On Saturday we had one tiffin on the

Croquet ground and Mr Stow joined us. Afterwards he played Ball & Cricket with Harry. He is very kind to the children particularly to Tom of whom he is very fond. I like this place very much, it is so pretty. Yes we thought Berty & Willie both grown & looking very well. Little Flo is in the Verandah looking so sweet & pretty. She has had a cold in her eyes but they are much better now. She is still in long clothes as I have not yet got her others ready. I am anxious to know if Mr O'Mearn has gone to Simla yet on your acct. my darling, for the sooner you can get you teeth attended to the better. He is such a gentle kind dentist & you must go with a brave heart to him & try & not be frightened. Berty & Willie have scampered off to see a Hackery which has tumbled down the khud behind the Bunndoks [unclear] house. Our Hackery ought to be up to-morrow

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with our Couch, & the ducks, fowls & rabbits. Annie asked me last night where our couch was. I told her at Umballa, so she said "Now you don't really mean that"! Good bye my own darling precious child

What a mess I have made of my letter darling, blotting it so. We are all well my pet & send you so very much love & such sweet kisses from the children. Annie talks so much of you. Ever your own
Loving Mother

[addressed as before]

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Kussowlie Tuesday [12th May 1868]

My own darling child, we were so glad to get your letter yesterday my darling & to hear you are getting on nicely with your dancing. I am very glad you are learning it as it is so good for you, teaching you to walk & carry yourself well. Papa has bought a pretty leather belt for you at Wallaces & we shall send it when Emma's parcel goes. I have one like it excepting that mine is mauve & yours blue & I hope you will like it darling. I went on Saturday to pay a few visits but only managed four. Yesterday, Berty & Willie being asked for the day to the Vices I took advantage of their holiday & mine to pay some more & got through nine visits. I

1v

could not have managed so many if everybody had been at home. I called on Mrs Kingscote³⁸⁴ & like her very much. On Sunday afternoon I went with the three boys to Church. Papa was not very well & cd. not go. He is all right now. Mrs Toussaint³⁸⁵ has asked me to help her on the Harmonium & I am going to practise this afternoon by myself & if I can manage the Harmonium well I hope to play next Sunday but I shall not attempt it unless quite able to. The singing was such an improvement on what it was last season here. After service Papa met us & we went to the Vices where the Toussaints came. It was such a stormy evening & began to rain before we reached home. I like this place so

very much better than any other house we have been in here. Mr O'Mearn is at Simla & so ask Mrs Mackinnon if she will kindly take you without delay to him darling & be a brave girl & don't allow yourself to get nervous. Think of Mama's having so lately had one tooth stopped & two out by him. I was in hopes I shd. have seen him on his way through to have another tooth out but I had a note from him from Simla to-day telling me he had gone through. Annie is quite well again & so are they all but Harry who is complaining of a headache & is lying down. I am very well & am always busy. I rode to the Gurkul³⁸⁶ last evening Papa, Annie & Coco walking with me. The Vices are all well tell Emma & I told them she was

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anxious not having heard. Mrs Vice gave me such a good acct. of your progress in everything darling & it pleased us so very much. I am writing in such a hurry my

pet from having been busy all the morning & have put off the boy's lessons to write this. God bless you my darling old girl dear dear Minnie. Ever with our fondest love your own loving

Mother

[addressed as before]

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Kussowlie 29th May [1868]

My own darling child dear old girl. It has set in here so very warm now & I am afraid we must look forward to a month of this weather. Last night it was so oppressive up stairs & the mosquitoes so troublesome. I don't suppose you have it like this at Simla & indeed I hope not. Harry has begun lessons again & yesterday he went for a long ride round the station astounding everybody, who like to think we must all be in quarantine³⁸⁷ still. This time next month my darling you will be with us my pet, for you know you are coming home for the holidays. Darling for your own sake I shall not keep you over the 10 days for you wd. lose your marks but think of coming home & seeing us all again!

1v

Oh won't it be nice & won't you enjoy it? I wish I cd. go to Simla this season not only to see you in school but to see Mr O'Mearn for my teeth are troubling me a little, very very slightly though. I have had two more such nice letters from little Raleigh³⁸⁸ & he sent Annie one of those cards with a Hymn this morning. I took baby up to the station in the Jampan last evening & saw Mrs. Forbes³⁸⁹ who said "Oh what a lovely child" & then said she had never seen such a lovely baby. I picked up Coco at the top of the Vices Hill & she walked by my side. Annie was on the little pony & off which they let her tumble poor child though she had a servant

besides the Syce. However she was not hurt. You have never mentioned your work. Have you been doing it? It wd. look so nice on th[torn] chimney piece. Have y[torn] your belt yet. You [torn] it a black one by [torn] out as I daresay you[torn] out darling. I taught[torn] "Nominative hic, haec, [torn] Berty cd. not say it the [torn] I asked her what it was & she at once said "Nominative hic" & the same to Willie yesterday. She says the Lords' prayer so nicely & joins in at prayers. Yesterday she had Porter at tiffin & after tasting it she said "That Porter is rather sharp"! Do you remember your toy Peacock? I have it safe upstairs though Annie has begged hard for it! Her favourite toy is that little goat you brought her from Simla & she has long conversations

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with it. Papa has found your Photographs of the Prince & Princess, lost for so long. He found them yesterday in you Sandal wood box.
[torn] bless you my darling

old girl. Think of the holidays darling. Ever with our best & fondest love your own loving

Mother

Such sweet kisses from the Children

[addressed as before]

1

Kussowlie Friday [5th June 1868]

My own darling Child, You don't know how thankful I was to get your note this morning for I have been so terribly anxious about you not knowing what to think of your silence darling. Of course again I shd. not be so fidgetty knowing you had missed once but I have been very anxious. I have just seen in the paper the death of poor Mrs Farquharson³⁹⁰ at Nowgong. Poor thing I wonder what she died of. I suppose her sister will go back to the Cape to her family. I am nearly all right again, only not feeling very strong but I hope to go & take tiffin with Mrs. Forbes by & by & she has asked Annie & Tom also. I went in the jampan last night on the Simla road & the children all came, baby in the jampan. She is looking so jolly

1v

& so sweetly pretty dear little soul. Uncle Tom now hopes to be up on Tuesday for ten days.

We have had perfect torrents of rain here just like the regular rains & I think from the look of the hills you must have had the same at Simla. It is lovely to-day. I am beginning to make a little jam for Uncle Tom's mess & I hope the rain won't destroy the fruit. We kill our own sheep twice a week now & Mrs Clarke & Mrs Forbes each take some as we found we could not keep more than half this weather. I am so very glad you have had no more tooth ache darling & do hope Mr O'Mearns stopping will preserve the tooth some time. It is very sad at your age your teeth beginning to decay & they looked so strong.

Harry is quite well & takes long rides nearly every evening. He sends you his best love as do all the others darling. What new piece are you learning on the Piano? I hope you are trying as much as ever to get on my child in everything. Did you spend last Saturday at the Baly's? I have a few little things I must do darling before I can go so I send you only a short letter to-day darling. I am very thankful you are well my child. Ever with all my fondest love & Papas too

Your own loving Mother

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Kussowlie Friday [3rd July 1868]

My own darling child. I have been so very anxiously looking out for a line to tell me how you are darling after your long hot trip³⁹¹. I know by the return of the Syce that you reached Simla darling. The Syce brought back the basket darling & I saw the eggs & sandwiches almost untouched. I did a little bit of the work as I sat outside. I am afraid [torn] wools are not here & I shall [torn] be able to match them here. We were expecting Uncle Tom to-morrow but have just had a telegram to say he is on duty & cannot leave Umballa until to-morrow evening. I had started the mare off that morning to Kalka for him. I have not

1v

ridden her myself yet as Papa was very nervous about my doing so. We have had plenty of rain here & it has cooled the air nicely. I am so glad to hear from the Syce that you had no rain on the road my darling. I have not been out since you left. Annie told me yesterday that her doll had just the same children as I had, a Minnie, Ann[torn] &c only not a "Tom" for he m[torn]ht tease & she did not like boys & not a Bertie for he might teach her Annie to play with water & her Annie was very good! I had a letter from Cousin Raleigh from Darjeeling this morning. He says it does nothing but

rain & he cannot

go out of the house. I hope darling child you are not fretting much at going back to School. Of course it is very hard for you to leave home & doubly so as you are the only one away but darling you know it is for your good & you must think what a comfort it is to us to know how nicely you are getting on. I have written to Col. Vaughan to say you are back at school but I am not quite [torn] he is back from Narka[torn]³⁹² [torn] began the children's letters again yesterday & am just going to begin with them now.

We get beautiful butter from our new Churn. I thought of you having your dancing lesson last evening darling. God bless you my very precious darling, dear

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dear Minnie, Ever with our very fondest love & sweet kisses from the children, your own loving
Mother

I have the velvet of your cuff & will send it in my next.
Recd. your note from Hurrupore (?)

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[Kussowlie] Friday [21st August 1868]

My own darling child, I had to send my last letter hurriedly darling as Col Vaughan was here. He was so very sorry he had not time to go & see you but he has only Sunday and part of Monday in Simla. He is of course very delighted at getting a Brigade in this Expedition³⁹³. Yesterday we heard a report that Uncle Tom's Regt. has to go but I am glad to say it is not the case. I believe they expect rather a formidable business in the Hills so they are wisely taking every precaution & assembling a very large Force. Col. Vaughan brought his little god child's³⁹⁴ Pellisse but his Syce who was carrying it did not arrive until just before Col. V. was leaving again so I cd. not tell you anything about it. It is very pretty indeed made after a new French pattern of Mrs Birchs.

1v

It is dark blue merino with quilted silk of the same colour down the front, round the bottom of the sleeves & a small cape reaching as far as the shoulders. The Pelisse is in one piece from top to bottom fitting of course at the top & baby looks so jolly in it. Col. Vaughan asked to see it on & at once said it must have a hat or bonnet to wear with it so sat down & wrote off to Mrs Phelps to make one. Very kind was it not? I have lent the Pelisse to Mrs Mackenzie for a pattern. I got my watch back from Charles Nephew³⁹⁵ this morning & was so glad to get it again.

We hope Uncle Tom will be up by the 2nd or 3rd. Harry is then going to have a weeks holiday as he has had none at all.

I shall beg Mrs Mackinnon kindly to give you a holiday on my birthday darling & dont I wish my very very own darling that you cd. spend it here with

us. Papa says he misses you so very much he found you such a dear companion. You must tell me if you saw the Eclipse³⁹⁶ well darling. The weather here is very much cooler though we have no rain only a few showers the night before last. It has been a wonderful season altogether. Baby is making her first attempts to crawl dear little soul. She kicks so in her leash & plays so happily it is so pretty

to watch her. Annie & Tom are looking very well indeed they all are. Annie is always tumbling about & her nose is again so cut, half the skin being off. I never saw a child to fall as she does. I still ride every evening on the mare & it does me so much good. I hear Mrs Nicoll the clergyman's wife is here staying with the Vices. The monkey I think I told you was lost. We recovered it in a field where it was nearly killed by a large pariah dog. Harry heard a great noise & saw the

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Brutes shaking, & running to see the cause found the monkey seized by the throat & almost killed. It is all right again now but we are afraid to let it loose. Good bye my very own pet. God bless you

Ever with our best & fondest love your own loving
Mother

[addressed as before]

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Kussowlie Friday [28th August 1868]

My very own darling child dear old Minnie, To-morrow will be your holiday & I would if you will spend it out at either the 3 or 4 places I care for you to go. If you do I hope you will enjoy yourself my pet. The mare has had her back rubbed by the saddle I am sorry to say & is laid up. It is such a pity. It is not much & fortunately the skin is not cut but it will be a few days I fear before she will be fit to ride again. She went so lame from it when I was riding her that I walked home from the Abbey! Can you fancy me walking so far? I am very much stronger now since I have been riding & I always get off & walk a little way. The pony has been laid up with a sore back ever since

1v

you left & is now only well. I rode it for the first time yesterday & went to Mrs Olivers about her teaching Bertie & Willie & they are to go to her on Monday. I have been teaching them regularly but I have many interruptions & they are so backward. Coco, I shall teach still. I went to the Forbes' too as I was very early & they walked part of the way home with me. We hope dear Uncle Tom will be up next week. They still have it terribly hot in the plains & here it is wonderfully warm for the season & we have had no rain to speak of this year. I said to Annie & Tom this morning when they were in my bed "Annie my pet & Tom my pet; both my pets" "Yes", said Annie "but I am the petest"!

I heard from Aunt Hennie again to-day. Her children are at last picking up at Darjeeling & are much stronger she says.

There was a Ball here last night. Mr Stow was going but I have heard nothing about it yet whether it was a success or not. Mrs Forbes said she saw some very pretty decorations being made for the room, entirely Verbena, roses & heliotrope [torn] she said the scent was so exquisite besides its looking so pretty. Harry is going to try & catch some butterflies for you to give Miss Smith. I proposed sending a large moth now by Mr Stow but Harry says wait until he can get more. If you do not wear that dress you always said did not fit you (the violet coloured one, a Linsey) wrap it up in paper

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& I will ask Mr Stow to send to you for a parcel & his servant can bring it. He goes to Simla next week but if you wear it never mind. If you don't I will make it for Coco. I have some merino

here for a dress for you darling. Are you wearing warm or light dresses now? God bless you darling. Ever with our best & fondest love you own loving

Mother

We are all well darling

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[Kussowlie] Friday [4th September 1868]

My very own darling child. An extra letter this week for you! Uncle Tom has not yet come & is detained on duty at Umballa as has been so often the case before. He is to telegraph when he can get away & we hope it will be very soon. I went to Mrs Forbes' yesterday after all & spent a pleasant day & we went in the evening as far as the Paske's houses, the first time Mrs Forbes had been so far! I made me very late home & the road is so bad the men cd. only carry us slowly in the dark. I met the Macphersons who enquired very kindly for you darling. I hope you will enjoy the Concert very much. You must

1v

tell me all about it. I daresay Van der Hensel will perform if still at Simla. I did not hear much about the Ball further than that it went off very well & everything was nicely arranged. I have seen no one who was at it but Mr Stow. Miss Vice wrote to me this morning & said her brother Griffin had seen you & you were looking very well. Where did he see you darling? Major Forbes is at Simla but I don't know if you recollect him at all. He had an appt. in Major Chamberlain's Regt. at Pindee but unless it goes on service will not join it until his leave is up next month. Baby's hat has come back altered to fit but done

roughly & sent down so carelessly wrapped up I wonder it was not quite spoilt. Mrs Phelps did not write a line though I asked her about making you a dress.

We have been able to change our dhobie at last & the one we have now seems to do his work well. I feel so tired to-day, as I do not know from what cause I did not get to sleep until nearly four this morning but I am quite well. God bless you my own darling child. I hope you will enjoy your holiday on my birthday.

Ever with my best & fondest love your own loving Mother
Flo & all the others send you so many sweet kisses

[addressed as before]

1

[Kussowlie] Monday [7th Sept 1868]

My very own darling child dear old Boody, I write to-day that you may get a letter from me on your

holiday, my birthday my child. I was made so very happy this morning by getting your very dear nice letter of yesterday with such pretty sweet presents my darling. It is no consequence my getting them the day before my birthday for it has given me an extra day's pleasure my child. I think you have made that collar exceedingly well it is so very dear to me darling being made by you. I shall wear it to-morrow & think so much, so very much of you, wishing you were here my pet with all my heart. The collar you bought is so pretty & the card too, Tom wants me to

1v

give it to him but I tell him I cd not part with it to anybody. I prize my treasures too much for that. Annie says your collar is so very pretty & the velvet too. I told her we must free the birds on the card names but when I called one "Tom" she said "oh it is too pretty to be called "Tom, call it "Mary & the little one at the top "Tom". We are very much disappointed at Uncle Tom's not having come yet. It is so provoking & he is as disappointed as we are. It is just like the rains now & I fear we may have a wet day to-morrow. It has made a great change in the temperature this rain & I am glad to say they have a storm at Umballa which has reduced the intense heat. I am so delighted to

think you went to the Concert & Fancy Fair & so enjoyed yourself. It must have been a great treat for you. I do wish I cd. have gone to both with you. The Assembly Rooms must have looked very pretty & the scene very gay. You have been such a good girl you deserve a treat & I am so glad to think that Mrs Mackinnon so kindly & thoughtfully let you lie in bed after all your gaiety. I feel so thankful at the good reports I have had of you my very own darling. It came as a happy birthday greeting, Mrs Mackinnon saying you are "a very good girl". I have thought very much of it & with such great pleasure my darling. You wrote me such a dear dear letter it gave me such delight to read it & I do so love your very pretty

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presents & shall wear the dear collars with great pride as your present my pet. I recd. the parcel all right. The sight of the dress did so remind me of you. How cheap you got your gloves! I thought of telling you to wear you hair with a chignon but did not know if you cd. manage it & am so glad you did! Your rosette must I am sure have looked very nice. Never mind about the song. It wd. be very hard work to write it from memory & when you are home you must sing it to me instead. I wished the Birchs had recognised you. I was in hope the Peshawur Mrs Birch wd. have gone to see you. How kind Major Holland³⁹⁷ was. I hope you took some refreshment & were not shy. The music must indeed have reminded you of home darling.

2

Little Flo is very well & jolly & full of fun. She sends you lots of kisses. I showed her your presents & she tried very hard to get hold of them. Mr Stow was here just now & tells me that Mrs Kingscote's little girl³⁹⁸ pushed her eye out with a pair of scissors so they put her under chloroform & re-set it. I think it must be exaggerated & do not trust it is for it seems too terrible an accident for the poor child. I don't think we shall be able to have a pic-nic to-morrow it is so rainy. I asked the Forbes & she will come if her husband has returned from Simla, & bring Norman³⁹⁹ & Alice, Lindo has a bad cold. Mrs Forbes has a brother with her now. Papa & the children went again in the evening yesterday for a walk to the Soldiers gardens & brought home some sweet flowers.

2v

Harry is to have a week's holiday from to-day as he has had none at all hitherto. We all send you our very best & fondest love my own precious child. I shall think of you all day to-morrow & wear your dear little collar. Ever with all my love your own loving
Mother

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[Kussowlie] Friday [11th September 1868]

My very very own darling child.

I have been busy the last hour choosing from amongst a number of things from Charles Nephew⁴⁰⁰ a present from Uncle Tom for my Birthday! Is it not very kind of him? I have chosen a handsome bracelet, plain gold with a little beading round the edges & a bow & buckle, the buckle is purple & white enamel, very pretty indeed. It was difficult to choose from so many pretty things. Uncle Tom had ordered the things to be here on my birthday but his letter was mis-sent so only reached C. Nephew yesterday who telegraphed to say so & also that they wd send the things at once. Dear Uncle Tom arrived early yesterday morning & he sends

1v

you his best love. He says he shd. so much like to see "dear Pins". He will be going to Simla for one day on business during his stay here. You will think him changed now he has grown a beard. We went to the Soldiers Gardens on my Birthday & how much we wished my own child you had been with us. We often, children & all spoke of you, missing you much my pet. I had expected Mr Forbes but he had not returned from Simla on Monday as Mrs Forbes expected & she did not like to leave home so we were alone. I walked there & back from the Malt House! I started on the Pony but the road was not good enough for riding. We had tiffin under a large Walnut tree.

We have promised Harry another

tiffin there to-morrow as it is the last day of the holidays, on which acct we had to decline an invitation to the Tremletts to meet the Birchs but I shall go & see Mrs Birch by & by I hope. Papa met her coming to the station last evening. Major Forbes came to call yesterday & stayed to tiffin. Harry killed a snake at the Soldiers Garden, & the day before yesterday he had a narrow escape of being bitten by a similar one as he was picking a gooseberry. The snake was in the bush & made a dart at him as he put his hand in the bush! He killed it directly. There is to be a sort of Bazaar held here this afternoon & to-morrow at the Missionarys house, & I shall go by & by as I hear there are a

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number of very useful childrens things. We had an invitation to the Simla Club Ball to come off on the 23rd & I have just written to decline. I wore on my birthday the pretty jacket you braided for me with the sweet little collar you made & Papa & the children exclaimed at once how very pretty it was & I felt very proud darling of wearing your work. The weather now is most lovely & quite cold of an evening, but not so cold as I hear you have it at Simla. God bless you my own pet dear old Minnie. You must tell me how you spent your holiday darling. Ever with our best & fondest love your own loving Mother

Flory sends many sweet kisses

[No envelope]

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[Kussowlie] Monday 14th [Sept. 1868]

My own precious beloved child

I scarcely know how to write to tell you of the bitter trial it has pleased God to inflict on us. May He help us & you my child to bear it. Our blessed angel Tom, the pet of us all, after a few hours severe suffering in his throat. (inflammation of the larynx) was taken from us at ½ past 8 this morning. All through the night I thought of you away from your darling pet & what a blow was in store for you my own darling child. You know what the precious boy was to us all, the light & joy of our lives. He suffered fearfully & so very patiently. Oh Minnie I don't

1v

know how to bear this. May God help us all my darling. The darling has had a cold but that was all & on Saturday we went to the Soldiers Gardens.

Our darling darling boy will be buried this evening, very soon to part with his dear body. I hope to go to the Funeral my darling. This time yesterday (1 pm) our pet was playing outside with the children. Oh Minnie my darling I know how deeply you will feel this blow, almost as much as we (Papa & I) do. The children were all round the bed when our darlings spirit fled. Thank God for the last hour he was insensible for all through his great sufferings

he was conscious. He cd. not speak for hours but once said when I put my ear to his lips seeing he wanted to speak "I feel very ill". Last night he asked to be undressed & then said he must say his prayers. His speaking then was very difficult so I said them for him aloud. He has lately always said them quite by himself always beginning with "Amen" strangely. I will write again tomorrow my own beloved darling. Ever with all our fondest love my child your own

loving Mother

God bless you my own & help you to bear this my darling

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In Juxon's hand

My darling child Minnie. Your poor afflicted mother said to me when I had read what she has written; "will you add something to poor Minnie." I know not what to write, darling. That you must sorrow grievously for our little one so suddenly snatched away, I know. All the day long have we been visiting & revisiting his fair & beautiful little body as it lies on my bed & recalling all his doings & sayings of only yesterday - of even that night. He has been ill only a night & is taken from us. Shall I pray God to comfort you so to enable you to bear the sorrow & bereavement? Your sorrow, my child, I would not have lessened; but I would have this suffering teach us & keep us always mindful that we must, each one of us, separate from all that we love on earth, sooner or later; and that this separation may be rendered less terrible, less unexpected & that it may be only temporary too, let God's grace guide us all in the preparation for it - Oh, dear Pins, it is so sad to feel that we have but a of lock of hair, a few treasured playthings, a few cherished clothes in the place of our bright beautiful & joyous little boy. Poor Mama has told you of his few last words, his last prayer, his sad sufferings. Poor Harry's grief is most piteous - Our dear child is associated with

all our doings of yesterday - I have room for no more my dearest Minnie - Your loving father.

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[Kussowlie] Tuesday 2 pm. [15th Sept. 1868]

My own beloved child, deeply is my heart aching for you my precious one, for by this time you know of our dreadful loss. May God support you my own child. Our treasure was not buried until this morning as things were not ready. At 7 exactly we reached the grave yard & parted with our darling's body. Oh Minnie what anguish it is. My heart is nearly broken & I feel crushed to the earth. No words of mine cd. describe the heavenly beauty of Tom's face after death. It was most glorious, such as must be seen to be imagined. It increased every hour until as each of us went in turn to look at our boy each asked the other if we noticed the increasing

1v

beauty of the precious face. The smile was heavenly & the whole face radiant. It seemed to have a message of love to me as I looked at it. I kissed him for you my child, so deeply feeling that you cd. not have the privilege my darling. To-day I can think of him as a blessed angel in his Fathers arms, looking at us all I do not doubt, & if he cd, would he not urge us all to live so as to meet him again. Let us my own from henceforth try to follow on to know Christ, that when our time comes we may for His sake be admitted into heaven where our darling has gone before. I have a treasure there now. He was ever saying "Sun of my soul my

Saviour dear, Is it not night if thou are here" & those two lines we have ordered to be put on his tomb stone, which is ordered from Delhi by Uncle Tom. You know I never let him buy a god father's present for our little one & now he says he feels he shd. much like to do this for our lost darling. Only on Sunday he was singing the hymn & it is so associated with his dear memory now. He often spoke of you darling. It was so sudden his end that I feel now if I cd. only have him for a short time back again to pet him more & make much of him I shd. be happy. Once in the night he lifted his arms up as I knelt by his dear side & his head from the pillow to come to me & I held him in my arms for a minute

1

but his sufferings were too terrible for him to keep still. I am collecting his little toys as I find them. Mr Griffin Vice, Mrs Nicolas & Charlie attended the funeral of our darling. I had your dear letter this morning. I missed its not coming yesterday my darling. My heart is with you & the children feel so much for you. Harry & Berty feel their loss deeply but strange to say William & Coco very little, the former especially & it goes to my heart. Annie constantly cries & talks much of him & is always asking me to pray, dear child. Mr Toussaint Miss Vice & Mrs Forbes came to see me yesterday. The latter walked the whole way though not strong. All were most kind. My darling Minnie how my heart aches for

2

you, sweet child. I am writing down the little sayings of little Tom as I remember them. A few days ago when the children did something to tease him he said "Now I am going away to tell God" - I put lots of little flowers about my boy, god knows with what an aching heart. He is comforting me

Minnie or I cd. not feel as I do to-day my darling's blessed happiness now, but our loss is terrible. All loved our little Tom. God bless you my precious child. Uncle Tom is writing by me & said "give dear Pins my best love" - Your dear letter was put into my hand as I came from the Funeral before getting out of the janpan.

2v

How little you thought of what our state wd. be when we shd. get it. Charlie met us on our return to beg me to go down. It was the first time I have spoken to him. I could not go anywhere but home. He & the others were in mourning. The place is so desolate now & this seems almost too hard to bear darling. God bless & comfort you darling.

We all send our best & fondest love. Ever your own loving

Mother

As I can I shall write you our darling's last doings.

[No envelope]

1

[Kussowlie] Wednesday [16th Sept. 1868]

My own beloved darling Minnie, I have this minute put in an Envelope a bit of our darling lost ones hair for you. I did not send it before as I thought it wd. be too much for you darling.



How much I think of you my own away from us in your sorrow. All we can do is to talk of our treasure recalling all his dear ways & sayings. Poor Harry's sorrow is as ours & Bertys very deep. Dear Uncle Tom has written to you darling child. He went this morning to see the dear spot where our darling now lies. To-morrow I hope to go. It was such a bright lovely morning when we laid him there, just in keeping with his

1v

own dear bright little life. Oh Minnie it seems more than we can bear. I look at his dear clothes till my heart is ready to break with anguish. His dear boots with his little socks pushed in them, taken off on Saturday night I took to-day from under his bed this morning On Sunday he wore shoes & I cut his dear nails at his own request as he lay playing in my lap. I find some of his little toys pushed

under his clothes in his cupboard which he called his "drawers" & where I saw him scrambling up to put them away the other day. I have been mercifully supported in body though last night I suffered a little from oppression

in my breathing which ended in cramps, but they soon passed off & I had a good night & am well to-day. I took his dear clothes from the Dhobie to-day. How I felt having to give out 2 sheets & a pillow case less. Dear Uncle Tom's grief is very great. He, as all was so fond of the darling child. I think with wonder of his radiant glorious face after death. How I long to comfort myself with his joy & bliss in heaven but it is hard to get consolation in anything. I still ache to have him back, with that feeling if I cd. but pet him & tell him of my great love I cd. better spare him. I did in that terrible night tell him of it & how I prayed for his relief. It was so hard to see the little angel in such agony.

1

His patience was beyond description. He occasionally said "Oh my" but the effort to speak was too much. When spoken to he seemed to use all his efforts to reply. He knew us all the dear angel. Once he said "I feel so ill" & added "I want my pillow here". He died on Uncle Tom's bed in your room you had darling when here. I shall get a dear letter from you to-morrow darling. All the servants nearly went to the Funeral of our blessing. I wish I cd. have had our treasure photographed after death I cannot fancy him more lovely now. His face was heavenly & the expression so bright. He played last with Annies doll which Uncle Tom had bought her at the Mission

2

sale on Friday & of which he said to me "Ma I this dolls husband". I bought him a blouse at that sale which pleased him much & we so regretted there was no toy for him there. On Saturday I gave the dersy cloth for six shirts for Tom and in the morning I found one ready. Little did I think what it wd be for. He was buried in it & on Monday afternoon some clothes came home for him that a dersy at the Gurbul made for him. Minnie darling as I said before let us so live that we may re-join our lost darling. I feel so thankful that you all loved him so. Harry is terribly cut up. He is writing to you with tears streaming down his cheeks & this minute said "Oh Mama I little thought it wd. be such awful grief

2v

there is nothing compared to it". God bless you & comfort you darling Minnie. He alone can help us in this sorrow.

With all our fondest love your own loving

Mother

I had such a kind note from Mrs. Macpherson just now.

Letter from her brother, Harry

1

16th Sept: 1868 [Kussowlie]

My own darling Minnie

I wrote to you to soothe you about the death of darling little Tom, poor little fellow he was playing on Sunday so happily in the middle of the day he went to sleep and about tiffin time he woke up half strangled, then Uncle Tom took him to Papa and Papa put some Iodine on his neck and gave him some medicine we bathed his dear little feet in warm water and then put him on my bed, he then got a little well and in the evening he called Papa to call Owroi to have his clothes taken off then Mama, Papa and Uncle Tom went to dinner and I stayed by his side, after dinner we went in to see how he was and found him

1v

in great distress about that time he said to Papa in these words "my prayers" [c.o. Papa said to him] he then began but could not speak, but Papa said I will call Mama to say them to you, he always when he said them he began with Amen, so Mama did the same, Uncle Tom had the couch placed by his bed side and he was placed on it, poor little darling he bore it so very well, he was rolling from one side of the bed to the other he could not keep still on account of his sufferings Mama had him in her arms for a little time but he could not sit quiet - he was then put on Uncle Toms bed he began breathing so violently poor little blessed darling, towards the morning he began to be very pale and insensible, it was half past four when Papa wrote for the Doctors

but they could do nothing when they came, the last words he said where "My milk and water" at half past eight the blessed little angel died we all came round him, and we all cried so very much for him and all the servants too. Papa put our little brothers body at the foot of his bed for the whole day till his little coffin came and then he was put into it for the night but was not shut up till the next morning we all kissed the dear body and then shut it up to never see it again he was buried on tuesday morning. The Vicar came to the funeral, Mrs Nicholas, Griffin Vice, and Charlie were the ones, when we were returning home and were near the Vices house Charlie came up to ask Mama if she would come down to their house to have a cup of tea he could not speak to Mama. I hope you will not fret yourself about the

1

dear little darling he has gone to heaven now and singing around the throne of God I grieve so very much for you darling Minnie for not seeing him but we will meet with him on the last day God bless you darling Minnie. I have writen all about dear little Tom and so will stop

Believe me Minnie your most loving brother

Juxon Henry Jones

[in her father's hand]

My own darling child Minnie I feel as if I were the only one that has not written to you, & I was just now intending to write; but as it is late & you will have so many letters to read at once, I will postpone doing so till tomorrow. I feel assured that these sad, sad letters must almost break your heart my poor child; & bitter is my sorrow that you have not your mother's bosom to pour your tears upon. It would have calmed your sorrow at times had you been with us, for we sometimes soften our grief by dwelling upon the delightful ways, the sayings & doings of our loved little one. I could not have believed that our loss could have so utterly oppressed us with sorrow. And out grief seems to be greater from the terrible nature of his death. I think every instant of his putting his little finger in his mouth & lying on his side, longing, striving for a little rest a little ease & quiet, which never was allowed him for 9 terrible hours

Even little Annie is often found silently crying by herself, & Harrys never ceasing grief is terrible -

every single object associated with little Tom causes a fresh out-break
God bless & comfort you my dear child -
Your loving father

Letter from Thomas Wright

1

Kussowlie 16th Sept 1868

My dear Minnie

Your mama will have informed you of the death of your dear little brother Tom on the morning of the 14th. Papa too has also written regarding the sad event which has plunged all here in grief. I now send you a few lines in the hope that they may be acceptable.

This is now the second morning since your little brother left us - but his sweet little merry voice appears to be still ringing in our ears and

1v

every moment one half expects to see him running into the room with his wonted impetuosity to announce in his emphatic language some occurrence among his brothers & sisters.

He was your little pupil for a long time and you will, I know, feel his loss dreadfully. I wish I could be with you, my dear Minnie to soothe your grief.

He was my little godchild and I may say truthfully that had he been my own child I could not have loved him more dearly - But all who knew him, loved little Tom even the servants - and the Brewery people were glad to do anything for him in his life time, and when he

was no more they appeared shocked and grieved by our description indeed I have never seen natives more so.

Mama & Papa will have related to you all relating to his illness & sufferings - his struggles for breath lasted from 9 o'clock at night till 5 the following and during this time he was quite conscious and sensible, patient try and measure his every little expressions of pain were "oh my" and at another time "I feel so ill" in the midst of his terrible sufferings, he still did his utmost to attend and to reply to the questions put to him

He died at ½ past 8 having been unconscious for the last hour and terminated a life which appears now to have been by a bright happy dream.

1

Papa kept his little body in his own room from the time of his death till the following morn when he was put in his coffin, you will recollect his handsome little face, always bright and smiling, in death it became beautiful with the smile of an angel resting on it, such as I have never before seen.

Now that his earthly sufferings have ceased, we have little cause to pity him, he was of too tender an age to know what sin was and we are assured [unclear] that of such is the Kingdom of heaven.

But with those who are left to sorrow his departure it is different, Mama and Papa can scarcely yet realize that he has gone the blow has been so sudden, the events of little Tom's life his sayings & doings, are one

2

after another recalled to mind and talked over by all in the house, so much so fondly do we cling to every thought or circumstance with which he is associated. His memory is cherished in everything - and all now begin to feel the terrible blank which he has left behind -

I think in a few days I shall be coming over to Simla where I shall be able to tell you more about your dear little brother but it can only be to repeat what I have done doubtless in this now, what has already been so much better written by your Papa & Mama

God bless you
my dear Minnie
with much love
Ever yours very affecty
T Wright

[no envelope]

Letter from her father

1

Kussowlie Septr. 18th [1868]

My own very dear Minnie Your dear Mother has asked me to take her duty of writing to you, as she would find it so fatiguing to write while lying in bed. She is all right to-day I am most thankful to say, but yesterday she was very poorly indeed. She went to bed with a sore throat the previous evening & got no sleep at all till dawn; & so was extremely low & faint all the day yesterday. She could scarcely speak or swallow, & this made us very anxious. But, thank God, she now speaks often of feeling so well, & would not have any thing done to her throat as it is now so well. I am also thankful to say that there is much mitigation of the weeping eyes, the sobs & bursts of grief that have, up to this hour, oppressed us all. Poor Harry has not had his eyes dry for many minutes together during all these long long heavy days. To divert his thoughts a little we had some lessons yesterday for a couple of hours. Today too was to have had the same, but the dear boy has been with Uncle Tom to see the grave of our angel boy & has only now returned at 8½ o'clock. I am spending the half hour, till 9, in writing a part of my letter to you. I have only just now thrown away the flowers which I gathered in the Soldiers' Garden on Saturday, while little Tom was running about amongst the flower beds with me. Only think of his having died & withered long before those frail flowers! Mama

1v

will desire to read what I write to you, my dear child, & so I must avoid, as much as possible, all allusions that would tend to renew her sorrows. The bitterest part of our grief is now past & we seek comfort in prayer & in dwelling upon the blessedness of the state of our lost little one. I have fortunately by me a book that affords me unspeakable consolation, which has been in my hands every leisure moment since Monday morning. It is the life & correspondence of Mrs. Forbes' father⁴⁰¹ whose life appears to have been as holy as man's life can be. Many of his letters are written to comfort & support those who were afflicted as we are. Harry had just come for his lesson having just been telling you poor mother of his visit to Tom's last resting place. So I put this aside for a time my dear child. 1.30 P.M. I have not been able to resume this agreeable task, dearest Pins, until this moment. I have been asleep since our prayer time - Nursing & heaviness of heart makes sleep

so desirable. I must tell you how your dear mother gets on - She is doing famously, tho' her throat still troubles & pains her. Since breakfast she has had an egg & a tin of soup; & before coming into my room I sent up a cup of chicken-broth with some toast. She had a long dose & a short sleep; & now she has a large pile of Illustrated Newses to entertain

her. Since our sad loss I have more than once proposed that we should pass my birthday at the gardens; but now I fear that your dear mother will be much too weak to go there. for she has to walk $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way there. This will greatly surprise you, for the distance is much beyond what you have ever known her to walk - We have made two pic-nic trips to the gardens in this way. I do not fear that the scenes will cause too great a renewal of her grief at recalling all that dear little Tom did on his last day of health & play for at present there is not an object that does not seem to produce his very presence. His toy horse is the thing most associated with the dear little fellow, & so Uncle Tom & we are going to keep each a part of it. But I must not make you too sad, my dear child. I hope that Mrs Forbes will be able to find time to go & see you. She is sure to go & see you if it is possible. Mama would be able to write to you but for the aching in her throat, so very much better & stronger is she feeling. Strange it appears to me that I have written so much without speaking of dear Uncle Tom. He wrote you a precious letter, & nothing could better show than that how fondly he loved his little god-son & namesake. He, in spite our entreaties to the contrary, has assumed to himself the charge of placing a sweet pretty monument over the

1

resting place of that darling child. He was indeed an equal sharer with us in the love & affection, & in the very possession of the little light of our eyes. Minnie, I do so miss the nightly visits of dear little Tom, who used always to come into my room before dinner & say "good night, Papa". I have got a little packet of sugar plums which I bought only for little Annie & Tom, & only one half is consumed. But I shd. never cease should I tell you what numberless objects around me recall his bright, beautiful presence. What dreadful longings to see him again they call forth. His shelf containing all his little pretty clothes is above my bed & amongst them are the tiny treasures that he placed there, once telling Mama while doing so, "I've got a drawers Mama". When he went to bed ill he had a walnut in his dear little hand & when Harry came to see him he gave it to him saying: "I dont want it, Harry". While I sit thinking of him I cannot help writing about him & him only. But he is in his heavenly father's home instead of mine, wh. is much better for him: & if my treasure & the treasure of all of us is there our hearts will be there too; & that means us following him to the same place. I am writing down stairs & dear Mama is in her room upstairs; but I dont need her express message to you, my child - our child. Our blessings in prayers & love are for you dearest Minnie [ends here]

1

[Kussowlie] Sunday [20th Sept. 1868]

My beloved child. I am down stairs to-day which will show you I am much better & I hope very soon to get my strength again. I got your most dear, very precious letter of Thursday this morning only. It is very very dear & comforting to us my own child. That sweet piece of poetry has been a great comfort to me. I say two of the sweetest verses day & night to myself. I am so glad you copied it for me my darling. I have just made a good breakfast. I long so to go to the dear grave I cannot tell you.

Give my love to Mrs Mackinnen & thank her very much for me for all her kindness to you, also to

dear Emma. I am very glad she is with you. This was his last precious day on earth with us. Oh wd. that we cd. recall it but without his suffering at the end. I think of all his sayings & doings my angel boy. God bless you my very own beloved child. I treasure your loving dear letters dearly.

1v

Poor Papa will have a sad Birthday to-morrow. Have you a Photograph of our angel? I keep ours always with me, the one in the Perambulator. I cannot write more darling but I am very weak.

It is now 3 p.m

God for ever bless you

Your own deeply loving

Mother

Papa, Uncle Tom & Harry went to the dear grave to day.

I hope to go out for a turn perhaps to-morrow my darling

I do love you so fondly my child

My throat is quite well

Baby has 2 teeth

[no envelope]

1

[Kussowlie] Tuesday [22nd Sept. 1868]

My very very own darling

I was so comforted my child at getting your most dear precious letter of real comfort this morning. You don't know how much I feel all your dear letters, all they contain goes to my heart my child & I feel so thankful for them. I am sitting at the table writing this, so very much better am I to day, feeling wonderfully stronger & was able to go to the breakfast table with the others. I love to read all your remembrances of our angel. How vividly now I recall his singing that song you taught him the precious sweet boy. Latterly he sang so much & two or 3 nights before he died he burst out singing in his sleep so clearly & so beautifully it quite

1v

startled me. I have been too ill to think of my mourning yet but shall now I hope have strength to attend to it.

I shall look amongst your things darling for the dear hair you speak of & it will be a precious treasure. I have all that dear Uncle Tom cut off in Decr /66 when it was cut for the first time & it is so beautiful. Uncle Tom's face is better I am glad to say. He sends you his best love my pet. This day last we we buried our beloved darling. It almost seems as if day by day I missed him since my own darling child dear sweet little Tom. I have thought so much of what you said little baby's being sent to take his place. I wish now she was a boy, not that I believe there ever cd. be another like our lost one so gloriously bright & beautiful.

I love that sweet poetry your send me, 3 verses particularly "Cd. I show thee mine & my sisters dwelling" & the following one. I say them over & over again to myself.

I may not write to-morrow darling as I have much to attend do [sic]. Your letters are sweet comforters to us & we prize them deeply. God bless you my own own darling

Ever with our best & fondest love your own loving fond

Mother

[addressed as before]

1

[Kussowlie] Friday [25th Sept 1868]

My own beloved child

I cannot write you a long letter as I had hoped for I have had Mrs Murray here for hours & am very tired now. It is the first time I have been able to do anything about my sad dress & it has been very trying. Last evening I was so much better I went round the Gurkal on the pony & I hope to do so again by & by I am getting stronger now though still weak but to-day I have been walking about the house a good deal. Our little Flory has cut 2 more teeth & has now four. She is sitting on the floor by me just come

1v

down from sleep. She sends you so many kisses my darling. I don't know I am sure if you will be able to get me the paper darling I asked for. The bearer tried at Wallaces, Upper Talin & over the bazaar & cd. only get me envelopes, a few, & small note paper. It will be dear Uncle Tom's birthday to-morrow. What happy days these have been always before. Dear dear Minnie I do so rejoice over your loving letters. They do my heart good darling.

I had a note from Mrs Trench this morning about my darling.
She has been in trouble for her husband has been very ill indeed.

God bless you my own beloved child
Ever with our our best & fondest loves
Your own loving

Mother

Uncle Tom went to his dear grave to-day & put fresh flowers on it. My heart aches to go there darling.

[addressed as before]

1

[Umbala] Friday [30th Oct 1868]

My own darling child I was so glad to get your last dear letter. It came earlier than usual, reaching me on Monday evening. I am so glad darling you went to the Concert & so enjoyed it. How kind of Julia Nichol to give you the ticket. I cannot write much of a letter to-day as I am very weak having had an attack of fever the night before last. I am up to-day & only weak darling & you must not think anything of it. I heard from Mrs Trench yesterday. She is coming here on the 8th for races so I shall try to

1v

get off going there as I shall see her to say good bye. Uncle Tom wrote from Kurnaul⁴⁰². He & his officers dined at the Trench's.

Dear little Flo is getting so intelligent & she takes a little food many times a day now. The Mac Farlan⁴⁰³ children came to see me last evening. They seem nice little creatures & the baby such a fine little fellow, just Flo's age. I will write again on Sunday darling & say good bye now. I am only rather weak darling, that is all. God

bless you. Ever with our fondest love your own loving
Mother

[addressed as before]

Letter from her father

1 [Black-edged notepaper]

Umbala. Sunday 29th Novbr. [1868]

My own darling child, I asked Mama when she would next write to you & when she said, "not till Tuesday", I said that I thought I might as well set your mind at rest about the Tasmanian scheme, at once. When Mama last wrote we had abandoned the scheme, deeming the means of educating the girls there very inadequate; for I thought that the boys need not learn much of books if their chief business should be with farming & cattle. But the destitution, in the matter of education, of little Coco, Annie & Flo overcame any longings to go to Tasmania. Yesterday we received a letter from Tom which would have dissuaded us from going to any Colony had we not previously been determined against it. Tom again strange to say had a fellow traveller who had just come from a visit [sic] Tasmania; He said that the population was decreasing & that would cause a dearth of farming & domestic servants: that living might be slightly cheaper, but solely from the fact of the difficulty of getting servants their cost was saved: that the scheme

1v

called Crawford's⁴⁰⁴, was ridiculed in the Colony: that all the people brought up in the country had a very disagreeable twang: and lastly that the youth of the Colony emigrated to other colonies for the sake of employment & a livelihood!! So now, dearest Pins, you may picture to yourself your living at Cheltenham one of the neatest, cleanest, most gay and cheerful towns in England, & where I hope to find old Indians & amongst them positively old acquaintances & friends. There we should be near my brother Frank & my two sisters - easily accessible by railway I mean. About our next movements I dare say Mama has fully informed you. We want to leave Umbala before the 1st January, because until that time we can go as far as Meerut by rail without expense. Then we want to be with Tom for a little while at Allahabad as well as to break our long journey to Calcutta into 2 trips. From there we must arrange for our passage to England round the Cape. You know that Mama has a sister married to a rich Calcutta Merchant⁴⁰⁵ & we have written to him (for his wife Sibella is in England) to ask him to

take us in for a week or so. If he will we shall not only save a vast number of rupees, but we should find our sojourn in Calcutta infinitely more cheerful. Uncle Tom will be there with us. He will go to England Overland & so will be able to get a house & everything ready for us & you know how well

he will do it. I wrote to my brother & sister to ask what arrangements they could make for our reception on arrival; for you must know that for our large party to be living at Hotels till we had secured a house would be ruinous. Well, my brother refers me to my sister Irene who has not written to me at all! So much for getting one's friends at home to labor for one. Now Tom will do all that is possible for our comfortable & immediate reception. Our schemes are now all changed & I must try & get Harry prepared to pass a successful examination for the Civil Service. He would find no difficulty if he had your industry. But I have great hopes as he is a far advanced Mathematician & can very nearly read Greek & Latin by himself & lately I have been reading English History with him & inevitably he runs over the heads of English History the Sovereigns & the intricacies of family connections

1

Fancy my having written so much without saying a word about the happy prospect of seeing you at home amongst us so soon & for so long a period. You wont require much more tuition at home - plenty of reading though - thanks to Mrs Mackinnon & Miss Birch. The rest of the children, excepting Harry, are fearfully backward & I tremble lest they should be thereby inadmissible to any English Grammar school.. However Harry began at 12 to learn & Berty is only 11. I suppose you will stay with the kind Vices for a few days. It ought to be for but a few. While there you will go & see the spot that has not been out of our minds for a moment scarcely for eleven dreadful weeks. Capt'n _ [above added later: Sladen] is going to take a photograph of our angel child's last resting place; and dreadful to think of, we are daily expecting the monument to be brought to our house here. Minnie, I did not know that the human heart could be so long and so bitterly afflicted as have been ours. I must close my letter instantly so with innumerable loves from Mama & myself I pray that God may keep & bless you. Your loving father J H Jones [overwritten later, probably by Maria - J H Juxon-Jones]

1

[Umbala] Friday [11th Dec 1868]

My own darling child

I wrote to you yesterday not thinking you wd. not be at Simla to receive my letter but I was so delighted last evening to hear from Mrs Mackinnon that you wd. leave this morning. I expect you slept but little last night thinking of coming home old woman. I hope you will be here on Sunday or Monday very early for I think we shall get off very soon & you must go to Mr. O'Mearns. I am so glad you will be at Mrs Taylors darling. Of course you can go & see the Vices who kindly asked you there my pet. I have

1v

but time to write a line my own own child to tell you how we are longing to see you my darling & have you again with us, but oh darling you will sadly miss that one bright face in your home greeting. Bring some leaves from his dear grave my child & if you can take a sketch I shall prize it so much darling. God bless you my own pet. We all send you such fond love darling. Ever your own loving mother.

Give me a line to tell

me when you start again & if Miss Smith is coming to me. I shd. be so glad to have her if she does

not mind roughing it

1

addressed:

Miss Jones
care of Major Taylor⁴⁰⁶
Kussowlie

There are no further letters as all the family were together from then on. It appears that Juxon managed to get an appointment as a ship's doctor which would have partly defrayed the costs of getting back to England. It is not known where the family stayed in Calcutta, but as Uncle Tom was supposedly with them it is likely that he managed everything for them.

Juxon and his family sailed from Calcutta in a merchant sailing ship called "King Arthur", built in 1861 by Pile & Co. West Hartlepool. It was an iron ship, cemented, of 1221 tons with two bulk heads. The owners were A. & C.P. Higgins & Co, London.⁴⁰⁷ The Captain on the voyage was John Shiell⁴⁰⁸

Juxon did keep a record of his medical duties on board ship, and this covers the period from 5th February 1869, when they boarded, until 18th May. The notebook he used was the opposite end of an old copy-book of Harry's.

1869 February 5th Friday.

Came on board between 7 & 8 A.M. & soon afterwards were taken in tow by the steamer - Anchored early in the afternoon

6th Saturday.

Proceeded down the river for only about 6 hours & anchored early in the afternoon -

7th Sunday.

Pilot left us late in the afternoon. Owing to the tide running out & the wind being against were a long time turning the ship, but about midnight got her head the right way - Lat. 22°

8th.

Called up during the night to Parker who had been suffering from vomiting & purging for some 6 hours - After failing with medicines to stop the vomiting, gave as much warm water as he could drink, which was vomited & after another draught no vomiting occurred - He suffered much from thirst, but was not allowed to swallow a drop of water.

Bradford & Amas both ill for some weeks from Diarrhoea - Checked by Ps Kino⁴⁰⁹ Co.

Bradford was wetted in the squall & had a return of Diarrhoea - As no improvement followed the repetition of the treatment his stools were examined & found to be Dysenteric An Alum & Laudanum injection was followed during 48 hours by cessation of all purging. A second enema of half the strength of the 1st was followed by complete recovery. He went to his duty on 22nd Feby.

Amas' case was very similar to that of Bradford's, only that he had been suffering longer in Calcutta from bowel complaint - 6 weeks - & was much reduced in flesh & nearly fainted on coming aft for me to see him. On seeing his Dysenteric stools he took Dysenteric pills (I had but 12) during one day & the next morning I administered Alum & K Opi' injection. He had no further treatment. Had no stool for 2 days & then had a perfectly natural evacuation.

Lynburg after having been at sea about 11 or 12 days complained of weight at the Epigastrium⁴¹⁰,

nausea & loss of appetite - T & breath foul - Entirely relieved of nausea & the oppression by 2 draughts of warm water - not followed by vomiting. For 3 or 4 days felt some ill defined symptoms of Fever, Wh: entirely left him after taking Quinine 3 mornings (gr X) Had a mustard poultice for great & constant pain in the forehead - This changed to a fixed pain in the left brow & eye, wh: was relieved by Quinia, another mustard poultice & an application of Laudanum & Spr Camphor -

Between the 19th & 25th Sail maker has had several doses of Quinine. There have been many cases requiring treatment for Colds, sore throats, constipation, Diarrhoea, Fever Intermittent, nausea, loss of appetite & sense of weight at the Epigastrium

2

16th

Saw Mr Lewis' ulcers for the first time. They were numerous on both legs - from the ankles up to the top of the calf. It is on account of these ulcers that he is taking this voyage to England. There are about 8 or 10 on each leg. The left leg is the worse, They were contracted in Burmah & he has been many months under treatment of various kinds without benefit. I applied Alum & a little Kino mixed with flour of various strengths to suit the different conditions of the different sores. All are indolent & surrounded with skin in red & very tender state & covered with large drops of foul odour, pervading the cabins as his chum states.

He is order complete rest, moderation of the use of stimulants, as much change in his diet as is possible & Tinct Ferri Perchlor:⁴¹¹

Febry 24th - Amas went to his duty. Only 2 men sick

Febry 25. Thursday.

The 2 seamen Radford & Linburg went to their duty this day - In the afternoon Dauffy stated that he had been ill (with Fever) since noon - Had Quina p/x [unclear] to be repeated at sun-set.

3

Thursday 25th February - in lat: near 8° Written on Friday 26th Feby

Mr Wooden⁴¹² - Of sanguine temprmt - Age 44 - of stout muscular build, short neck. About a week ago complained of fulness in the head in general conversation & I volunteered this advice - to keep quiet & out of the sun, to omit all stimulants & keep the bowels well open. The whole face was at the time intensely red as indeed it had become 2 or 3 days after putting to sea. Much of this I attributed to the sun & his sitting in the open air all day. Yesterday at about noon I was asked by the Captn. of Mr. W. who was not very ill. I had neither seen him nor heard word of his being otherwise than in his usual state - However, on having been asked this question I went to his cabin & found that the Capt's wife had just brought him an evaporating lotion for his head as he was complaining of head-ache - Upon enquiry & examination I found that since the morning his head-ache had become very troublesome; the face was flushed only as usual; the conjunctiva were only slightly infected; the pupils acted readily; the pulse was full, firm, but unaccelerated (I had no watch) The bowels had been freely opened by purgatives taken on each of the 2 preceding nights - I did not conceive that the symptoms were urgent - I mean as threatening apoplexy & so ordered a pediluvium⁴¹³ with the addition of some mustard; advised a can of cold water to be poured on the head for some 10 minutes & immedly gave him a mixture containing Liq Ammon Acet 3ii Sp Æther Nitr:ly x 4 & Pot Nitr gr xiii - If not relieved by these measures I mentioned the necessity of his having a large mustard poultice on the nape of the neck & top of the scapulae⁴¹⁴. In ordinary & mixed conversation I had several times heard him say that in Novbr last, in Lucknow, he had had a stroke of the sun. To my enquiry whether he had been deprived of his senses he said that for 2 days

he had not known what he was about - On my 1st seeing him this day I referred to this attack, but being impatient at questioning I learnt nothing new - He repeatedly said that his present pain was nothing - not so bad as what he had often experienced since his illness in Novbr.

After the foot bath, water to the head, the diminution of the mid-day heat he was greatly relieved & asks himself said : felt quite well. (From the motion of the ship I can't keep my hand on the page!)

25th. - Has felt quite well all the night & forenoon, since wh: I have not seen him; though I strongly urged his giving me instant information shd. he feel at all ill again. I should mention that he declined to take the medicine that I gave him yesterday, saying that he was quite well & had been freely purged during the night.

Dr. Fearon⁴¹⁵ I yesterday overheard saying something like "blood from the arm" as he was leaving Mr W's cabin, upon wh: I went out of my cabin to ask him if he were talking about bleeding & of Mr W's case. He said that he was threatened with apoplexy - wholly unconnected with the coup de soleil: that his conformation (thick, short, muscular neck) caused a predisposition to this affective - He said his pulse was a wiry one & small.

I merely said that I did not see any symptoms sufficient to induce me to resort to bleeding & that the pupils acted readily & the pulse was any thing but wiry or small. It was full, firm & slow

4

Only 1 man sick - Duffy. Took Quina gr X at 7 A.M. Feeling better, though some slight fever (at the time of seeing him - Sails⁴¹⁶ had a dose of Quina as he has has the previous 2 days. Feels getting all right. About the same time Baird came compg of sore throat (slight) & severe catarrh - Alum gargle & Ps Spicae Co gr X Spr. Spr. Æther Nitr: to be taken on turning in at 12 noon & at 12 midnight 2p.m. Have just seen Mr Woden [sic] - His words are "I'm first rate, with nothing the matter. He felt some uneasiness at noon on going to the tiffin table but left the room immedly. There is less redness of the face than I remember ever to have seen.

Febry 27th [pencil: 11° 42' Noon] 1 Seaman sick - Duffy - Intermitt Fever. Convalescent - Quina gr Viii

3 Passengers - Mr Lewis - Mr Wooden - Mr Long's child -

Mr Wooden, in neglect of my recommendation, yesterday dined in the Saloon & took some sherry & water and immediately had a return of deep flushing of the face & distressing head-ache & his temper is again very irritable. The head-ache lasted all the night. In the mornng he had a foot-bath & took a dose of the Diaph: & Diurectio Medce. & now (at 10 am) he feels very nearly well. His irritability of temper is so great that he resented my stating to him that his taking wine & dining in the hot & very ill-ventilated saloon had caused his relapse. He spoke so excitedly that the Chief Mate, who was standing by, said to him "there, that's the excitement that the Dr has been talking to guard against". He was in a furious rage with one of the Cuddy servants 2 days ago for some trifling fault & I had just be cautioning him against losing his temper.

Mr Long's boy⁴¹⁷ - 2 years' old - had fever from about noon yesterday till sun-rise today. I gave him a diaphte. mixture with Quina at 6.15 this morning wh: he immedtly vomited. At 9 it was repeated & retained. He had no fever on going out on deck soon after the first dose -

(Paid for 32 bottles of Beer 2£8-0 in full to date inclusive. Having no change I gave the Steward 3£)

Febry 28th S. lat 13° 30' No seamen sick - but the sail-maker had fever that eveng, as also had Qr. Mr. Hansom - both have a fixed pain in the left temple with great tenderness of the surface there so that he fears the application of a Sinafusion or H Iodine - Has no general flushing of the face - Has a pedilarium daily & a dose of the mixture twice yesterday & once this mornng. B. well open Mrs Hathren's infant an enema for 4 days' constipation - The Butcher Attur & Dover's powder for a bad cold & cough.

4 p.m. During the day Mr Wooden looked restless & much distressed still however complaining

only of pain in the left temple & excessive tenderness of the soft parts covering it - P - as before is rather hard, full & not accelerated - B. freely open. At about noon I dropped Sulphur c Æther on the temple & afterwards applied an opium plaster. The Æther almost entirely removed the pain - At 3 p.m. I overheard him reply to some one enquiring how he was, that he was no better. I immediately went to him & found him complaining much of pain. Dr. Fearon told me that he had seen him a few minutes before start up suddenly from his seat on the deck & turn very pale. This together with the continued pain led me to take some from the arm immediatl. This was accordingly done & about XX (?) were abstruded. His relief was complete a few minutes after the operation & very soon the tenderness of the skin of the left entirely disappeared. He rubbed it quite roughly with his hand to show how entirely it was relieved. To take 2 Pil: Cathard: h, s.

March 1st One sick. The Sail-maker reported sick. He is better & had Quinine.

Mr Wooden has been perfectly free from every symptom of indisposition since the V.S. yesterday

5

Slept well - b. open twice - He took his place at the breakfast table this mornng. (I am writing immediatl after breakfast - My usual time of writing this daily record) He has not been at the table for a week with one exception -

Mr Lewis' Ulcers will have been a fortnight under my care tomorrow. Those of the right leg are healing fast. Those on the left are filling up & those that were were in almost a sloughing state wh: I first saw them are well filled up with healthy granulations - The other ulcers are more or less doing well; but a good deal of the soft parts surrounding them have been absorbed so that the ulcers are huge - superficially; Still the loss is only of unhealthy - unsound tissues - He had been taking H Feris Perchlor⁴¹⁸: all along -

March 2nd Tu. 2 sick.

Sails, Butcher & Duffy taking Quina - The 2 latter had a paroxysm yesterday, but are better today & Sails at his duty. Mr Wooden quite well, needing no further watching or treatment. Lat. at Noon 17° 18' South.

March 3rd. W. 2 sick.

Sails well. Butcher had a strong paroxm: yesterday - but is better in every way today - Duffy at noon yesterday appeared to be jaundiced, which is quite obvious today. Conj. & skin yellow; Urine stains his clothes - No motion kept for inspection. Mistura⁴¹⁹ c Rhei⁴²⁰ Ps: Soda Carbon: & Hyd Sub: gr (?) quotidis - Mr Lewis' ulcers are all in the most perfect condition for healing -

March 4th Th. 2 sick & Sails ailing 2° 1'

Butcher no fever yesterday; feels much better but T. foul. Duffy feeling much better & Urine is getting clearer (paler) even already. Repeat powder. Sails had fever last evening. He returned to duty without a day's rest after his last paroxm.

Mrs Sh.⁴²¹ had an attack of vomiting last eveng - Her husband gave her Ko. Opii Chlorodyne & Ess Menth Prf: Wh: she vomited immediately - Dr Fearon prescribed for her

March 5th F. 2 men sick 22° 42' Butcher convalescent. Duffy the same. His urine is becoming natural & yesterday he was very hungry, he said - Sails suffering from head-ache: applied Sinapism.⁴²² Well otherwise -

Mrs Trench has an attack of vomiting at about 4 a.m. this mornng. Had scarcely any food yesterday: this the probable cause.

S 6th March 2 men sick.

Butcher & Duffy both convalescent - Sails feeling ill from never giving up his work. Yesterday tho' suffering from head-ache wh: required a sinapism, went to his work till 4 p.m. Mrs Trench was well & cheerful yesterday, but she did not sleep well & rose this mornng - or rather after her morning's toilet she felt faint & pain at the epigastrium

- Sinap: Epigast: Sp Ammon: (?) Kopii (?) XXV at about 7 a.m. Tho' feeling faint the pulse is not

weak - T. clean B. open. The M: over 3 days ago. Brandy & water p.r.n.

Paid 1£1.0 for beer to date inclusive

Sunday 7th March 3 men sick 28°

Duffy & Butcher convalescent. Sail-maker had no fever yesterday. I gave him no Quinine. He needs only rest from his work, which he has carried on every day since he was first poorly notwithstanding my remonstrances. He has always said that he must finish the spare fore-sail. This is not ready he says - (I must record what passed last eveng about him - Some time after dinner the Captn. came & said to me: "Sail says that he is very ill, has not been seen by you nor has recd. any medicine from you to-day". "I was with him 10 min: or a ¼ of an hour this mornng. He did not require any Quinine. He needs only rest", was my reply. The C & I walked forwards together to see him. S. said he was very ill & had fever - On feeling his skin it was quite cool & damp, as he said from just having taken his tea - He spoke in a very querulous manner & I observed to the Captn. that he was out of temper, like a child, & that all he wanted was a glass of Rum. He grumbled about his food & on my remarking that he was ordered or got soup once & sago or arrowroot daily, he replied "Whoever told you that told you a lie". This was said in the presence of the Capt. who only laughed at this disrespectful manner of addressing me. I have omitted in the 7th line above this a part of the Captn's address to me which alone induced me to write down all this: "What's the meaning of this"?

6

Should have concluded his reported words - Said in an authoritative, offensive way. On returning from visiting Sails he said that he got the men well, in sickness, faster than I did!! stating that he gave the men Quinine 3 times a day & plenty of grog - My impression has always been that he was excessively chary of it; for wh: reason I had given Boille & others nearly half of my only bottle of Brandy. I: "you had better try yr own treatmt". Cap: "Not while you are on board.

This mornng I learnt from Sails that the Captn's wife had on the day previous to our talk (i.e. on Friday) given him a bottle of Porter & some pie. This was done without my knowledge.

Yesterday early in the forenoon Mrs Tr. had a long fainting fit. It lasted probably 2 hours & at noon & in the eveng she had 2 short relapses - Her treatment was precisely such as I have adopted innumerable times in precisely similar circumstances occurring to my wife. Tho' apparently faint & insensible her pulse is full, firm but slightly slow - Tho' unable to make any signs she feels & hears all that passes or is done to her. Dashing of cold water over the face alone had a good effect - Ammon, Brandy, smelling salts seemed useless & the latter she could not perceive wh: in the paroxysm. The stomach was very irritable & intolerant alike of medicines & food - tho' sedatios & bland - The paroxms were followed by copious flows of urine - She passed a tolerable night & is almost herself today tho' too weak for any exertion, for she has not been able to use her place on the hatch since yesterday mornng. Indeed I attributed her attack yesterday to the exhausting effects of her going to her cabin & dressing - Mustard poultices were twice applied to the epigastrium - Today she is recommdd to take arrowroot & soup as frequently as is necessary -

8th March. M 2 men sick.

Sales [sic] & Duffy convalescent - Butcher at his duty - Rum & diet from me to each. Mrs T. Well

9th March. Tu 2 men sick.

Sales only a little weak - Duffy going to his work tomorrow -

10th March W. No sick.

- unless Sales be considered sick. He has had too much petting & pampering & no matter is discussed between us but eating & drinking - He has liquor of some kind 3 times a day & had yesterday a tin of preserved soup - bread & cheese from the cuddy table -

11th March Th:

No sick excepting Sales. Dr Fearon yesterday beat poor Harry with a rope's end & on my remonstrating he said he would beat him & me too if I bothered or worried him. I said that that was conduct & speech to be expected from a man who had been drunk every day since he came on board - On his saying that my assertion was a d-d lie, I said "You are always suffering from the effects of liquor - either elevated or depressed - so that I am always uneasy at what you may say or do". On 2 occasions he has spoken to me on subjects that no sober man wd. speak. He called me d-d liar & d-d blackguard & wd have assaulted me had not the Capt. interfered. He also remarked that I and my brat - meaning Harry were the 2 greatest nuisances, pests or plagues on board! My wife, Pins & Harry were close to me all the time. In conversation with the Captn. on the subject above narrated & my having charged Dr. F. with having been drunk every day, he said that Dr Fearon took less liquor than any on board!!!! Meaning of course of the male passengers.

12th March F. 2 men sick.

Butcher attacked with Rheumatism in hip & feet from not changing his wet clothes the day before yesterday. Colchicum Mixture⁴²³ - Sales had Tinct Fessi yesterday - to be continued - Opened my own abscess at 11.30 last night - Gave Boatswain Kino Draught & Parker 1 ounce of Sulphur for d: use.

7

13th March S 2 men sick.

Sales apparently well: Butcher complains of the pains having now attacked his hands and wrists, tho' no part is yet swollen excepting one knuckle of the right hand. Took 3 doses of the medicine yesterday. T very rough & sodden looking - B. open

Boatswain had an attack of Colic last eveng - gave Ess: Ginger Spr Ammon: Ard(?) & subsequently K Opii (?) XXV. All right this mornng, bowels having been 3 times moved in the night - gave him wine glass of Brandy at 6 a.m. [in pencil: Dr F last night between 10 & 11 had a long talk with Mr Lewis about me. On his leaving Mr L. said: "he's screwed."]

Sunday 14 March 2 men sick Boatswain poorly Lat 31° S Lon: 48° E .

Butcher has regular Rheumatic Fever - Pain has left the hips & the feet nearly, but the hands wrists & elbows all very painful, the fingers & backs of the hands above being swollen. Bowels not open for 2 days. T. very rough & foul & brown. Has made a large quantity of turbid, blood-red urine (the bed-pan is made of red earthenware). I covered the backs of the hands & $\frac{2}{3}$ of the forearms with Sig: Lytta - gave Mag: Sulph 3p (100 & odd during the week) with each of 2 doses of Vin Colch. There are no neutral salts to give [sic] excepting Nitre of wh: I gave 12 gr doses - Sails speaks only of food & weakness - Boatswain has purged about six times during the night, & says that what he is passing is very bad, (not natural faeces he means) I recomd that it should not be checked, but that he shd take plenty of arrowroot - (This Sunday's report I have written on Monday owing to the roughness of the sea & my constant attendance upon Butcher)

M. 15th March 3 [c.o.] two men sick.

Did our best run, 236 miles yesterday.

Sales at light work. Boatswain had he thinks been passing bile four or 5 times - green matter frothy & hot, but feels now much better - Wants only to keep quiet & take sago twice in the forenoon. Butcher very much better - pain much alleviated; b: moved twice in the night: T much cleaner: There has been no vesication⁴²⁴, but I wrapped up the wrists last eveng in oiled linen & the softest muslin - To take Vin Colch: 3p p. of nitr gr viii- Feels hungry & is to have Ch: broth as well as sago - The Lytta (?) has affected the case with wh: he before made water. Was so relieved by the blistering that both yesterday afternoon & this morning he has had himself moved out of his bunk onto a sea-chest - Yesterday mornng he could move only his head - I have omitted to state that both shoulders were painful. [in pencil: Dr F. according to the Captn assertion, is very bad this mornng

"very far gone indeed - (?) from drink - NB this in written on this day 15th]

Yesterday at 8 a.m. I spoke to the Capt. about Dr Fearon giving a patient (Sales) a bottle of Porter at about eleven the previous night. I was assured that he would prevent the repetition of it -

Tu 16th March 2 men sick

Gave Boatswain an Alum & Laudanum enema yesterday afternoon since wh: he has had but 1 motion (during the night - Time of writing 9.30 about) Butcher I think to be about free from pain - Complains only of what he calls tightness of the chest - most likely merely muscular pain in the front of the chest - respiration free & normal sound on percussion - Has had no motion since eveng of Sunday - urine not kept but T. is clean & slept well: has also a good appetite - Ordered a tin of soup, to be used as 2 meals - Rep. Mixt: Vin Colch: ter die. Blisters cut yesterday & this mornng where the somm(?) has gravitated; elsewhere the skin appears to be drying on the surface so that no dressing is required.

W. 17th March 2 men sick

Boatswain has had no further purging, only a natural evacuation this mornng. Is weak & a little flatulent for wh: I gave Spr. Alum: Arow(?) & Ginger. Butcher improving. T. clean had little sleep last night but slept in the day. No pain but in the shoulder - Sat in my chair yesterday. To change all his clothes (?). Rept Colch: & (?) Diaph. &c.

Th. 18th March 2 men sick

Boatswain was moved 3 times yesterday, so I recomdd him a tin of soup - took Mid Kino. c R. Opii. Butcher doing very well - Slept well: T. clean: no pain but some stiffness about the shoulders. (?) clear but a little high-colored. R Gent3; Potnn Sodid: gr IV Vin Colch: (?) xx ter die -

8

Saw Mr L's ulcers. On the right leg only one ulcer of any depth or like [sketch: of this size!] The sores on the other leg are all in the most healthy condition and nearly level with the skin & much contracted, yet there is still an enormous amount of surface in a state of ulceration, i.e. not one single ulcer has healed altogether. After omitting his tonic for many days he remembered it 3 days ago. (Paid 1£1.6 for 11 botts. of Beer & 1 Brandy to Saturday last inclus:)

Noon. Boatswain has shown me on some paper some evacuation indicating Dysentery which I suspected 2 days ago when I gave him an Enema - The same E. to be repeated immediately.

Fr. 19th March 2 men sick and the Steward attd. with Rheumit.

Boatswain has had but one motion since the Enema at noon yesterday & feels comfortable in his insides - Butcher suffered all day yesterday from pain in all the respiratory muscles so that he could scarcely breathe or even speak; the pain also seized upon the hips and loins. Strong Liniment to the chest 3 times & 4 doses of the Colch & Potass Mixture, together with a Dioph & opiate draught at bed time greatly relieved him and he is today very much, his wrists only being painful today - Flannel bandages. Had a good sleep: tongue clear & p: natural - Kept. Mixt: greater in die and Liniment in the mornng. The Steward was much distressed with Rheumatic pains in the neck & loins - After using Liniment, a Diapt: & Colch: draught, with flannel to the neck & loins is much easier today and has not ceased his work.

Sat: 20th March 2 men sick & Steward rheumatic. Ther: in my Cabin at 7.30am. 72°. Dr F & Mr W. had a gt. row last night. Steward well.

Boatswain had an enema of K Ofii 31 & Infus Auchon: & took three doses of Subclitide for Dysenteric Pills & says this morning: "I could jump over the main-mast! I'm as lively as a Linnet! That means that he feels much better than he has ever done since he first ailed - some fortnight ago. Butcher had K Ofii (?) XXV & Spr Æther Nitr: (?) h.s. Feels uneasy during the night and says that the medicine keeps him well during the day! Of course the pains are worse at night. The hands are now chiefly affected but all the joints & muscles are stiff & painful when moved. B: open T. clean & had tolerable sleep last night. Kept the Col: & Potass(?) & Glut: Mixt: To take drink of Potass

Nitr & Soda et Potass Tact (the contents of the Secillitz-powder bottle)

Sunday 21st March - 2 men sick

M. 22nd March 2 men sick

A gale from the Westward all day & continued till midnight - Rather rough today, heavy cloud with rain today. Boatswain continues well, but has had no motion since the enema - Butcher doing well, but only slight pain in the shoulders. All hands employed all day yesterday & so he was a good deal neglected & could scarcely keep in his cot from the ship's motion. Forgot his sleeping draught. Asked Capt'n at 8 this morn'g to let the Man (Williams) be continually over him - Has taken a bottle of Saline & has his Colch & Pot (?) mixture 3 times a day & K Opii h.s. B. regular T. clean.

Tu: 23rd March 1 man sick

Boatswain is quite well & wd have gone to work today but for a little weakness in the loins. Butcher has a little pain in the respiratory muscles only : is able to move arms & legs more & more each day. (Paid 18/- for beer to Saturday last inclus: Almost 300 miles of the Cape. Saw land yesterday.

Therm: 67°5

W. 24th March 1 Sick.

Boatswain at duty. Butcher improving: Omit medicine today B. not open for 2 days. Pil Cathart: h.s. & Tinct: Gentium: has die - Some pain in the Shoulders Liniment.

Th: 25th March. 1 Sick.

Last evening the Butcher complained of a good deal of pain in various parts, most likely occasioned by the omission of his Medicine & his having sat up a long time in a chair, when I found him complaining of cold affecting his ear. I gave him in the evening at 10pm 2 doses of Corlet: & Laudunam. Slept well - b. not open. urine said to be high coloured. At 7.30 had a dose (½ ?) of Epsom Salts & during the day "the drink" with Moghes Sulpp: 3i to be taken 3 times in the day & Colch: (?) XX in good dose

9

Good Friday 26th March 1 man sick

Butcher had yesterday but one rather scanty motion earth colored & of unnatural odour tho' he took 2 doses of the medicines Early this morn'g he took the saline drink with Acid Tart. which was followed by a large evacuation somewhat better than yesterday. Urine is very yellow & the pulse is quick & full - not in any way weak: T clean: had a quiet but sleepless night owing to the omission of his sleeping draught. The pain today is in the wrists wh: owing to the blistering cannot be rubbed.

(My wife talked yesterday with Mrs T. about her over-intimacy with Mr Lewis, which was very ill recd. tho' she explained that she did it to prevent the Capt. undertaking the task. In the eveng while sitting on the hatch with wife, Pins & Harry Mrs T. sitting near in company with Mr Lewis, Dr Fearon & Mr Wooden their conversation being about us we were obliged to leave our seats & go elsewhere. Dr Fearon said in a very loud voice "d-d liar, d-d blackguard - saying that they were drunk". So this morn'g I could not greet Mrs T. & when after breakfast I saw my wife speaking with her I called her away. She came towards me saying "Mrs T. asks if you are going to cut her".

"Certainly, after the vile & worse than Billingsgate language that was being carried on all about this spot last night." Mrs T. then asked me to see her baby who she said appeared to be ill. I replied: "would you kindly ask Dr Fearon to attend to her". Presently I saw her ascend to the Poop to speak to the Capt'n. (I was standing by the other ladder) The Capt'n. called to me & said: "I am sorry to hear that you refuse to attend Mrs Trench's Child." "Certainly I do while she encourages Dr Fearon to speak of me in the vilest language." "Will you then let Dr F. have the use of the medicine chest". I immedtly went to Dr F who was sitting near Mrs T. by the Captain & said: "Dr Fearon the medicine chest is entirely at your service & any that you may want I shall be happy to furnish" - I

was close to the Capstan when Mr Lewis called Dr Fearon to see Mrs T's child & I saw him go immedly to Mrs T. & say: "I am perfectly ready to attend any person whom Dr Jones refuses to attend" - Last eveng Messrs Lewis, Fearon & Wooden were sitting at one end of the table & the Captn & Mr Long at the the other - I was given to understand by Mr L. that the conversation of the former 3 was nothing but the most insulting language about the Captain. The sale of all liquors has, I understand, been forbidden by the Captain.

Saturday 27th March 1 man sick The following I write on Sunday as the ship was rolling so excessively yesterday. The Butcher is better. The motion this mornng much improved & the urine lighter. Rept Mixture.

Easter Sunday 28th March - 1 man sick

Butcher's motions still improving - but the pulse is weak - easily compressible - It had been quite a febrile pulse till yesterday. Will get wine & hot water today & some fresh soup instead of that in tins. Rept. Mixture - K Hyoscy⁴²⁵: instead of K Opii in his Colch & Pot: Mixt (?) for a dose - (Yesterday spoke with Dr Fearon in Mr Lewis' cabin & made up rows!!!)

M. 29th March 1 sick 70°

Butcher convalescing well & quickly - Said last evening that "he felt like a young dog!!" Urine & alvine⁴²⁶ evacuations quite natural - Opened a small abscess on the back of the left hand - Had hot port wine & water yesterday & soup from our table - saw the last of the Cape last evening.

Tu: 30th March 1 sick Therm: 72° 10 a.m.

Butcher just getting well & moving all the limbs with considerable freedom. Expects to be out of bed & well in less than a week.

10

W 31st March 1 sick. 68°

Butcher so well that further reports are scarcely necessary -

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Th: 1st April 1 sick - 68°

Butcher continued his Pot: Iodid & Tonic medicine three times a day, - K Hyoscy and eats with an insatiable appetite & he says that if he is fed again in the same way tomorrow he'll be running about!!

Fr: 2nd Apl. 1 sick Therm 73° 30'

Do Do (?) Pot: Iodid: increased to gr viii ter in die - not twice only, as written yesterday - (The 1st day of the ship's rolling excessively - from a heavy swell from the S.W.)

S. 3rd April 3 sick

Butcher needs no report - Parker has been complg for 2 or 3 days of pain in the loins wh: is much increased by stooping & raising himself & is worse when he is in bed - Has been subject to this for years past. I gave him 2 doses of Colch 7 potm(?): last night & today a supply of Pot: (?): gr Viii & R thyrocy: (?) to be taken twice a day for 4 days & a liniment with oliy Lytta 31 to Lin Sapoz: (?) tir in die - Watson since midnight has been affected with a sharp pain in the region of the gall-bladder running straight backwards - When seen at 6.30 this morning I could make no examination of the chest from the noises on all sides - I think the liver is the seat of the pain. He said he cd. not draw his breath & could scarcely speak - Sinapism to the side & Mixt Diaph: Diuret & purgative every 3 hours - I omitted to say that that his [pulse?] was very full hard & rapid - He says his water is high colored. B. open: T. good -

Sunday - 4th April 3 sick

Abah? has a swelling in the left arm just above the elbow. (?) Butcher walking about. Parker says

he is just the same. To get at bed time Colchicum & Dover's powder. Watson almost entirely relieved of his pain. B. opened 4 times: Can draw his breath freely & has no pain in the shoulder (collar bone) The Sinapism has made the surface so sore that it requires oil dressing. Slept well. To have oatmeal for food. One dose of the mixture this morning. 10 cough pills for Baird.

M. 5th April - 3 sick

Butcher & Watson both quite well, but not strong enough for duty. Parker better - To have the same medicine at bed-time. Gave Duffy 10 Blue pills & 11 sight-grain doses of Potass: Iodid

The Goose business!!! The Steward told the Captn that I took & carried to the Butcher the remains of yesterday's goose. I merely mentioned to the black Steward, yesterday after our dinner, that the Butcher had, up to that moment, had no dinner. He the Steward took the goose & sent it to the Butcher.

Tu. 6th April 2 sick

Parker better: repeat h.h.I. Butcher well but weak. Watson gone to duty

W. 7th April 2 sick

Parker much better - repeat 8 doses of Potass Iodid: gr Viii tis die - Butcher has to day taken his last dose of Pot. Iodid: & Gentian - Parker to take Pil Cath: h.s.

Th: 8th April 2 sick & Radford

Parker nearly well. Radford not able to use his right hand from weakness in the wrist, of which he has been complaining 2 or 3 days. Supposed he must have strained it. Smith (cabin servt) complained yesterday from pain in the left

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side of the neck in the course of the sterno-mastoid⁴²⁷. He had a fight with Max the day before & has several bruises about the face, but only this morning did I learn that he was knocked in the scupper, his neck striking the rail - Last eveng I ordered him a sinapism supposing that the pain was rheumatic (ship rolling a good deal) He has been asleep all the mornng so that I have not been able to speak to him up to 11 o'clock - (Kept Coco's birth-day - her 9th - with great fun & Champagne, cakes &c. &c.)

F 9th April 2 men sick & Radford [in pencil: Off St Helena yesterday?]

Butcher says he has some slight uneasiness in his legs. To have 2 doses of Pot: Iodide gr viii bis die for seven days. Parker took 3 Pd Cathmt without Is - salt & so he had a senna draught this mornng. Says that one side of the Loins (the left) is quite sore, but the other troubled him a little last night. Smith slept up to 4 p.m. yesterday & has gone to his duty to day, quite well.

S. 10th April 2 men sick & Radford

Parker required another dose of senna & Mag: Sulph. Butcher getting strength Ada⁴²⁸ had a little fever last night & the 3rd night previously: has slight ophthalmia⁴²⁹ in the left eye - The phlegmoe in the left arm is lessening - [in pencil: Caught a bird yesterday]

Sunday 11th April. 3 men sick

Radford & Parker both going to duty tomorrow. Parker & Butcher will continue the use of Potass: (gr viii bis die)

M. 12th April 1 sick (Butcher)

Only the Butcher not at his work. Simpson complaining of expectoration after sleep had cough pills X & Liniment for chest. (Paid 2£ (4/- in excess) for Beer for the 2 last weeks - to Saturday 10th inclusive). Began our net with the good string.

Tu: 13th April 0

The first day that I have not had to go to the Forecastle⁴³⁰ to see sick men!!! The Butcher needs no further reporting, and, tho' far from his former condition in strength & flesh, he says he will tomorrow kill (dress) a sheep.

W. 14th April 0

Ada yesterday had both eyes inflamed during the day owing to the making of boats & the consequent want of shelter & shade. This is now the 4th day of her ophthalmia. The left eye wh. was first attacked had continued the same to the present time - The right has twice been red & twice nearly well. - Fomentation⁴³¹ ter die & since yesterday morning Lotis Zinci Sulph.⁴³² Gave just now a purgative dose of Magnesia - It is a very cloudy day with rain & this will be favorable for her
Th: 15th April 1 Dear little Annie's 6th birth-day

Anderson having been purged some 6 times during the night before last suffered afterwards during the whole day from great pain & distention of the abdomen wh: was not relieved till near 8 p.m. He had 2 doses of senna with ginger & laudanum, an enema of 2 (?) & a sinapism to the abdomen. Was freely purged during the night & belly is soft, easy & undistended. To have oat-meal for diet.

F. 16th April 0

Anderson went to work yesterday - I gave him a glass of brandy & water this mornng .

S. 17th April 0

No sick & nothing to report.

Sunday 18th Ap. 0 Therm: at 11 a.m. 86°

Do Do Last night occurred the assault upon the Captain by Dr Fearon - We are somewhere near the Equator. I deem it advisable to place on record the following

When Dr Fearon was being directed by one of the officers of this ship Mr Bridgeman I think

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to go to his cabin he (Dr F) addressed me in these or similar words: "Dr Jones, I appeal to you whether it (meaning the cabin) is a proper place for me to stay in - or to be kept in". I replied: "under the circumstances I see no objection - I pass half my time in my own cabin." The thermometer I had previously noticed to be below 84° . My daughter was in her cabin until after the children's dinner, & I stayed in my cabin from after Church till tiffin -

Copy of a certificate given to Capt. Sheill [sic] at his request at about 2 p.m. this day.

"This is to certify that I deem it expedient that Messrs Fearon & Wooden should in future, as a daily allowance, be limited to 2 (two) ordinary tumblerfuls of Malt liquors at Luncheon & Dinner, & the similar tumblerful of Brandy & water, of ordinary strength, at 8 o'clock in the evening, for the prevention of further drunken riot on their parts. (The Capt'n says that last night's disturbance was a drunken riot)

D) Ship "King Arthur" at Sea April 18th 1869.

J.H. Jones, Surgeon Major.

M. April 19th 0 sick Therm: at 8 am 83°8 max 86°

At noon yesterday were 14 miles south of the Equator. Nothing to record as there are no sick. I omitted to record that 2 days ago 2? Mr Coffin applied to me on account of a jaundiced state of the conjunctiva - The urine he said was not altered & he felt no indisposition whatever. I gave Pol:

Hydrarg: ii & Mag: Sulph (?)

Tu: 82° April 20th sick 0

No sick - nothing to record but the giving (?) Pol: & Haud(?) Cuthad: to Duffy.

Ada's eyes have been mending for the last 4 days, so I did not think it necessary to keep any record of the progress of the complaint. On Sunday morning I told Mrs T. that I considered the cause of her child's ophthalmia to have been her sleeping in Mr Lewis' cabin & being tended & even her eye bathed by Mr Lewis - I urged the separation of the child altogether from Mr L. but to no purpose - On Thursday last I offered to wash Ada's eyes instead of Mr L. but Mrs T. did not give her consent. I then followed L & Ada into Mr L's cabin to instruct him in the proper method of fomenting them - I went to the cabin again a few minutes after the fomenting & found the child with her head filling the port so that she was not only exposed to the full glare of the sun but also to a strong draught!!

W. April 21st Therm: at 7 a.m. 83° Sick 1

Johnson yesterday afternoon had the stump of his amputated great toe pressed by an anchor so that the skin was ruptured in a very irregular line from its tense condition - Radford had some B(?) Ointment for Pedimts about the pubes

(Yesterday with the exception of less than an hour I was in my cabin from eleven a.m. till after dinner had been some time over & during, I fancy, some hours Messrs W., F & Lewis appeared to have been preparing some statements, reading them aloud & collating them - Evidently Dr F. read something that Mr Wooden had written & sent to him to read, as in reply to some remark of Dr F, Mr W. said in a loud voice, evidently to some one in another cabin (or not in his) "I must alter that". In the eveng soon after dinner I asked the Captn. if he had over-heard their proceedings. He said he had not but was merely aware that letters were passing

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backwards & forwards between the gentlemen in confinement. I heard for a very long time Mr. W - reading to Mr. Lewin, who was in Mr W's cabin -)

(Since the middle of the night we have got into the N.E. trades & are going at 7 & ½ knots an hour, with a fine breeze I suppose that there is no fear of calms or unpleasant heat again -

Th. 22nd April 1 sick Th: 82° at 8 a.m.

Only Johnson lame from hurt toe - (Written on 23rd as baby⁴³³ was ill on my bed the whole day Fr. 23rd April 1 sick. Th: 79° at 8 a.m.

Johnson lame - Ada's eyes almost without any redness of the conjunctive - The left lower lid swollen a little this morning tho' not at all so that that evening. The Zinc Lotion to be applied only once a day & the warm bathing of the eyes to be practiced only once a day instead of 3 times, as hitherto - The neighbourhood of the eyes has many minute papula⁴³⁴ scattered about it -

S. 24th April 78° quite cold on deck. 1 sick

Johnson not at duty yet, but the toe does not pain him.

(Shall pass the line D, V.⁴³⁵ within the next 24 hours)

Beer Bill from 11th to 17th 10 of Beer 15/- from 18th to 24th 11 Beer 1 Brandy 1 Port 1£6.6 Total 2£1.6

Sunday 25th April 1 sick. Therm: 77°

Johnson nearly well: toe quite healed. Applied Iodine & bandaged Baird's right foot which is weak & swollen, tho' less so than yesterday when he first showed me the foot & used the Tr. Iodine - This morning just before Church time Jack described to me symptoms from wh: he has been suffering since the middle of the night & wh: threaten dysentery: viz pain in the rectum & constant tenesmus⁴³⁶ but unattended with evacuation of any kind. He looks very pale. Pil Dysent: (?) & arrowroot twice in the day.

M. 26th April 76°5

Johnson still on sick list. Jack has had no tenesmus or pain since he took the 2nd dose of pills. Had an evacuation this morning somewhat lumpy & hard. Ada's eyes quite free from redness, tho' the margins of the lids are a little red and covered in the mornings with dry secretion, in very moderate degree -

(Yesterday told Mrs T. & Mr Lewis some home truths about their conduct provoked thereto by their both talking aloud on the hatch, in presence of many persons, of "my insolent conduct to Mrs T. in sending a message to her by the Steward"!!! My message had been (on Friday) that the fomentation of Ada's eyes need be done but once a day.)

Tu: 27th April 1 sick. 76°

Nothing to report this day but Johnson's not being at his duty.

W. 28th April 77° 79° at Xa.m. 1 sick 21°N 41°W.

The weather has been so cool & pleasant since we got the N.E. trade wind that I think it

unnecessary to keep a careful record of the temperature wh: I have done since Messrs F. & W. were confined to their cabins. Ada's eyes looked a little red yesterday. Johnson still chary of using his toe.
Th: 29th April 1 sick 77° Max: 81°

Johnson only on the sick list. Harry caught some sea-weed [in pencil: 4 ft 4 of the Net done]⁴³⁷
Fr: 30th April 77° 1 sick

Johnson only on the S.L. but says he will go to duty to day.

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May 1st 1869

May 1st Saturday No sick 77°

Catching sea-weed all the day - I mean the children were doing so (Recd Beer Bill for past week including this day's supply. Was charged for 11 bottles shd. have been for 10 only - There are now 3 weeks' Bills unpaid 2£1.6 for two of them, as entered above, & this week's 15/- Total due 2£ 16.6.
Sunday 2nd May sick 0 Therm: 72° Lat 29° Long 43°

A beautifully calm day & the children catching sea-weed all the day. The deck was strewed with it, like a hay-field. Both Mama & Annie joined in the fishing & Annie caught a beautiful bunch of weed with her own hands, which I bottled by itself & labelled with "Caught by Annie." I put into Spr. Vini a Devil Fish, a Crab, & a "Guard Fish" as Jack calls it -
M. 3rd May 0 sick - 70°

A very rough sea & stiff breeze till near dinner-time (4 p.m.) No sea-weed seen since the early morning. We have seen it in all 4 or 5 days. I made myself vomit twice after dinner! the only times since we put to sea!

Tues: 4th May 0 sick 69°5' Lat: 32°30' Long: 42° No sick

W. 5th May 1 sick Stiff breeze from N.W. Lat: 36°

Watson complained at about 9 a.m. yesterday of pain in the Liver wh: had come on during the early morning. He had two sinapisms & 4 doses of Mixt: Mag: Sulph Potass Nitr: Sig: Alum: Acct &c Was twice purged early this mornng. P. good: tongue very good: took no food whatever yesterday: The pain is less, but on examination he is found to be incapable of pressure, between my 2 hands, of the whole organ & percussion near the gall-bladder, (at the insertion of the right rectus M: exactly) gives pain which shoots thro' the whole organ & up to the space between the scapulae - I can apply only a mustard poultice - but it will be a large one reaching from the spine to the margin of the sore caused by yesterday's poultice - To repeat the Mixture 3 times in the day - I dont know whether I have previously recorded that the patient was for some 7 years employed in India, on board a river steamer chiefly & used to drink hard. (Smoked nothing yesterday eveng)

Th: 6th May 1 sick - Stiff breeze same as yesterday

Watson was almost free from all uneasiness yesterday. (did not smoke at all yesterday)
(Ascension Day.)

F. 7th May 1 sick same breeze

Watson speaks only of the soreness from the mustard poultice (Resumed smoking!!! for want of occupation)

S. 8th May 1 sick

Did not see Watson yesterday: however has had no pain for 2 days. On seeing him at noon I found that he has a good deal of tenderness throughout the organ - Have no mineral acids nor tonics - Ordered Pil: Hydr: & Ps Jacoss (?) gr IV om: nocts Iodine to whole surface

Campbell has slight inflammation in his right eye, with feeling of grit in the eye - Lot: Zinci Sulph:

Beer Bill to date 10 bottles 15/- added to 2.16 - 6 = 3.11.6.

Sunday 9th May 1 sick Long: 27°

Only Watson on the sick list. To take the pills for 3 more nights & to apply the Iodine twice a day to the whole surface corresponding to the right lobe of the Liver

M. 10th May 2 sick Watson & Campbell

Watson much better: says he has no pain at all & feels generally much better.

On Sunday Qr. Mr Campbell was sent away from the wheel because he was closing his eyes on account of intolerance of the glare. Yesterday I examined his eyes & found no redness & no sign of weakness in them (lacrymation⁴³⁸.) tho' I was handling them a good deal, to ascertain the nature of a very minute black spot in the cornea, inwds & downwds from the pupil in the right eye [in pencil: Recd 50 cheroots from Capt.]

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However I dropped some of the Collysinll into both eyes

Tu: May 11th 2 sick

Campbell has still nothing apparent in either eye, tho' he says he does not like the glare - Appd - Lotio Zinci Sulph: as yesterday

W. May 12th 0 sick [in pencil: Long 21° Still]

Watson is doing light jobs & Campbell goes to his duty -

(Wind became favorable at about 1 or 2 p.m: for 4 days it has been unfavorable -

Yesterday we were in Long 21° odd - the day before 23° then 27° then 31° going backwards)

Th: May 13th 0. sick

No sick & nothing to record (Wind was not favorable many hours)

F: May 14th 1 sick

The boy Williams yesterday morning said he had a pain a little below & to the left of the left nipple, but he experienced no difficulty in inspiring deeply & blowing hard upon his hand, as directed by me to do. T. & pulse natural & general appearance healthy. He has an unpleasant job on the Fore-castle & was told after I had formed & expressed an opinion tho' there was nothing the matter with him. At noon I gave him a large sinapism to apply to the seat of the pain. Says he is better this morning. Still no symptom of any ailment.

S: May 15th 0 sick Log: 16° Lat 46°

Boy Williams has gone to his duty, being well. (Wind favorable about noon yesterday)

(From 9th to 15th May 7 bottles of Beer 10/6 Bt. forward 3.11.6

0.10.6

4. 2. 0

Whit-Sunday May 16th 0 sick

Yesterday after hardly stopping from 8 till 12 Baird complained of palpitation, which he says he is subject to, and Anderson complained of pain in the testes, wh: I know to have been long enlarged & indurated. So both men went off duty for the rest of the [sic]

(A strong breeze & heavy rain last night. Mizn to gallant sail split)

Whit-Monday 17th May 0 sick

No sick - nothing to report

(at 9 a.m. 180 miles from Land's end) (at 4p.m. a Scilly Pilot came on board)

Whit-tuesday 18th May 0 sick (Sighted the Lizard Lights⁴³⁹ at 12.25 last night -)

W.

[Ends here]

HOME IN EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX

Juxon, Maria and their children arrived in England in late May 1869, and we only know that by 25th October, the day Juxon signed his will, they were living in Eastbourne at a house named "Franklyn",⁴⁴⁰ in Lushington Road. What we learn much later of this house was that it was held on a 99 year lease from 14th June 1868 and was finally surrendered by the trustees after the death of their daughter, Annie, in 1957. Given the speed with which a house was found it is very likely that Thomas Wright had gone to England by the 'overland' route, which was much faster route than round the Cape,⁴⁴¹ and found the house and arranged for the purchase of the lease before the arrival of the family.

Juxon's "Last Will and Testament" was made after the house was furnished and all the belongings brought back with them from India had been emptied out of the packing cases, and so could be itemized among the bequests.

1

This is the last Will and Testament of me Juxon Henry Jones late of the Bengal Medical Service but now of Franklyn Lushington Road Eastbourne in the County of Sussex Gentleman In the first place I direct payment of all my just debts and the funeral and testamentary expenses of this my Will out of my personal Estate I give and bequeath unto my Son Juxon Henry Jones for his own absolute use the following articles namely The Oil Painting Dutch Scene (copy of Van Owen) my signet ring my Grandfather's⁴⁴² Seal with Coat of Arms my Gold Watch by Thompson (the Gold Watch I give him subject to his giving his own Gold Watch to his Brother Bertram Stirling Jones) The Silver Tankard presented by Elizabeth Snow⁴⁴³ to my Father All my surgical and scientific instruments All my Books (except the Bible hereinafter given) my Regimental Sword my Cabinet of Natural History and Coins Case of Stuffed Birds. The small model of a ship⁴⁴⁴ - my Violin by Chanôt and all my music with the music stand - The four oblong plated dishes - the Silver Tea and Coffee pots - All my Carpenters tools - my Indian looking glass - Photograph of my Mother in case - Photograph of his father and mother in case - I give and bequeath unto my Son Bertram Stirling Jones for his own absolute use the following articles namely my flat gold ring and gold pencil case - my first Bible given me by Francis Coleridge - my Indian Sword (Pulwar) my old violin and music stand - Photograph of his father and mother in case - I also give and bequeath unto my son William Stirling Jones for his own absolute use the following articles namely - The Hair Ring with the name of "Minnie" on it - All my Studs and Gold Buttons - The Khybere Knife. The Seal on which my name is engraven in Persian Characters - And as to all other my Photographs⁴⁴⁵ except those before bequeathed I give and bequeath the same unto and equally between all my Children living at my decease in the following manner my eldest Child to have the first selection of one photograph my second child to have the next selection of one photograph and my third fourth and every other child to select one each according to seniority of age until the whole of such Photographs be divided between them I give and devise unto my Son the said Juxon Henry Jones his heirs executors administrators and assigns according to the nature and quality thereof All that my share right and interest whether in possession reversion remainder or expectancy of and in certain Messuages and hereditaments situate at Taunton in the County of Somerset And as to all other my real and personal Estate whatsoever and wheresoever (except my Leasehold Messuage and hereditaments situate in Lushington Road aforesaid and in which I now

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reside together with the furniture and effects therein) - I give devise and bequeath the same unto my Wife for her own absolute use and benefit And as to my Leasehold messuage and hereditaments aforesaid and the Household furniture and effects therein (hereafter called the trust premises) I give devise and bequeath the same unto the Reverend Charles Stirling of New Malden in the County of Surrey and William Lamb Hockin of Dartmouth in the County of Devon Gentleman their heirs executors administrators and assigns (hereinafter called my trustees or trustee) Upon the following trust namely Upon trust that my said trustees or trustee shall permit my Wife during her Widowhood personally to occupy as her residence the said Messuage in Lushington Road aforesaid wherein I now reside with the appurtenances and to use therein my household furniture and utensils plate linen and china and effects or to permit her to receive the annual rents and profits thereof for her absolute use so long as she shall continue my Widow and unmarried she keeping the said Messuage in repair and paying the ground rent the monthly subscriptions and payments to the Eastbourne Building Society and the expenses of insuring the same from loss or damage by fire and also the taxes and other outgoings affecting the same And after the decease or marriage of my Wife whichever shall first happen Upon further trust that my said trustees or trustee shall permit my daughters Minnie Stirling Jones Irene Harriet Stirling Jones Annie Stirling Jones and Florence Evan Stirling Jones to reside in the said House in Lushington Road aforesaid and use therein the said Household furniture or otherwise that my said trustees or trustee shall receive the annual rents and income thereof Upon trust to divide the same into four equal shares and pay one equal fourth share unto each of my said four daughters during so long as she shall remain unmarried And in case any or either of my said daughters shall marry I do will and direct my said Trustees or trustee to stand possessed of the said trust premises in trust for the equal benefit of such of my said daughters remaining unmarried it being my Will and intention that the said trust hereditaments and premises shall be held in trust for such of my daughters unmarried to the exclusion of those married And after the respective marriages of my said daughters or the deceases of those not marrying then I direct my said trustees or trustee to stand possessed of the said trust premises and the rents and profits thereof Upon trust to pay over and equally divide the said rents and profits to and between such of my daughters or daughter then living but if any or either of my daughters shall become Widows or a Widow then I direct my said trustees or trustee to pay the rents and profits of the said trust premises to such of my daughters or daughter during their or her Widowhood And after the decease of all and every of my

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said daughters then I direct and empower my said trustees or trustee to sell the said trust premises together or in parcels by public Sale or private Contract and convey and assign the same when sold unto the purchaser thereof with power to make any special Conditions of Sale as to title or evidence of title or otherwise and with power to buy in the premises at any public Sale or to rescind any contract and to resell without being answerable for any loss and from time to time to give receipts for the purchase monies which receipts I declare shall be effectual discharges to purchasers and others paying any monies to my said trustees or trustee under or by virtue of this my will And after payment of all expenses attending such Sale or Sales I direct my said trustees or trustee for the time being of this my Will to divide and pay over the surplus of the purchase monies equally between the Children of my said daughters and their issue the issue of deceased Children taking by substitution as tenants in common the respective shares only which their respective parents would if living have taken and if there shall be no such Child or issue then I direct my trustees or trustee to pay over the said monies unto the Eldest of my Sons living at the time of such payment And I declare that the receipt of any feme covert notwithstanding coverture shall be good and sufficient discharges to my Trustees or trustee for any monies payable to them under this my Will I devise to the said The Reverend Charles Stirling and William Lamb Hockin and their heirs All Estates which may happen

at my decease to be vested in me as mortgagee or trustee Subject to the equities and upon the trusts affecting the same respectively And in case my trustees or trustee herein named or either of them shall die in my lifetime or shall on my decease renounce the trusts of this my Will or in case any trustee for the time being of my Will shall die or become unwilling unable or unfit to act or shall cease to reside in England or desire to retire from the office of trustee then I empower my said Wife during her Widowhood or if she shall then be dead then the surviving or continuing trustee or in default of any such then the retiring trustee or the executors or executor for the time being or the administrators or administrator for the time being of the last deceased trustee as the case may be by any writing to nominate a new trustee or new trustees for the purpose of filling the vacancy or vacancies caused in manner aforesaid and such new trustee or new trustees shall from time to time have the same powers in all respects as the trustees hereby appointed. And I direct that the respective trustees for the time being of this my Will shall be responsible for so much money only as shall come to their own respective hands and that they shall not be answerable for involuntary losses or for the acts or defaults of each other and particularly that any trustee who shall pay over to his Co-trustee or shall do or concur in any act enabling his co-trustee to receive any monies for the general purposes of this my Will or for any definite purpose authorized by my Will shall not be obliged to see to the due application thereof nor shall

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such trustee be subsequently rendered responsible by an express notice or intimation of the actual misapplication of the same monies but this clause shall not restrict the power of any trustee to require his co-trustee an account of the application of monies in his hands or to insist on his replacing monies misapplied by him And I empower my trustees to retain and allow to each other the costs and expenses incurred in the execution of the trusts or in relation thereto I declare that the powers and discretions hereinbefore given to my trustees shall be vested in and exercisable by the trustees or trustee for the time being of my Will I appoint my said Wife to be Executrix of this my Will and to be guardian of my Children during their respective minorities⁴⁴⁶ And I revoke all former Wills In witness whereof I the said Juxon Henry Jones have to this my last Will and Testament contained in this and the three preceding sheets of paper signed my name this twenty fifth day of October One thousand eight hundred and sixty nine

Signed etc.

Witnesses:

John T. Carleton Stiff Solr. Eastbourne

Fred: Haynes Clerk to Mr Stiff of Eastbourne Solicitor.

Juxon mentioned four daughters in his Will - Minnie, Irene, Annie and Florence - but his fifth daughter, Beatrice Waite Stirling, was not born until 20th November 1870 at 31 Lushington Rd. so was not included in the trust or by any later codicil or revision.

The letters from the Eastbourne period are rather sparse. Again, it was his daughter Minnie who tended to preserve letters so the majority were letters from her father to her when she was away from home. However, Maria also kept a few letters she considered important.

Letter to Maria from her brother, Rev. Waite Stirling, Bishop of the Falkland Islands.

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[Sheet impressed FALKLANDS with a Bishop's mitre above⁴⁴⁷]

3 Harrington St.⁴⁴⁸

Feb. 13. 1871 [Monday]

My most precious Minnie⁴⁴⁹

Your two letters & early telegram have reached me. I am shocked to hear of your sweet, most sweet, babe's suffering⁴⁵⁰. God be gracious to you His love is the basis of all his dealings. May He support you in this, & every trial - If it be His will to take the darling of our hearts away it will be to

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a holier, & joyfuller world than this. If it be his will to leave her still to your care you will receive her back as it were from the divine hands only to watch over her & to nurture her as a child of heaven, a trust twice committed to you from above.

My heart yearns for you & for the sweet dear suffering little one.

All Saturday night I was dreaming of her, & oppressed by the most vivid vision of her as ill & suffering. I woke & got out of bed & threw of the painful impression, & became hopeful.

1

How strange is this! Oh my darling & the time of trial I am nearby it is to a most gracious & merciful Father's hand alone I can commit you. May He strengthen & console you. Your dear long letter went deep into my heart. Oh for the Spirit, the comforter to refresh & bless you.

Telegraph to Lisbon - 10/6 for 20 words including address.

The address is

Bishop Stirling

care of Pinto Basto

Lisbon

From Maria, or Minnie

Put no further address as words are precious. If you telegraph Saturday Morning

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or Friday night I shall get it in two or three hours. We are due at Lisbon on Saturday. It is of little use telegraphing to Bordeaux.

Every thing is being done for my Comfort - & I am looking forward to a favourable voyage. The vessel is quite new, fitted for the tropics - I send you £10 now, & have advised Charles⁴⁵¹ when Convenient to send you £5.5. for Winder, & £10 besides which I have said "Minnie will know what to do with". I wish out of this to pay nurse's salary for the 12 months as I induced you to have her.

God for ever own you, & all yours, & all we love so tenderly -

Kiss the dear precious "little Waite" for me & give her my blessing. My best love to Henry, & to Minnie, & all the other ones,

Remember me to nurse.⁴⁵² Yr most loving Br.

Waite H Stirling

Dont expect to hear from Lisbon for at least a fortnight unless a telegraph. It may be more than a fortnight owing to the state of France⁴⁵³.

[Envelope addressed:

Mrs J H [torn]
31 Lushington Rd.
Eastbourne
stamped: Eastbourne 14
note by WS below flap: Box of medicines arrived]

Letter from Juxon to his daughter Minnie

1

[32 Lushington Road⁴⁵⁴] Friday 10th March [1871]

My own darling Pins I must write to you if but to show my sense of obligation for your dear letter of yesterday. You are indeed a lucky girl to be seeing all the world & his wife (I do not allude to dear Mrs Turner!)⁴⁵⁵ while still in yr teens, with so many kind friends devoting themselves to your amusement & enlightenment. We are all getting on very comfortably & jollily without drawback of any kind excepting my bad cold. I have been confined 2 days to my room with it & one of them I passed under the blanket on my couch. I greatly lamented being obliged by the said cold to forego the pleasure of an evening party at Mrs Oliver's,⁴⁵⁶ where one always meets nice people, to say nothing of especial favourites, the 2 good, kind hostesses. Mama will tell you of her doings there & I of my doings in my sick room! I passed my 2 days in tending & arranging at least 400 letters of my dear fathers & mother's, of my beloved brother Tom.⁴⁵⁷ The arranging of

1v

[torn] a task I have long wished to perform & I am so glad I have done it. By the by, there was, amongst the collection (sent to me, as you know, by Frank⁴⁵⁸) a lot of letters of - some 20 or 30 written at Hansie, Laudour & Phillour, wherein is a great deal about you & dear Harry, while little sprats of things, giving us no end of anxiety! Neither Mama nor I have been to the Goodbarn Concerts for nearly a fortnight. Last Sunday I was placed in the same pew at old Eastbne: with one of the Misses G. & their young lady friend - name not to be got without consulting Mama! Miss Duke (Sarah Duke as Flo' calls her) Mama & I propose walking together to the old Eastb: Church next Sunday. Miss D has been here 2 or 3 times to sing duets with Mama; who is very lively & happy, you will be glad to hear. We all have been a little busy planting violets in our garden - I smoke now & then, but have not touched the fiddle for days, owing to my abominable cold. I so luxuriate in your bed that I shall not be willing to give it up on yr return! Would you like my sofa bed? I hope you are fully satisfied with the decorated paper & envelopes?! They are fine enough for a Cavalry Regt! You see that I have no fun in me. I had a bad ear-ache with my cold wh: makes (for it is still all buzz within) me very dull of spirits as well as of hearing - Mama is writing to you & will make up for the deficiencies

Your loving fa[torn] J H J[torn]

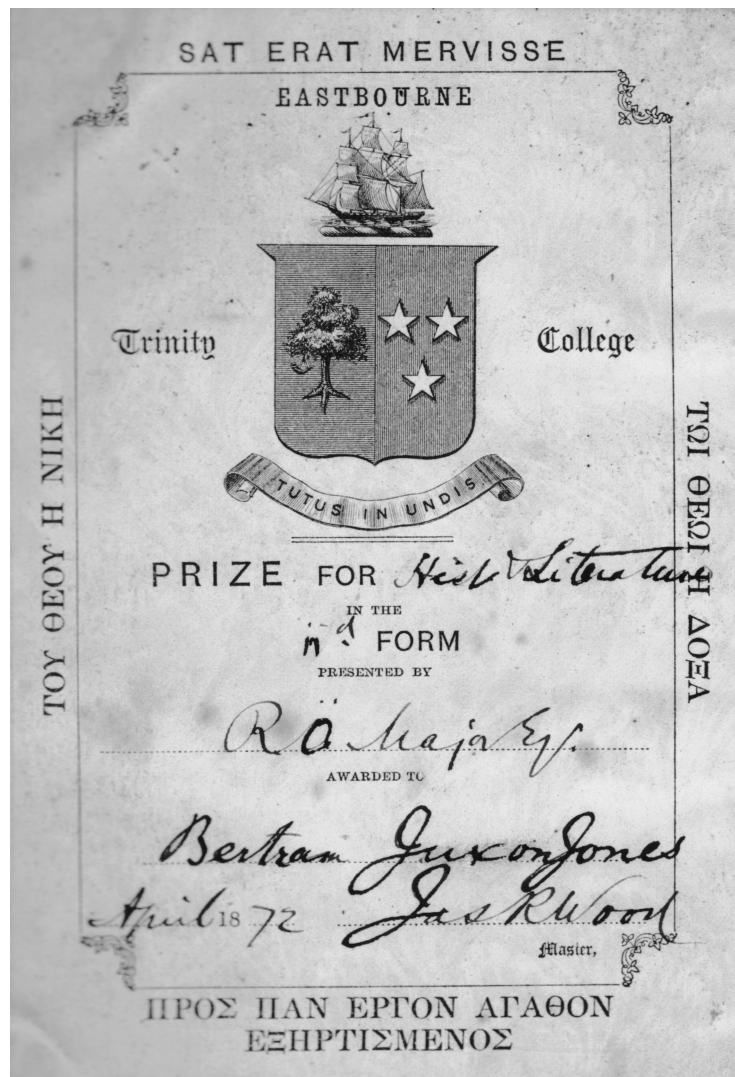
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Cedere Neseius - Means not knowing (how) Cedere to yield or give in - ie. Brave as the Lion!!!

Give as much love as you can venture upon to Mr & Mrs Turner

The 1871 Census, taken 2nd April, lists every member of the family except Minnie, who was still

staying with her uncle, Rev. Charles Stirling at New Malden, Surrey, and Bertram, a boarder at 'The Knoll', Cambridge Town, Frimley, Surrey, a school run by the Rev. George William Cox who had married Emily Maria, daughter of William Stirling, younger brother of Maria's father, so she was Maria's cousin. The following year, Bertram was at Trinity College, Eastbourne.



Letter to Maria from her cousin, William Henry George Hockin

1

4 Mosque Terrace
Hong Kong
China
March 13th 1873

My dearest Minnie

You have I am sure thought long before this, that "Harry⁴⁵⁹ or Chrissie⁴⁶⁰ might have written". I feel ashamed & sorry when I recollect how long it is since I sent you a scribble, & to you who have so many around you it seems absurd to say that my little chick⁴⁶¹ occupies my time, She certainly prevents my doing many things wh. if I had not her to care for I shd do for amusement & letter

writing is one of them. Since I wrote you we have been to Japan & there Nannie learnt to walk, she toddles every where about the house & has crawled upstairs more than once, this was our second visit to Japan & as the

1v

weather was very fine we enjoyed it & were quite set up by the cold bracing air, it was a new sight to us to see snow falling, and then A real railway train transported us in imagination to England but in person to Yeddo.

March 14th I was able to do very little to my letter last night now I will try to finish it whilst Harry is at the office, he has asked permission to take Nannie & myself to Shanghai next voyage & we expect to start next Tuesday I have never been there but anticipate a pleasant trip the voyage is a shorter one than that to Japan & Harry thinks we shall have fine weather & smooth water, very possibly fogs wh. he greatly objects to. I was sorry to hear thro. Mary Sibella⁴⁶² that yr chicks had been ill with measles & "child Minnie" particularly so, I hope all are well now & that no ill effects have remained from the sickness to either of them

measles are nasty things so often leaving a weakness of chest & throat: Mary says too that you are thinking of letting yr. house & taking a larger one when you have time you must write us A long joint account of all & every thing for yr "pig tailed" Cousins feel a great interest in you all. The dear "most beautiful" Nannie is now cutting more teeth the process is a lengthy one but she does not get ill with it, only cries some what more than usual, very often she wakes up crying & some times cries in her sleep, all these things you are quite accustomed to & many more which I have yet to learn. I have no news to tell you my dear Minnie excepting that the dear little good husband is now in the receipt of £900 a year, he is very well & reports himself as "very happy"

1

I wish you knew the difficulties under which I am writing, seated in the verandah, with a hustling wind blowing, that first flaps about the paper as if it was a dry leaf & then blows up the table cloth & nearly whirls it off this table You might suggest my going into the house out of the wind & so I would but the coolie is washing out the room & he will just wash round me if I do leaving myself & table a small island to rest on & this does not suit my fancy. I am glad dear old Mary is getting about again She writes us such nice & amusing letters spite of all her pain, I dont mean tho, that she wrote whilst she was ill for I believe she could not have done so. How did Mrs Charles Stirling⁴⁶³ meet with such a desperate fall? poor thing it must have shaken her terribly I hope she is about again by now

2

I want to know all about yr chicks what the boys are doing and how the girls grow & get on. Ship that pretty "Vate (?)"⁴⁶⁴ for Nannie & me. I wonder which is the greatest pickle of the two, Nannie is as wicked as her months & strength will allow her to be but she is a dear precious monkey & I am so glad 'tis a girl, the last time Harry went away she missed him & used to look out so eagerly for him, he is very fond of the little maid & does not look on her as a trouble wh. is a comfort to me. There is or rather had been a rumour abroad that the "Sunda"⁴⁶⁵ would go home to England for repairs taking tea, but Harry thinks now this is very unlikely to be carried out & perhaps it is better for us that it should not be because "going home" means to us

2v

separation for an indefinite time & the breaking up of our comfortable home here, I should not regret that so much for I like England best, if there was any probability of our settling down together in it, but I certainly don't like being in one quarter of the globe & Harry in another it is troublesome enough as it is with his being away so much now, but I don't see any reason for filling my letter with growls I dare say if I were with you I should growl more than would be pleasant to you, you dear good tempered, unselfish, being Here came an interruption & I was called away to see a little girl whose father is going about the world looking for work, I hear he is but a rolling stone whilst the grass grows the mother & three children

get on as best they may so every where & in all places there is trouble anxiety & sorrow, happy indeed are those & those only who have a good hope thro' grace beyond this life. There is my old man's cooey a sign that he is near so I must say goodbye for this time. Kiss all the children for us & with kind love to Cousin Henry & yourself Believe me dear Minnie yr affectionate old cousin
Christopher⁴⁶⁶ Hockin

[in a different hand] Jun is short for Christiana

My dear old Cousin, my pet Cousin Minnie - What Jun has told you above is very true I am very happy & am so glad to come home after every voyage - My baby "licks yours all to pieces", what a gentlemanly term some people would say, but you will know what I mean just Simply that I love her with all my heart & her dear mother too - I was so very miserable last trip

2

that I am going to take my two dear ones with me, we shall have very nearly three weeks at Shanghai and as Jun has never been there before, I hope we may have fine wr. It is, or rather the Country is not so pretty as Japan by a long way, but it will be a new place to look at and Chris may not have another opportunity - I should not be surprised if we all came to England before next Christmas but I would prefer waiting another year, for pecuniary reasons - Altho' I am getting £900 a year now & hope to get £1000 in another year - Yet and you must know it takes a long time to save & I have no pension, so it will be work work until I am unable to. As Chris says should we come home, it would be separation, for the Suez Canal has altered many of the Coys arrangements - & I should not be likely to get a China ship again And now dearest Coz. Believe I love you & all your chicks & Henry - Send my best love to His Lordship when you write to the Bishop of the Falklands Tell him I have not forgotten his kindness to me when at 18 Salutory Place⁴⁶⁷

Minnie I am your very affectionate Cousin, as you were to me when I was a dirty boy at Dartmouth & my baby sends you a kiss

Always believe me your loving white headed cousin Harry Hockin⁴⁶⁸

Letter from Juxon to his daughter, Minnie

1

[31 Lushington Road]

March 29th /73

My very dear Pins For days past I have been intending to write to you, saying continually to Mama: "What an unnatural parent I am to neglect my eldest child in the way I do!" As you know, I never write to any one out of the family & so, when any of our children leave home, I can't bring myself to the unaccustomed talk of letter writing. And then I find so many things to do that I

begrudge the time given to more words. Now that I have at length begun a letter I cannot say a word that will not be in repetition of dear Mama's letter. Today's letter of hers will be full of the great doings of yesterday when darling Baby⁴⁶⁹ went on her first journey by Railway! She did so enjoy it, dear little pet. Of course I was quite in my element with so many young ladies yesterday, as well as on the previous Thursday, when our party numbered 10 ladies, of sorts! I hope you and Eleanor & Gerty⁴⁷⁰, as well as Mrs Phinn⁴⁷¹ are enjoying this brilliant weather. Fancy! when I once posted a letter for you I addressed it in the Post Office, and could not, for the life of me, remember the name of Phinn. You must have thought that I had missed the surnames by accident. You will know that I have let the old house⁴⁷², to a young Doctor who has given

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up "practice". He and his wife seem to promise to be acquisitions to this place, & I hope, to myself especially, who find no interest in the society of people who are not Doctors. I have just had the chimneys swept & the banisters all polished & the house is now quite ready for the glass case to be put over it; or for Eleanor when married. It is painful to think that I have spent these 40£ & more to make others comfortable. "There" - I wd. say to you if you were at home - "if you had but taken up Botany for the benefit of yourself & family, you w'd have been able to settle a matter of uncertainty & perplexity - one of shameful ignorance to some of the party - that worried the whole party of 14": for I believe that Baby was to be reckoned amongst them, as I saw her crying & no one could divine the cause! I am now, or was till I began this letter, busy with microscope, book, knife, scissors, forceps & endeavouring to find out any thing relating to a sprout that is really an oak, having oak-apples, but no leaves & resembling nothing in our ideas conceptions of an oak - If you had never looked at that hateful German & useless French how much of other good, useful, delightful things you wd have learnt. As for German I think that the specimen we had in Punch⁴⁷³ wd answer much better than any sort that you or Eleanor know!! "Eksdraov deenwry sheer groneshandly" - I mean. Now Mama has come down stairs for my letter to Pins & she is going to take it I hear to the P.O. Sarah Duke goes today - I must write no more I have tried to fill my piece of paper as you always do. I have put up 10 pictures in your room 6 over the chimney piece.

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God bless you my dear child.
Your loving father
J.H.J.

Letter from Juxon to his daughter, Minnie

1

[6 Sussex Gardens, (off Terminal Rd) Eastbourne 1873]

My darling Pins Your respected mother has suggested my writing to to you, to which I replied: "What can I have have [sic] to say that is worth the writing after you have been at work for an hour with your pen?" Sarah Duke is gone & with is gone all the fun & frolic that she elicited-educed; & so now we go on quite quietly, without meetings, gatherings, walks & stock-ball (?) - I said to yr. dear mother some fortnight ago "tell Pins that Mr Winder⁴⁷⁴ guessed that I paid 13£ for the sapphire ring!" Did she? I thought it wd. make you happy to know the estimated value of one of your rings I

had not room for the !!!! that I intended to put after the word 'rings'. With a necklace worth 600£ & such a costly ring I hope to find that you are reconciled to your jet ear-rings. I must put down things just as they come into my mind - Last eveng I was remarking that Berty's face had suddenly become longer in all its features, like those of a man, as nose, eyes &c. At the mention of 'nose', sister I. remarked: "you must be prepared for a large member of that nature in your expected nephews" - So evidently we are to be startled in one way, if not in several - His mama told you that after tuesday Irene goes over to Albion Villa to sleep - I dont mean continually day & night - while we begin cleaning the house. My room, as the dirtiest

1v

so to begin with & all its contents, together with their proprietor are to go into your room, for I am going to have the walls colored & freed from their present blackness. The whole of the rest of the house may undergo cleaning; certainly the drawing & dining-rooms & their walls must be colored - So we shall be in a mess for a week at least. Aunt I⁴⁷⁵. will take her meals with us. Sibella⁴⁷⁶ has gone to Moreton P.⁴⁷⁷ & so Irene is almost out from there for a time, tho' she is invited to join her sister there. But it wd not be pleasant, so she wont go. I suppose that Mama has told you of Mr Co. Concky Macree⁴⁷⁸ & his frightful eloquence in the pulpit - I must tell you of all our misadventures - Harry has spoilt his watch utterly by having it full of salt water two days; the hall lamp has been smashed, bell glass above too - Oh! that happened while you were here, but you did not know that the damage is 1£. Annie broke the glass in the school-room door that night. I have had 2, 3, 4 & 5 workmen here for days, about the drains - damage several pounds - Flo' has broken the last but one of the original tea-services &c &c. So I dont know how to meet the expenses attending Harry's going to London for his examination⁴⁷⁹ & I can't take my trip to Brighton. I wanted so much to go there with Aunt Irene. She has never been

there. We must go there if we go into jail next day!

Miss Fitzgerald is gone there today to have the remains of her tooth extracted. I proposed going with her to the Dentist thinking that it wd. save many shillings to Papa or mama; but she was already engaged to go with a lady. So Emma Vice⁴⁸⁰ has after all written to you. How curious her meeting with Mama's sister⁴⁸¹ &, I daresay, they will become intimate. It is scarcely prudent to mention the matter, but I will for want of other matters to fill this sheet - The business of Miss B⁴⁸² - H⁴⁸³ leaving the && - H's is stirred again & it may possibly come to pass that Miss B. [?] inmate of our family - I have decided upon taking Yarra Yarra⁴⁸⁴!!! You may keep this house & let it out in lodgings - a very nice employment for you - I have arranged every thing but the destiny of this hour. Lissie Boileau⁴⁸⁵ kisses her hand to me with greater warmth every day, whoever she may be walking with! When I come to writing such a matter as this it must be apparent that I have exhausted all proper & interesting topics. I tell every one that you have not heard a word of French or seen a Frenchman or woman. I told Miss Violette⁴⁸⁶ yesterday that your address was - "Ici on parles Francais" knowing no other French words - Good bye my darling Pins

Letter from Juxon to Maria

1

I will go to Keay's⁴⁸⁷ about Waites Envelopes & paper & get some cards printed for you

6 Sussex Gardens

January 23rd /74

My very dear Minnie⁴⁸⁸ Nothing new to tell. I enclose a letter from dear Berty⁴⁸⁹ whose concluding remark will amuse you. Fancy called a boy in jackets an Esquire! Pins & Harry are writing to you. It has occurred to me that if Harry's name appears amongst the passed you might write to Mrs Paul and ask her if there is any immediate prospect of there being a vacancy in Lloyd's suitable for Harry. You will see that there will be no impropriety in so doing when it comes to the point of Harry's taking or rejecting a Commission. If we have to maintain 2 sons in London at the same time, we should be as hard put to it as if it were to start H. in his military career. A pair of shoes for dear Baby⁴⁹⁰ arrived from Miller last eveng & I have sealed the parcel & shall post it together with this. Pins & Harry have a party at the Insoll's⁴⁹¹ tonight, as you may remember. The Taunton Rents⁴⁹² arrived yesterday & were a day late from having

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been sent to Moreton Pinkney. You will be pleased indeed with Berty's letter & the great care that that he takes of his money - I yesterday asked F. Patrick⁴⁹³ to tell me when Berty wd have a holiday, long enough to enable him to come here. Willy told us yesterday that one of the Devonshire boys⁴⁹⁴ had told him that young Wallace (the Revd's son) had repeated to him a remark made by you here - viz that the Devonshires were conceited!! Young D. said he did not believe it & William added that it was impossible. However, I fear that it must have unpleasant results. Are you not glad to find that Berty has such a pleasant companion in the young Kitson? B: has certainly started in life most admirably. I am so glad that he is going to a party. All will so different at Putney from what it wd be in London lodgings. I am now going to write to Frank at M.P. whose letter I have left unanswered for 2 days. I dont think that I have left out any real news. H. has just come down stairs to dress for a walk & says that he had added a little to Pins' letter to you. Love to all the Stirlings! & kisses for dear Baby. Your affecte. hubby

Henry

Letter from Juxon to his son, William

1

6 Sussex Gardens

Eastbourne

April 17th 1874

My dear Willy I have had so many letters to write since your's came that I have quite forgotten you. What do you want with postage stamps? Are you going to write a 3rd time to Mr Cooke of London? If you do, you must remember that 8 stamps must be sent, 6 for the price of the Butterfly book & 2 for the Carriage - So I send you 8 stamps instead of 5, which you asked for. What a shabby letter you send me! only 3 lines! I wanted you to tell me how you amused yourself; how many companions you had; how long you are going to stay; & all else that you could think of telling us.

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Mama is at Malden⁴⁹⁵ & yesterday little Annie went up to meet her & I hope, for the purpose of staying at Malden for a week - Mama is asked to go and stay with Mrs Turner, & I hope she will go

there & take Annie with her, for she wd. so much like to see London. Fancy that little child going by herself to London! I was able, however, to put her into a carriage with 4 other little girls going home for the holidays. Mama wrote & told us yesterday that she had been dining at the house of a gentleman who said he could get Harry⁴⁹⁶ posted to a Regiment in India! Would not that be nice? & I even hope to have him sent to a Regmt at Umbala. I looked after your dove - Should the seed be all used up before you come back you must tell

me what seed you buy & where you buy it. Mind you write tomorrow & tell me when you are coming back. There is no particular news, except that Mr Ward has at last got a nice school, somewhere in Lincolnshire & he goes to it after the Midsummer holidays. All are out as it is just about 12.30, or I shd. have messages to send you. As it is, I must ask Cook & Mary, for nurse too is out, if they have any love to send you I have been writing a long letter to Mama & so am quite tired of writing. So I will finish here without going onto the next page - God bless you my dear boy

Your loving father

J.H. Jones

To My son Willa, Baba!

Envelope addressed: Master W.S. Jones
care of - Palmer Esq
"The Webbs"
near Keymer Junction

Death of Juxon's sister, Sibella

On the 26th day of June 1874 the Will of Sibella Jones late of Leamington in the County of Warwick Spinster who died on the 7th June 1874 at No 6 Spencer St. Leamington aforesaid was proved at the Principal Registry by the oath of the Reverend Francis Jones of Moreton Pinkney near Banbury in the County of Oxford Clerk the Brother the sole executor named in the Will Effects under £3000 No leaseholds.

This is the last Will and Testament of me Sibilla Jones of Leamington in the County of Warwick Spinster I give all my household furniture brass china glass jewels books plate pictures prints linen and household goods to my sister Irene Jones absolutely I give to my said sister Irene and to my brother the Reverend Francis Jones of Moreton Pinkney in the County of Northampton Clerk one hundred pounds sterling each I give and bequeath all the residue of my real and personal property whatsoever in manner following To my said brother the Reverend Francis Jones one equal fifth part thereof absolutely To my brother the Reverend Bertram Jones one other equal fifth part thereof absolutely To my brother Juxon Henry Jones M.D. one other equal fifth part thereof absolutely To the four sons of my deceased sister Henrietta Pattrick or such of them as shall survive me one equal fifth part absolutely and equally to be divided between them and to my said sister Irene Jones the remaining equal fifth part absolutely I appoint my said brother the Reverend Francis Jones Executor etc. 27th July 1871

Letter from Thomas Stirling to his daughter, Maria

1

Dearest Minnie! My writing days are nearly over! but I must write to you on this memorable

occasion of your Birthday⁴⁹⁷ to wish you all that is good! May you enjoy long Life in the midst of your family! Good health, Peace & happiness! Indeed I hope to see you Prospering to Sun-shine around you!! May God

1v

Bless your my ever dear Minnie. May God be with your Children Husband & all! Good bye my own dear Minnie!!

I remain your affectionate

Old & Loving Father

Thos. Stirling

Septr. 7th 1874

Letter from Juxon to his nephew, Francis George Pattrick

1

6. Sussex Gardens

Eastbourne

March 4th /75

My dear Frank If you are in the land of the living, for I have heard nothing to satisfy me that you are, for months past, will you come & spend your immensely long vacation at Easter, at Eastbourne, honoring the Gilbridges Hotel with your nightly custom, as usual. I am bent on being in seasonable time for Easter, tho' I was not exactly so at Xmas, as I was putting on everybody's skates for them. You know a person called Arthur H (Henry?) St Patrick⁴⁹⁸ & presume you are aware that he staid with us a few days at Xmas & ought to have met you here! He found the whole family ill & that not slightly - I hope you wont meet with the same misfortune, tho' I suppose you will find me still an invalid, for I can expect no alleviation of my condition till the cold is all past away, or possibly till I get

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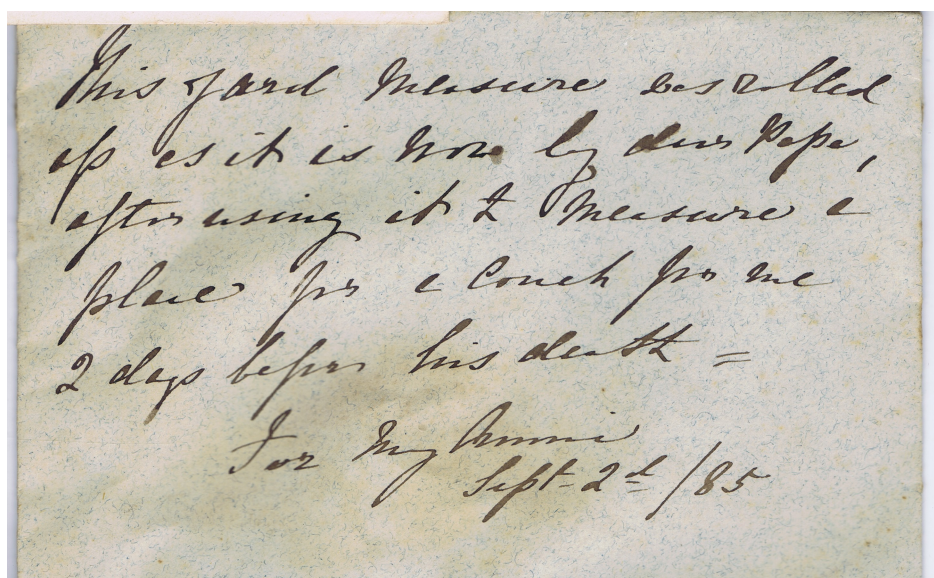
change of air. I have long doubted whether I suffered from Rheumatism or Neuralgia, but at length I have settled that it is the latter, as I am all right in the house. However, I cant get out side for a moment without being in torment. When Arthur was here I learnt from him that you had recd. an increment of pay, which I trust is satisfactory. Natal,⁴⁹⁹ too, must be looking up as it has lately been so prominently before the public: but possibly no emigrants will venture there while Langalabeli⁵⁰⁰ is at large! All our family are well for a wonder: Harry enjoying Devonport; Berty you shd. know about; Willie is at school here, boarding as well as schooling. So we are a thinned house hold, of which I am the thickest from 2 months & 9 days' illness - Little Flo now goes to school, so the party of little female school children that trip daily to school is 3 instead of 2. No particular news. All are out but Mama & she is up stairs; But I may confidently send you her love without going up to ask her & I may say as much of the rest of the family. Ever yr. affect. Uncle J H Jones

Juxon died four days after writing this letter. Maria was still only 44 and was left to manage her large family on an annual widow's pension of £250.6s.4d, together with the rent of the leasehold property in Lushington Road, and the money left her by Juxon.

On the thirteenth day of April 1875, the Will of Juxon Henry Jones formerly of Franklyn Lushington Road Eastbourne in the County of Sussex - late of the Bengal Medical Service but late of Sussex Gardens Eastbourne aforesaid Gentleman deceased, who died on the eighth day of March 1875 at Sussex Gardens aforesaid was proved in the District Registry attached to Her Majesty's Court of Probate at Lewes by the oath of Maria Hockin Jones of Eastbourne aforesaid Widow the Relict of the said deceased the sole Executrix therein named she having been first sworn to administer.

Effects under £800 Including Leaseholds. Extracted by J.T.C. Stiff, Solicitor Eastbourne

A further poignant reminder of her father (a worn tape measure) was given to Annie by her mother:



Juxon's brother, Francis, outlived him by four months, dying at Moreton Pinkney 13th July. Bertram finally returned to England in 1876. He had been back in England from 1865 until 1867 due to ill health, so he would have seen his mother again and probably all his siblings, except Juxon, although Henrietta died in August 1865. Bertram died 1st June 1883. Irene lived until 12th January 1902, Juxon's daughter, Minnie, outliving her by just four months.

Maria continued living at 6, Sussex Gardens in Eastbourne but had moved to London by the time she changed the family name to Juxon-Jones by deed poll in September 1887. The following month on 4th October 1887, Irene, who was living was living at New Malden Vicarage, with her uncle the Rev. Charles Stirling's family, married Dr Frederick Backhouse Hulke of Deal, Kent. Rev. Stirling officiated but only his family were present, not Irene's mother or sisters. In the 1891 Census, Maria was recorded as living at 146 Bloomfield Terrace, Harrow Road, North Paddington. Minnie and Florence were living with her, Harry was on leave from the Indian Army, Bertram was working for a bank in Australia, (he died the following year). Of William, nothing is known until 1911 when he migrated to Canada on the British Bonus scheme⁵⁰¹ to do "orchard work", having worked in a "menial capacity in France for 14 years" (according to the ship's manifest). He died there 18th June 1915. Annie married Rodway Swinhoe, a lawyer, on 13th August 1889 and they went to live in Mandalay, Burma. Beatrice married Frederick Robert Crowther, a merchant, 6th August 1890, in Buenos Aires, Argentina, where she had gone at the invitation of her uncle Waite Stirling. All Maria's sons and unmarried daughters followed their

mother's change in name and became Juxon-Jones. Maria died 11th July 1912. Florence was still living with her mother at her death, Minnie had died in 1902. Sadly there were no male heirs so the novel surname did not continue.

- 1 According to a note in a "Birthday Book" belonging to their daughter Minnie, they were introduced to each other by Frederick Richard Hockin, Philip Roe Hockin's older brother.
- 2 Juxon always called her Minnie rather than Maria.
- 3 Maria was pregnant.
- 4 They were her Hockin grandparents.
- 5 Rev. William Hockin, (1798-1886) Chaplain of Devon and Exeter Hospital
- 6 Also called Percy.
- 7 Percy Hockin married Mary Georgina Steuart Corry in 1841
- 8 It is possible that Irene was at the wedding.
- 9 Thomas Burd Hockin (1800-1879) who was living with his parents. Edgar (bn. 1821) was the youngest uncle.
- 10 Possibly Jane Hine the widow of Captain John Hine. In 1851 she was living in a house at St Petrox. with two servants. Her husband had been a friend of the Hockins.
- 11 Sea View House, Clarence St., Townstall, Dartmouth [1851 Census]
- 12 Possibly Mary Foale, living in Higher Street, St Saviour, Dartmouth, had ten lodgers in her house according to the 1851 census. Her husband was a waterman.
- 13 Jennefee, his father's sister, lived at Taunton, Somerset (1770-1854).
- 14 Devon, where Juxon's elder brother, Frank, was running a small school.
- 15 Probably Francis Cocks Pouget Reynolds, born in Exeter, and son of an old family friend of Juxon's mother. Chaplain, at Kirkee, Bombay but his wife gave birth to a daughter in Lichfield, Staffordshire (her family home) in early August 1851, the only one of their children not born in India.
- 16 Capt. R. Prettyman, 2nd Native Veteran Batt. joined the same steamer, 'Haddington', at Madras, departing 9th July 1850 for Southampton.
- 17 Daughter of his brother, Frank, born in 1842. She was at a Ladies School in Taunton run by Miss Frances Prosser according to the 1851 census. Apart from the Head there were five assistant mistresses and 21 pupil boarders, ranging in age from 17 to 8, Marion being the youngest.
- 18 Francis George Patrick, son of his sister Henrietta, born 9th June 1851.
- 19 The Patrick family were living at West Side, Foregate St., Worcester according to the 1851 census.
- 20 Possibly Mrs Mary Lunn, widow, aged 50, who lived with her two daughters, Ellen Mary aged 21 and Eliza C. aged 20, at Heavitree, Devon according to the 1851 Census and appears to have taken lodgers.
- 21 Marianne's father
- 22 Frederick Wale, son of Gen. Sir Charles Wale, married Adelaide Prest at St Marylebone, 17th July 1851
- 23 In 1851 he became rector of St. Paul's Church at Harbour Grace, Newfoundland, a position he held for 25 years. His health failing, in 1865 he was given leave of absence and returned to England. He remained in England for two years. Because the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel did not grant him a pension, he returned to Harbour Grace in 1867. He remained there until 1876 when he returned to England with a pension of £40 annually from his parishioners. [Encyclopedia of Newfoundland and Labrador]
- 24 Their cousin 2nd cousin, Augustus Stowey of Kenbury, Exminster.
- 25 Born 11th August 1851, died 25th February 1853.
- 26 Peter Archibald Robertson (1820-1905)
- 27 Now Nasirabad in Rajasthan, between Bombay and Delhi
- 28 Parr Willesford Hockin (1809-1867) Reached the rank of Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals in Her Majesty's Indian Army.
- 29 Presumably a barometer
- 30 This was a boarding house in St Martin in the fields where Charles Luxmoore Hockin (1810-1902) Commander R.N. on half-pay, was noted as a "visitor" in the 1851 Census.
- 31 Thomas George Norris born in London in 1809, was son of Catherine Hannah Norris, a friend of his mother who had moved from London to Exeter in 1820
- 32 The author.
- 33 John Lewis Merivale (1815-1886) was a particular friend of Anthony Trollope since their time at Harrow together..
- 34 Rose Heseltine married Anthony Trollope in 1844 and their first son, born in 1846, was named Henry Merivale.
- 35 Charles Luxmoore Hockin.
- 36 Thomas Stirling born in Kent 25th September 1832 but does not appear in the 1841 census with any of his siblings. He appears in Merchant Navy Seamen records 1853-57. He went to the Falkland Islands with his brother Waite in 1863 and may have come back with the four Fuegian boys in August 1865. He died in London 26th December 1866.
- 37 Charles George Henry Saint Patrick, his brother in law.
- 38 Could be Lousia Browett, the boarding house keeper of 8 Salisbury St., St Martin in the Fields, where Juxon had stayed in London.
- 39 Now Ludhiana in the state of Punjab. In 1849 the Punjab was annexed to British India, when the Cis-Sutlej states commissionership, comprising the districts of Ambala, Ferozepore, Ludhiana, Thanesar and Simla, was incorporated

with the new Punjab Province.[Wiki]

- 40 Now Hoshiyarpur in the state of Punjab.
- 41 Frederick Richard Hockin (1818-1861). According to their daughter Minnie's reflections it was he who introduced her parents in a street in Exeter in 1850.
- 42 The second Anglo-Burmese War lasted from 5th April 1852 until 20th January 1853.
- 43 Rev. Waite Hockin Stirling married Louisa Jane Phinn at St Mary's. Cheltenham on 14th June 1852. At the time of his marriage his was Curate of St Mary's Nottingham.
- 44 Louisa Jane Phinn (1825-1864) daughter of Thomas Phinn Esq. and his second wife, Jane Litchfield.
- 45 Charles Stirling married Mary Goodbarne at St John The Baptist, Shoreditch on that date by Licence. He was noted as a Clergyman but with a Living and was teaching in Reading in 1861. He finally secured a Living as Vicar of Christ Church, New Malden, Surrey, in 1867.
- 46 Surgeon Francis Turnbull served with the Army of the Sutlej in the Field Hospital at Ferozepore, from January to March '46. Served with the Sappers and Miners during the 1st and 2nd siege, and surrender of Mooltan, from July '48 to January '49, and with the Army of the Punjab at the battle of Goojerat. Medal and 2 Clasps. Proceeded with the Sappers and Miners from Roorkee to Meerut, and was present in. the Camp on the 17th May '57, when a portion of the Corps mutinied and shot the Commanding Officer, Captain E. Fraser. Served in Medical Charge of a combined Force of Artillery, Cavalry, and Infantry against the insurgents in the Meerut District, in September '57; and with the Sappers in the Agra District, against the insurgents, in November and December '57. Joined Sir James Outram's Force at Alum Bagh, with the Engineer Brigade, in the beginning of February '58, and served at the subsequent siege of Lucknow, in March; afterwards marched with Brigadier Walpole's Column from Lucknow, on 5th April, through Oude to Bareilly. Present at the attack on 15th April, and at the battle and re-capture of Bareilly, on the 6th May '58. Served with Sappers and Miners under Brigadier C. Troup's Column, from November '58 to February '59, in the various operations against the rebels in the Seetapore and Mohumdee Districts, including the capture of Fort Mitrowlee. Medal and Clasp.
- 47 Sibella Harriet, Bertram and Emma's second child was born 16th March 1852.
- 48 John Bertram Jones was born at Bonavista, Newfoundland, 25th July 1850 but died in 1852.
- 49 Not clear what "Muff and Spoon" are but appear to be two comic figures put under a bell glass. Could they have been put on the top of their wedding cake? Both "Muff" and "Spoon" were used to describe someone as being soft on someone.
- 50 In Juxon's letter 25th June referred to as "the little mountaineer".
- 51 Miss Sellon appears to be Superior of the Sisters of Mercy at Plymouth who ran an orphanage and a College of Sailor Boys. See letter to her from the Bishop of Exeter responding to an account of an inspection by Rev. G.R. Prynn of Plymouth.[<http://anglicanhistory.org/england/hphillpotts/sellon1852.html> also [https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Sellon,_Priscilla_Lydia_\(DNB00\)](https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Sellon,_Priscilla_Lydia_(DNB00))]
- 52 Elizabeth Peart, aged 78, (widow of George, a wholesale cheesemonger of Deptford, Kent), living with two sons and a daughter, all unmarried, at Panley Place, Leamington Priors, according to the 1851 census. By 1861 all of them but their mother, presumed to have died, had moved to Hove in Sussex. (in Juxon's letter spelt Piert).
- 53 Albert Smith's panoramic production shown at the Egyptian Hall in London. cf. *A Handbook to Mr. Albert Smith's Entertainment Entitled the Overland Mail* (London: 1850).
- 54 John George Ross first mentioned by Juxon in June 1843
- 55 First mentioned in a letter of 5th April 1850.
- 56 Henrietta, widow of Gen. Sir Charles Wale and mother of Juxon's friend, Frederick.
- 57 Lt. Robert Thomas Leigh of 7th N.I., born in Cullumpton, Devon, 1823. Arrived as a cadet in India January 1841. Married Fanny Caroline McMullin at Loodianah 3rd June 1848. Daughter, Mary, was born there 22nd February 1850 and a son, Robert, on 7th October at Loodinah, but christened at Umballa on 26th October. He retired to Devonshire as a Major-General and died there in 1905.
- 58 Now Ambala, Haryana
- 59 *General Orders By The Commander In Chief*
Direction to Assistant Surgeon J H Jones of the 7th Regiment of Native Infantry to make over medical charge of the head quarters and right wing to Assistant Surgeon F Turnball M D of the sappers and miners. [25th August 1852 page 450]
- 60 Dr Edmund Tritton (1801-1851), Assistant Surgeon in Bengal from 1826. He married Harrietta Elizabeth Tritton (1809-1888) in Cawnpore in 1828 where her father, possibly his uncle, was a merchant. She was born in India. At the time of Edmund's death in Simla, he was Inspector General of Hospital.
- 61 Now Saharanapur
- 62 T.H. Thorne Manager of the Leamington Priors and Warwickshire Banking Company.
- 63 Gold mines
- 64 Used by men to flatten their hair.
- 65 John Bertram was born 25th July 1850.
- 66 In Calcutta

- 67 Lt. George Swiney, 7th Bengal N.I. son of Lieut. Gen. George Swiney, Bengal artillery, married Mary Frances, daughter of Major Brandon, late of the Bengal army, at Cheltenham, July 7th 1852. Mrs Swiney gave birth to a daughter at Berhampore, July 30th 1853 and to a son at the same place 10th November 1855, by which time her husband was Captain in the same regiment.
- 68 George Huish was a cadet in 1819 and had risen to Captain in 1829. He married in 1830 and had two children. His wife died in 1847 as did his son but his daughter, Mary (bn. 1837) was living in England with her mother's sister and her husband, a Major in the East India Army according to the 1851 Census. Prior to becoming the acting Brigadier at Berhampore, Huish had performed a similar role in Burma. Nothing has been found about him after this accident.
- 69 Assist. Surgeon James Irving, born 1822, first appointed 27th May 1847. Rose to the rank of Surgeon-General.
- 70 Error for March. Easter day 1853 was 27th March.
- 71 20th April 1851
- 72 Assist. Surgeon William Charles Owen married Adelaide Anne Wake on 23rd April 1853 at Dinapore.
- 73 Known as St. Anthony's fire, is a bacterial infection of the upper dermis extending to the subcutaneous lymphatic vessels which causes a rash characterized by a well-defined area or areas of bright red, inflamed and rough or leathery skin.
- 74 Louisa Baretty, an old family friend, was buried at Petersham, Surrey 7th February 1853
- 75 Harriet Thwaites, wife of Francis Coleridge, did not die until 1866.
- 76 On 24th May his death was reported "At Midnapore, Bengal, aged 27, Wm. Charles Owen, esq. M.D." in the September issue of *Gentleman's Magazine*. On 16th February 1854, his son was born at Dinapore and named after him, and on 1st February 1855 his mother became a pensioner of the Bengal Military Orphan Society on his behalf.
- 77 William Henry George Hockin (known as Harry), son of Thomas Bird Hockin, lived with Maria in their grandfather's house in 1841. Became a sailor, (Cert. of competency as second mate 8 Aug 1851), and later was a P&O Commander, sailing to India and the Far East.
- 78 Capt. Markham Eeles Sherwill, Bengal Army, married Sarah James Biggs 1845
- 79 George Fergusson Cockburn, CS, son of the Hon. Lord Cockburn married Sarah Charlotte Bishop, born 2nd Oct 1822, daughter of Col. Samuel Pidding Bishop (died 1833) and Frances Major (whom he married in 1805). After Col. Bishop's death, Frances Bishop returned to England and was living in Richmond Place, Mount Radford, Exeter according to the 1841 and 1851 censuses.
- 80 George William Bishop born Bengal, 1 Feb 1812. 6 Nov 1838 George Williams Bishop, esq. 71st Reg. Bengal Army, married Mary Ann Romer, eldest daughter of late Lieut.-Col. Meadows, H.M. 15th reg.
- 81 15 Nov 1843 At Sylhet, Herbert Raban, Esq., 36th regt., married Lydia King, eldest daughter of John Baker, Esq., B.M.S. June 20, 1887 at North Curry, near Taunton, Major-General Herbert Raban (Retired List), Bengal Staff Corps, aged 67
- 82 His son Philip Gordon Jones, born 11th Aug 1851 died 25th Feb 1853.
- 83 Henrietta Jane Stirling was born in Kingston, Surrey 23rd February 1835. The 1851 Census records her as a pupil at a small school in Gloucester Road, St Pancras, London, run by a Governess and one teacher.
- 84 Small paper discs, backed with dried paste, used for sealing letters instead of sealing wax.
- 85 A kind of gelatin obtained from fish, especially sturgeon, and used in making jellies, glue, etc
- 86 Harriet does not seem to have kept all Minnie's letters
- 87 Arrived at Calcutta on 'Nile' Capt. E.P. Nisbett, September 1853 - Miss Stirling
- 88 Lt. Gilbert Pickering of 3rd Madras Native Infantry, an Addiscombe cadet, season 1843-44.
- 89 Samuel Bowen Partridge (1828-1898) Joined the Bengal Army as Assistant Surgeon October 1852, and saw action in Burma. [His long and distinguished career is described in detail in Plarr's Lives of the Fellows, Royal College of Surgeons]
- 90 Dr Nathaniel Wallich. Arrived in Bengal December 1833
- 91 Gilbert Farie and James Findley, of Calcutta, Esqrs., of the firm of Messrs. McVicar, Smith & Co., of Calcutta, Merchants and agents. Newspaper reports in the Norfolk Chronicle and Leamington Spa Courier of 20th December 1851 noted the marriage of James Findlay Esq., son of Robert to Eleanor Sarah Sandford [born 1830], daughter of Sir Daniel Keyte Sandford (1798-1838), a Scottish politician and Greek scholar. They had a daughter, born in December 1852 in Calcutta, and another daughter born in Moulmein, in December 1855. Eleanor died there in January 1856.
- 92 Frederick Secretan Gabb (1815-1901), 52nd N.I. at marriage in 1843. 1855 Major F.S. Gabb, Dep. Adj. General of the Army.
- 93 Must refer to an illness as he did not die until 1854.
- 94 Dr Archibald Kean M.D. Assist. Surg. of Indian Army from 20th October 1831. At Berhampore he was known for using mesmeric treatment for insanity and epilepsy at the Government Asylum.
- 95 Interim Order for Protection from Bankruptcy - Frederick Leigh, Cullompton, Devonshire, attorney at law, 13 Apr 1848 at County Court at Tiverton. Coroner for Crediton district until his death in 1853.
- 96 Crimean War
- 97 First used by the East India Company in 1851.

- 98 Juxon's aunt Jennefee died in Tiverton, Devon, 25th March 1854 to be followed a month later by the death of his brother, Tom.
- 99 Rev. Todd Thomas Jones died in Halifax, Nova Scotia, 25th April 1854.
- 100 Frederick James Halliday was appointed as the first Lieutenant Governor of Bengal in May 1854
- 101 trigeminal neuralgia is a severe, stabbing pain to one side of the face
- 102 General Sir Walter Raleigh Gilbert, 1st Baronet (1785-1853)
- 103 Henrietta Stirling married Walter Raleigh Gilbert Hickey at Berampore on the 31st August 1854
- 104 A large station on the north side of the Ganges
- 105 Col. Peter Taylor Robertson died at Tiverton 13th August 1854.
- 106 Henry Redmill Dennys of the Bengal Army, son of Nicholas, married Angela Hinzman Lardner, (daughter of James Lardner by his second wife Harriet Baratty), at St Olave, Hart Street, City of London, 19 Nov 1839. Angela was christened at East Teignmouth, Devon 24th Jul 1811. Henry Dennys was born 20 Jul 1814 and christened at St Olave's. His mother was Elizabeth Mackay. His brother Julius was born in 1822 and christened in the same church.
- 107 Philip Lardner (eldest son of James Lardner by his first wife, Elizabeth Stowey sister of the Jones family benefactor.).
- 108 Home of the Barraty family.
- 109 Barraty
- 110 In 1853 Chobham Common was used as a training base for preparing soldiers for the Crimean War.
- 111 Mary Sibella Graham Stirling, born 1826 and the oldest child of the family. After her mother's death she lived with her father in Exeter for the rest of his life. She never married.
- 112 She kept them and Juxon later had them and also his father's letters to Juxon's aunt, Jennefee, and to his mother.
- 113 Surgeon Major Richard Southby Otto Thring was born in January 1818; M.D. Edinburgh 1840, M.R.C.S. 1841; Assistant Surgeon 20th April 1845; Surgeon 11th March 1859; Surgeon Major 20th April 1865. Retired 10th April 1868. He died at Batheaston on the 2nd September 1875. Served in both the First and Second Sikh Wars and was present at the siege and capture of Mooltan, battle of Goojerat, and pursuit to Peshawar. There is no evidence that he ever married.
- 114 Henrietta had given birth 23rd December 1854 to Arthur Henry Saint Patrick, her fourth and last child.
- 115 Emma Maria Jones born 7th June 1854 at Harbour Grace, Newfoundland
- 116 Battle of the Crimean War fought 5 November 1854
- 117 No such picture exists nor is there any mention of it again.
- 118 As above.
- 119 Nothing known of this journal.
- 120 Sibella Hockin Stirling, born 12th March 1830 in Dartmouth.
- 121 Refers to the houses that his aunt, Jennefee had in Taunton .
- 122 Thomas Henry Holberton, surgeon and general practitioner of Hampton, Middx. died 15th June 1855
- 123 Death - Bowring, Capt. Geo. G. 59th N.I. at Landour, Aug. 3. Bengal Military Orphan Society for Sept. 1955 gives the names of the four children of Capt. George Gardner Bowring and Josephine Lacoste [Graves] - Frances Emily, born 14 Oct 1849, Florence Josephine, born 10 Oct 1851, George Graves, born 23 Feb 1853, and Anne Stewart, born 25 Dec 1854. In the 1871 Josephine Lacoste Bowring was living with two daughters and her son in Kingston on Thames, Surrey. Her son is a cadet at the Royal Military College.
- 124 Mary Chaundy died in Lewisham.
- 125 Lt. Col. Royal Artillery, William Henry Bent, younger brother of Fanny Bent.
- 126 Psalm 119
- 127 Moreton Pinkney
- 128 Shakespear Sage christened Southminster, Essex, in 1824. He was son of Charles Arthur Sage and Caroline. He married Mary Sophia Ross, daughter of Andrew Ross, in Delhi 21st June 1847. She was born 1830. In the 1851 census, Shakespear's father was living at Brackley St Peter, Northants, where he was Vicar
- 129 Sister of Thomas Henry Holberton. In 1851 she was living with an older brother, William Holberton, in Plymouth, Devon, a solicitor. She was unmarried and died in 1866.
- 130 A tribal group in Bihar whose land was taken by the East India Company in the Permanent Land Settlement of 1793, and then farmed out to zamindars, moneylenders and traders, who rented it out to other peasants. The Santhals finally took concerted action in 1855, destroying postal and railway communications and defying the government. The insurrection was put down but the Santhals tribal status was recognised and their right to their own land.
- 131 Queen Victoria and Prince Albert landed at Boulogne 18 Aug 1855, to be welcomed by Napoleon III, on their way to Paris.
- 132 William Lambe Hockin.
- 133 Lt. Henry Lionel Charles Bernard (c.1830-1911) Noted as serving with 3rd N.I. in Huzara 1852-3.
- 134 Silhouette cut out of black paper of the profile of a face and head, sometimes a full-length body, and attached to card and often framed or put in an album.
- 135 Probably Harriet's brother, William Todd.

- 136 First publicly available photographic process from 1839 which superseded the silhouette.
- 137 Eliza Ellen, wife of the Rev Richard Panting. They married at Shrewsbury 12 Dec 1840. Her name was Dukes. They arrived in Calcutta June 1841, he as Assistant Chaplain. She returned to England in April 1856 with one child and died the following year in September, at Newton Abbot, Devon. Her husband died at Ogra 31st May 1860.
- 138 When a Royal Navy captain was given the command of a ship, his name was "posted" in *The London Gazette*. Once promoted to "post-captain", further promotion was strictly by seniority so he could eventually become an admiral, as indeed did Charles Luxmoore Hockin. In the 1851 Census he was recorded as "commander R.N. half pay".
- 139 Girdle
- 140 Bombay Times marriage notice "At Colaba Church Bombay on the 1st November [1847] Captain W[m] James Yonge HM 60th (the King's royal) rifle corps to Martha Ann daughter of Major Deacon HM 28th foot"
- 141 Her grandmother had died the previous February and was probably the main correspondent.
- 142 Frank's wife.
- 143 Susan was Tom's widow. She appears to have remained in London when Tom left England. She remarried William Brooks Gates at Saint Martin In The Fields, Westminster, 21st August 1855, when she was described as Susan Parker Jones Or Montague which suggests that her marriage to Tom had ended after he left England.
- 144 Banbury, Oxfordshire.
- 145 He is referring to the birth of twins, Henry and William, on 4th March 1856
- 146 It is a city of historical importance on the bank of Ganges river, situated 220 km east of Patna and 410 km north west of Calcutta
- 147 The Crimean War ended 30th March 1856 with the Treaty of Paris.
- 148 She had given birth to twins, Henry and William, 4th March 1856
- 149 James Sharpe, Chaplain of Hosheryarpore
- 150 Born 5th August, Baptised 10th August 1856
- 151 Helen Mary Saint Patrick sister of George, born 29th April 1824.
- 152 Nothing like these survive.
- 153 Photographs taken as glass plates.
- 154 George Vincent Fosbery came to India to join the E.I.C. Army for 1851-2 season. He took leave, sailing on the 'Bentinck' leaving Calcutta 11th January 1857 and he married in Herefordshire the following October. He won the Victoria Cross for bravery at Umbeyla on the North-West Frontier in 1863. Lieut.- Colonel Fosbery retired from the Army in 1877, and devoted himself to the perfecting of machine guns, being the first to introduce them to the British Government. He invented the "Paradox Gun", and the automatic revolver which bears his name. He also introduced an explosive bullet, as a means of ascertaining range for infantry and mountain guns
- 155 Annie was not born until 1863 but would have heard the story of the flight from Phillaur. Maria kept many such mementos and gave some of them to her children during her lifetime.
- 156 Possibly Capt. George Wilson Boileau
- 157 The day that British troops under the command of Major-general Sir Henry Barnard reached Delhi and the start of the siege.
- 158 George Miller Dobbin was born in Dublin on 21 January 1833, and was commissioned as 2nd Lieutenant in the Bengal Artillery, from Addiscombe, on 9 December 1850. During the Indian Mutiny Dobbin held Phillaur Fort as the Officiating Deputy Commissary of Ordnance in charge of the magazine, surviving intact the co-ordinated mutiny of the Phillaur Garrison and that of the neighbouring Jullundur.
- 159 William Opherts was with Brigadier James Neill when he defeated mutineers at Benares 4th June 1857 and distinguished himself at the relief of Lucknow.
- 160 All the subsequent children were given Stirling as their second name.
- 161 Her grandfather William Lambe Hockin.
- 162 Capt. Charles Luxmoore Hockin R.N.. At this time he was unmarried.
- 163 Eleanor Clara née Nugent (1833-1878), the wife of Major Henry Le Poer Trench who was at the final assault on Delhi as Orderly Officer to Brigadier-General Nicholson. Immediately on the fall of Delhi, accompanied the Force under General Showers as Brigade-Major throughout the operations in the Goorgaon District. They had married in 1852 and by this time had three children, the older daughter and son had died and only one daughter born in 1856 was living. They returned to England on leave 6th June 1858 with 1 child and 1 infant, another daughter who was born in 1858 and then christened in Surrey 24th August 1858. The Trenchs continued to be mentioned during the period when Minnie was a school in Simla, and Mrs Trench was also on the "King Arthur" in 1869 when Juxon and family went back to England.
- 164 21st September 1857
- 165 25th September 1857
- 166 Lt. James Yorke died of wounds at Delhi 1st July 1857. Attached to the 4th Sikh Infantry.
- 167 Maria gave birth to her second son, Bertram, on 11th November 1857
- 168 Sarah Hockin had died 21st February 1855

- 169 William Lambe Hockin died 30th June 1858
- 170 Son of William Lambe Hockin. He was noted in Minnie Jones's manuscript book as having introduced her parents to each other in Exeter in 1850. In 1851 he was living in Townstall, Dartmouth, in the house of his elder brother, Percy, was unmarried, aged 33, and a solicitor's general clerk.
- 171 In the 1841 & 1851 censuses, Sarah Beer was a female servant in William Lambe Hockin's house. In the 1861 census she is housekeeper in Frederick R Hockin's house at Kingswear, Devon. Frederick died in May 1861. Sarah Beer died in 1868.
- 172 Daughter Annie who married Rodway Swinhoe.
- 173 J.C. Brown, Dep. Inspector General of Hospitals, Sirhind.
- 174 William Abbott Green, Dep. Inspector General of Hospitals, Lahore
- 175 In the Indian rebellion of 1857, the regiment did not mutiny and fought in the Central India Campaign. Almost the entire Bengal Army had mutinied and in the ensuing disbandment of its regiments, the 31st became the second most senior.
- 176 Two wheeled, tent-covered, native cart.
- 177 Cirrus - tends to be wispy and are mostly transparent or translucent. Isolated cirrus clouds do not bring rain; however, large amounts of cirrus clouds can indicate an approaching storm system eventually followed by fair weather.
- 178 Edward Kaye - Addiscombe 1833. Served in campaigns in Afghanistan 1839-40, on Sutlej 1845-6, in Punjab 1848-9 and in Indian Mutiny 1857-59 inclg. Battles of Moodkee, Ferozeshah, Sobraon, Chillianwallah, Goojerat and siege of Delhi. Comm'd. Mooltan Brigade 1868-72 and Lahore Divn.(temporary) in 1870.
- 179 Maria
- 180 Cirrocumulus form when moist air at high tropospheric altitude reaches saturation, creating ice crystals or supercooled water droplets.
- 181 Medical Department
- 182 Ankle
- 183 The fourth brightest star in the sky
- 184 Captain Thomas Wright (1825-1910) Deputy-Assistant Adjutant-General, Peshawur Division. - As he became an important friend of the family it is worth filling in something his background before they met.
[Married Clara, daughter of Thomas Erskine Dempster, Surgeon, at Loodianah in 1850. Two sons were born in 1851 and 1852, and two daughters in 1854 and 1856. Their youngest son was born in October 1858. Clara took the children back to England, and joined her father, a widower, who retired, and married again in St Helier, Jersey in September 1859. In the 1861 census, she is recorded as living in St Helier with all the children and another son born in 1860. Thomas's family is never referred to by the Jones family. He went back to England in January 1870 and was listed with his wife and daughters in the 1871 census, living in Brompton Sq., Kensington. His two youngest sons were living with his older brother, Charles, also an Army Major. He returned to India with his wife, probably taking his daughters - one certainly married in India. His wife died in Simla in April 1873.]
- 185 Plural indicates that Annie must have been born so date probably 1863
- 186 Maria
- 187 Maria was the pianist, Juxon the violinist and Thomas Wright the cellist.
- 188 Major T. Wright, Assistant Adjutant-General co-signed casualty return of those of the Euseby Field Force, Camp, Umbeyla Pass Nov. 13 1863 [Suppl. London Gazette, March 18, 1864]
- 189 Eliza Sommers nee Down, married Edward Kaye at Barnstable, Devon in 1851. She was daughter of Rear-Adml. E.A.Down, by the daughter of Adml. Patton, 1st. Naval Lord of the Admiralty under Lord Melville.
- 190 Anne nee Brind, wife of Henry Kendall MD Surgeon 7th Hussars. She gave birth to a son at Murree on 26th June 1864.
- 191 Rebecca Charlotte Jenkins Macintyre married Arthur Hume at Murree 4th October 1864.
- 192 Breakfast
- 193 A scarf of silk or cotton, usually coloured or printed, wound round a hat or helmet and falling down behind as a protection against the sun.
- 194 Alfred William Hamilton Curtis was born at Murree 23rd July 1864 to Harriet nee Hamilton and Major James Charles Curtis (1820-1889), 4th Bengal Cavalry, and christened at Murree 27th August.
- 195 Front cover of book.
- 196 A hill station established in 1842, south of Simla, north of Umballa.
- 197 Cornelia Mary nee Griffin was widow of William Henry Vice, merchant of Truro. She came to India with her children as several daughters were married there. Her fourth daughter, Kate, married Major R. Nicholas in March 1866 at Kussowli but three daughters were unmarried at this time. Her two sons, Griffin and Charles are mentioned in later letters. Miss Vice, the childrens' teacher, was her unmarried daughter, Mary Griffin Vice. She and her mother retired to Tavistock where Mrs Vyse - (they changed the name, possibly on their return to England) - died in September 1879 leaving Mary her sole executor. Mary was living at Stoke Damerel with the orphaned sons of her sister Julia Johnson in 1881, but returned to India and died at Landour in 1887.

- 198Kalka was acquired by British India from the Princely state of Patiala in 1843 as a depot for Simla, the summer capital of the Raj. It became the junction for the Delhi-Ambala-Kalka, and the Kalka - Simla railways.
- 199Chemist and large general store in Umballa
- 200Nicholas - Vice. - At Christ Church, Kussowlie, Jan. 24 1866 Major R. Nicholas, H.M.'s Indian Army, second surviving son of the late Robert Nicholas, Esq., of Ashton Keynes, Wilts, to Kate Josephine, fourth daughter of the late William H. Vice. Esq., of Truro.
- 201It would appear that Juxon had begun teaching Harry himself as a copybook, written in simple italics by Harry (corrected in pencil by Juxon), dated 20th February 1866 was inscribed "Juxon Harry Jones". It begins with notes on English grammar but contains all sorts of extracts, including Bible stories, and ending with the "History of Rome", the writing becoming much more adult by the end. It was the same book that Juxon later used in reverse on the voyage home in 1869.
- 202Mary Ellen Fulcher married George A.P. Arbuthnot in Leicester 23rd May 1863. They had come to Kussowlie in 1865 where her husband Lieut. G. A. P. Arbuthnot, late 4th Eur. Cav., was permitted to do duty with the with the convalescent dept. at Kussowlie, "during the ensuing cold season, pending his appt. to the forest dept." [Allens Indian Mail] Mary Ellen Arbuthnot died aged 28 on 18th April 1869. She was noted as being an American citizen. Her husband married again in Meerut the following year.
- 203Caesar R. Hawkins, C.S. Assistant Commissioner, Umballa, son of the Rev. Dr. Hawkins, Provost of Oriel College, Oxford, married Alice, daughter of Major E. N. Perkins, Bengal Staff Corps at Umballa October 16th 1867/
- 204Hindi word for bear.
- 205Surgeon John Henry Sylvester, 1830-1903. He served in the Bombay Medical Service from 1853-1875. He saw service during the Persian campaign 1856-1857, Indian Mutiny, the Central India campaign, action at Mundesar, Jhansi, the battles of the Betwa and Kunch and the capture of Kalpi and Gwalior. In 1863 he was present on the North West Frontier and then saw action at Buner pass and the burning of Ambela. During the latter expedition he was attached to Probyn's Horse (1860-1867). Sylvester was later made Deputy Surgeon General in India. He died there in 1903. He is the author of *Recollections of the campaign in Malwa and Central India, under Sir Hugh Rose*, 1860
- 206Married at St. Luke's Church, Abbottabad, Nov. 1, 1865 Francis Blake Eagle, 41st (the Welsh) Regiment, only son of the late Francis King Eagle, Esq., Judge of County Courts for Suffolk, to Emma Ellen, eldest daughter of the late Lieut.-Colonel H. Bond, 15th Hussars.
Cambridge University Alumni. Adm. pens. (age 18) at TRINITY, Apr. 26, 1852. S. of Francis King (next). B. at Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk. School, Bury (Dr Donaldson). Matric. Michs. 1852. Joined 14th Light Dragoons, 1858; served in the Rifle Brigade, 48th and 41st Regts.; retired, 1866. Capt., Suffolk Art. Militia, 1868. Died Feb. 1879. Buried at Bury St Edmunds. (Bury Sch. Reg.; Army Lists.)
- 207A son was born to Francis Blake Eagle and Emma his wife at Kussowlie, 29th August 1866. He was Christened 20th October the same year.
- 208Possibly songs composed by Lillian Fellows with words by Emma Fellow called 'Golden Hours', however there are numerous music primers with this title
- 209Henry Wood Whymper was son of Josiah Wood Whymper, a wood engraver of some note. Brother of Edward Whymper famed for his 'Scrambles in the Alps'. His father edited a postage stamp album and catalogue with Edward Oppen in 1863 and was noted in a review of the second edition that it was "...much improved by that prince of engravers, Henry Whymper." Presumably it was his father's article that appeared in the book. Young Whymper was a brewer. In June 1867, at the age of 23, he married Elizabeth Priscilla Oliver in Kussowlie. His first child was born the following year at Murree where in 1870 he was the managing brewer.
- 210Possibly William Frederick Becker married Sarah Caroline Palmer, in Calcutta 15 Dec 1865. Their son James was born in Umballa and christened in Agra 27 Dec 1868.
- 211The Kasauli distillery and brewery were set up in the late 1820s at Kasauli (before the town was established nearby) by Edward Dyer. He brought with him, brewing and distilling equipment from England and Scotland. This equipment came by sailing ship as far up the Ganges river as possible, before being loaded onto ox drawn carts and taken up to the Himalayas via the route to Shimla. Some of the original equipment including the copper pot stills are still in use today.
Edward Dyer selected the location of his brewery/distillery due to the fine springwater available there and because the climate at this altitude was similar to the climate of Scotland. His stated ambition was "to produce a malt whisky as fine as Scotch whisky," albeit from much higher highlands. Another reason for this location was that there was a ready market of British troops and civilians in Shimla and elsewhere in Punjab for his products. He started by making India Pale Ale and malt whisky from the Kasauli brewery and distillery.
Later on, after the town of Kasauli was established and began using much of the springwater, the brewery was dismantled and moved to nearby Solan where it still operates today. However, the distillery remains at Kasauli and is the oldest operating distillery in Asia and one of the oldest whisky making distilleries in continuous operation anywhere in the world. [Wiki]
- 212Possibly grandmother of William Byrne Johnson, husband of Julia Cordelia nee Vice. His "aged grandmother"

erected his tomb in Simla in 1876.

213The sweeper

214Laura Everingham; or, The Highlanders of Glen Ora - a novel by James Grant

215A novel by Susan Bogert Warner, an American evangelical writer of religious fiction, children's fiction, and theological works. 'The Old Helmet' was first published in 1863.

216A novel by James Fenimore Cooper published in 1823

217A novel by Grace Aguilar published posthumously in 1852. Most of her books were on Jewish subjects but this was based on Scottish history.

218Probably William Byrne Johnson and his wife Julia. Their son, John Byrne, was born 14th December. His mother died at Kalka on 11th January 1867 and was buried at Kussowli. Their son was christened 8th February.

219Charlie Vice was three years older than Minnie. He was later a pupil at Bishop Cotton School for boys in Simla which was founded in July 1859.

220William Henry Kelly (1827-1872)

221No indication that Mrs Nicholas had a child so this is probably her sister Julia Johnson's baby.

222Christ Church was inaugurated 24 July 1853.

223Reynell George Taylor married Anne Holdsworth in Devon in 1854. They had children from 1855, one born in Peshawur in 1863 when the Jones' were there, and from 1866-70 in Umballa. He died, a General, in Devon in 1886. His wife Anne survived him.

224Possibly wet-nurse for Julia Johnson's baby.

225George Francis Angelo Harris son of Charles Shooter Harris of the Bengal Staff Corps.

226Possibly Charles William Wahab (1828-1913). Wahab, Capt. Charles W. 14th Bombay N.I. to Catherine, d. of Charles Cowan, at Valleyfield near Edinburgh, Sept. 15 1858.

227Nathaniel James Grant, born 1831, father a surgeon. Appointment as Assistant Surgeon 18 Dec 1853. War Service: Grant was on continual Field Service on the Peshawur Frontier, in the years '54, '55. Served with the Field Force at annexation of Oude, in '56, and subsequent operations. Sonthal Field Force, in '57. Wounded dangerously in action with Rebel Cavalry, June '57. In Medical Charge of Detachment, H. M.'s 37th Regiment, escorting ammunition, '58. Listed as serving in Bengal in 1862. 15 Apr 1865 officiating with the 9th Cavalry.

228Alice Lumsden Mitchell, daughter of Philip Mitchell, artist, married William Edward Montague, Lieutenant 94th Regt. at Plymouth in September 1865. She gave birth to a son in Umballa in September 1867.

229Major Henry Duncan Twysden served throughout the Afghan Campaign of '42: present at the forcing of the Khyber Pass and operations in the Mazeena Valley; also at the engagements in the advance on Cabul. Medal. Served throughout the Sutlej Campaign, '45, '46, including the battles of Ferozeshuhur and Sobraon.

230The mail phaeton was a gentleman's carriage that might be used for pleasure driving or for travelling by "post," that is, making a journey by stages, using hired post horses driven postilion by a postboy. It came to be seen as the ne plus ultra of gentleman's driving carriages. The mail phaeton was designed for use with a pair of horses, and two grooms in livery would normally be carried on the rear seat.
[<http://www.caaonline.com/seabrook/mailphaeton.html>]

231Amy Millicent Harris, born at Umbala 29th December 1858

232Josephine Mathelde, wife of Francis Tweddell of the Bengal Infantry. She was the daughter of the late Henrich von Dulcken, and they were married at the house of the British Ambassador's, Frankfort-on-the-Main, November 19th 1862

233Frederick Turner W. born Barrackpore 1821, son of Robt. W. Married Sarah Cecilia Ann Fussell 1858 at Dinapore & two children born in 1859 and 1860. From a later letter (7th June 1867) we find that his wife had gone to New Zealand which may explain why he is cooking! His army record shows him to have been a significant soldier.

234Known for Lawrence Military Asylum for the orphans of European soldiers, founded in 1847.

235John George Bushman married Clara Cox Brooks at Serampore, Bengal in September 1860, two years after he joined the service. Their daughter, also Clara, was born at Peshawur, in August 1861.

236There... "were various Bengalis wandering through the pages of Western popular song, such as 'The Bengali Baboo'. This song was sung by music-hall performer C. Chauriya in 1870 'with immense success'.⁵⁴ In the guise of a humorous ditty, it reveals the attitudes of the British to Indians in the nineteenth century, attitudes that at least one Indian performer was prepared to reinforce on the stage. The Bengali baboo portrayed by Chauriya was an avaricious, salacious, and deferential buffoon. Here is a figure with an eccentric grasp of the English language and an inane concern to show his financial status in the West, his interest in English women, and his loyalty to the Queen:

I have a fine house in Chowringee
All Calcutta know me well
That old baboo much rupee
Plenty Europe sahibs tell

I find this London much large place

In all Bazaar much boberee
Plenty madam with pretty face
Make turn round and look at me

I want to see Maharanee Queen
All tell me very proper Ma'am
I hear she very seldom seen
I sorry I want to make salaam.

These verses are interspersed with a chorus to nonsense syllables, 'Tan nan nan nan nan na', a mockery of the very sound of Indian languages, and also perhaps a reference to the mnemonics, or bols, which are so much part of the structure of Indian music, but which sound like gibberish to Western listeners. The song presented Indians as comical, hopelessly unsophisticated, and ultimately inferior. 'The Bengali baboo' was a musical version of the image of educated Indians that was current in nineteenth-century England. They were considered figures of fun, and were regularly mocked in the realms of popular culture..." [Indian Music and the West : Gerry Farrell - OUP 1997]

- 237 Harriet Anne Curtis wife of Major James Charles Curtis 4th Bengal Cavalry was in Murree when Minnie was living there.
- 238 Major Henry Alexander Taylor, late 74th Native Infantry.
- 239 Probably her sister Julia Johnson's son, John Byrne Johnson, born 14th December 1866. His mother died 11th January 1867.
- 240 Mary Elennora [Fred W. Macmullen, Esq., Bengal cav., to Mary E., daughter of John Ward, Esq., of Bodmin Cornwall, at St. Stephen's, Westbourne-park, March 30. 1865]
- 241 Clara Bushman was born in Peshawur 20th August 1861.
- 242 George Arthur Hamilton Curtis son of James Charles and Harriet, born 18th October 1859 and christened in Simla 5th December.
- 243 Agnes, wife of Col. Henry Nicoll, Bengal Staff Corp. Their daughters Alice married in December 1867 and Louisa in 1869.
- 244 Hungerford Deedes Jackson at Second Captain in the Artillery. Born at Allahabad in 1833, died at Srinagar, Kashmir in 1878. By then was a Lt. Col. His father, living in Slough, was his next of kin.
- 245 Cordelia Emma Mackenzie, daughter of John Mackillop Mackenzie (1832-1902), born 27 March 1862 at Murree, and died there 9 June. John married Matilda Rouse Ladd at All Souls, Marylebone, London 17 Jun 1857. On 23 July 1867 their son Robert Downie Mackenzie was born in Dundonald, Ayrshire, Scotland, and the family were recorded in the 1871 census living in Hove, Sussex with three children, but not the last born son.. His occupation given as Lt. Col. Indian Army.
- 246 Probably Michael Anthony Shrapnell Biddulph (1823-1904) Entered the Royal Artillery in 1843. Served in Turkey and in Crimea. In 1861 he went to India on the amalgamation of the royal and Indian armies, was promoted brevet colonel on 14 Aug. 1863 and regimental lieutenant-colonel on 10 Aug. 1864. On 20 Feb. 1868 he was appointed deputy adjutant-general for royal artillery in India, on 30 March 1869 was promoted major-general, and on relinquishing his staff appointment at the end of five years was created a C.B., military division, on 24 May 1873.
- 247 Capt Alfred Abercromby Dick, 11th Bengal Lancers.
- 248 A small three-legged table or stand. The word is of Indian origin.
- 249 The specific game of tent pegging has a mounted horseman riding at a gallop and using a sword and/or a lance to pierce, pick up, and carry away a small ground target (a symbolic tent peg) or a series of small ground targets.
[Wiki]
- 250 Mabel, born in Umballa 7th May 1866
- 251 Capt. Halford Fellowes, Bengal Staff Corps.
- 252 John Guyse Sparke and his wife Catherine. Their daughter, Mary, was born 7th November 1848. John Sparke was American, a Major in the Bengal Staff Corps. He died at Umballa 28th November 1867.
- 253 Robert North Maddock founder and Principal of a large private school at Mussoorie which he sold for £12,000 to Bishop Cotton's Board of Education.
- 254 Harris
- 255 Major Albert Henry Bamfield, Bengal Staff Corps. District Superintendant of Police, 1st Grade, Kangra, Punjab, 25 Jan 1861. Brevet Lt. Col. 16 Jun 1866. (Several albums of his photographs exist in the National Army Museum).
- 256 About an hour from Simla
- 257 Emma was the youngest daughter of Cordelia Vice. She was born in Truro in 1853 so was the same age as Minnie.
- 258 Auckland House School has a past worthy of notice. Lord Auckland, the then Governor-General bought the house in 1836, for the use of himself and his sisters. Later Viceroy moved elsewhere and the house was sold. The School authorities bought Auckland House in 1868. The project for starting a school to provide sound education to girls on Christian principles was initiated by the Rev. J.B.D. Aquilar in 1864. It was given a practical shape by a Church-related ladies group in Dalhousie who began collecting funds for this school which they wanted to be placed in Dharmamsala. However on the persuasion of Mrs. Cotton wife of Bishop Cotton, it was founded in Simla in the

spring of 1866 at Holly Lodge on Jakhu. "The Punjab Girls School" was founded for European Girls. Two years later, the school authorities bought Auckland House and the name of the school was changed accordingly. The school began with 32 pupils and the the Head was Mrs. Mackinnon. The School shifted to its present site on the 6th of November, 1869, after extensive alterations and additions had been made to the building, including the School Hall. [<http://www.aucklandhouseschool.org/about-us-History.asp>]

- 259Married at Kussowlie, June 22nd 1867, Henry Whympers, to Elizabeth Priscella, eldest daughter of David Oliver, Esq., sub-engineer.
- 260Theodora Sophia Oliver. sister of the bride, was born in 1858.
- 261Mary Anne daughter of Capt. Samuel Frampton Stallard R.N. of Leamington Spa married Lt. Hamilton Smithett, Bengal Horse Artillery at Leamington Spa 16th August 1859.
- 262Possibly Catherine, the wife of John Guyse Sparke who was a Major in the Bengal Staff Corps. He died at Umballa 27th November 1867. She was living with 4 children in
- 263John Luther Vaughan. Commd. 6th Punjab Rifles Indian Mutiny & Umbeyla Campaign 1863 & 2nd Brigade Hazara Field force 1868. He was on leave in Simla at this time.
- 264Charlie Vice joined the Indian Army. The family having changed its name to Vyse, Minnie inserted a cutting recording his death in 1894: 'Intelligence has been received from India of the death on November 18, at Rawal Pindi, in the Punjab, of Maj. C.F. Vyse, second in command of her Majesty's 27th Regiment of the Punjab Infantry, at the early age of 44. Born in January, 1850, he entered the Army in 1870, and being transferred to the Bengal Staff Corps in July, 1874, served with the Koorum and Khyber Field Forces in the Afghan War of 1879-80, for which he had the medal. He reached the rank of captain in 1882 and that of major in 1890.'
- 265Kind of sedan chair used in India
- 266To the Lawrence Military Asylum
- 267Aunt Sally is a traditional English game usually played in pub gardens and fairgrounds, in which players throw sticks or balls at a wooden dummy.
- 268Thin rough fabric of linen warp and coarse wool or cotton filling
- 269Estella Maud Smithett, born at Benares in 1861.
- 270Rugs
- 271Capt. George Lawrence Keir was of the Bengal Staff Corp. Marriage: Keir, George Lawrence, Lieut. Bengal Army, to Annie, daughter of William Stancomb, Esq., of Farleigh Castle, Somerset, at Farleigh, Hungerford, Jan. 19. 1864. Annie was born in 1843.
- 272William Gully married Pauline Frances Carter at Peshawur, 26th April 1859. Their son, Samuel, was born in Umballa, 1863, a daughter in Simla in 1864, a son born in Ferozepore in 1866 who died in October 1867 in Kussowlie, after another daughter was born in Kussowlie 23rd August 1867. Of their subsequent children, the last born in India was in Nowgong in March 1873. The family returned to England and two more sons were born in Hampshire before their mother died in October 1877. William and his family were living in Seaford, Sussex according to the 1881 census. He was described as Lt. Col. late Royal Artillery.
- 273 Mary Lyster, daughter of John Samuel Lyster, married John Edward Tauner at Kussowlie, 15th July 1867.
- 274Anna Sarah, wife of the Rev. John Edward Wharton Rotten DD, Chaplain, in the Diocese and Archdeaconry of Calcutta, at Umballa.
- 275Cambridge University Alumni. John Edward Wharton Rotton. Adm. pens. at EMMANUEL, Oct. 6, 1842; from St Edmund Hall, Oxford, whence he had matric., Oct. 15, 1840, age 17. [Only s. of John Stuart, of Cawnpore, India.] Matric. Michs. 1842; B.A. 1845; M.A. 1850; LL.D. 1879. Adm. ad eundem at Trinity College, Dublin, 1868; B.D. and D.D. there, 1868. Ord. deacon (Ely) 1846; priest (Worcester) 1847; C. of St Martin's, Birmingham, 1846-8. C. of Coleshill, Warws., 1849-50. Assistant Chaplain, H.E.I.C.S., 1850. Chaplain at Akyab and Kyouk Phyou, 1851-2; at Meerut, 1852-7; with the Delhi field Force, 1857-8; at Meerut, 1858-62; at Kussowlie, 1862-4. Officiating Principal i/c of the Military Asylum at Sunawur, 1863; at Umballa, 1864-76. C. of Souldern, Oxon., 1870-90. Married, Feb. 13, 1897 (as his 2nd wife), Laura Anne, dau. of the Rev. Lawrence Stephenson, D.D. Author, Chaplain's Narrative of the Siege of Delhi (1858). Died Mar. 28, 1897, at Forest Hill, Surrey.
- 276Possibly Eliza Birch who died in Umballa 9th July 1882, aged 69.
- 277Col. Frederick Turner Wroughton died at Dum Dum, Bengal, 17th July 1871. Probate in New Zealand the same year.
- 278Jakhu
- 279Col. Richard Lloyd Thompson, Bengal Staff Corps
- 280Capt. John Delap Wilson died at Peshawur 30th June of heat apoplexy, aged 33. He married Philippa Bishop in 1863. Her sister Marianne married Frederick James Halliday in 1865. Philippa Bishop married Arthur Stewart Hunter in December 1868.
- 281Alexander McEwan died 25th July at Murree and buried the following day, aged about 36.
- 282Howel Locke Jones, Captain in the Bengal Artillery.
- 283May be the wife of Capt. Charles Stirling Dundas - Mary Louise nee Knatchbull, daughter of a Baronet. It did not appear to have been a happy marriage as there was a deed of separation made between them at the end of 1868. In

- 1871 she is living in Camberwell with her son Malcolm and daughters Amy and Alice. Noted as married, aged 37, living on "Cash from Husb. in India". In 1911 she is living at 53 Drayton Gardens with a general domestic servant in 7 rooms. At the same address, Maria is living with Florence and Annie, with two servants. Both the old ladies are 77. Mary Dundas at the same address died 30th January 1923 leaving £3405. Her son Malcolm, a retired Army Major taking probate.
- 284Major T. Charleton Merrick, Bengal Staff Corps, married Emily, daughter of the late Spearman Johnstone, Esq., of Dring-houses, Yorkshire, at Trinity Church, Weston-super-Mare, Dec. 8 1868
- 285James Dyer Tremlett M.A. Appointed to the I.C.S. 1859. Arrived 17 Nov. 1860. He married Louisa H., daughter of Hon. W.C. Gibson, at Galle, Jan. 9 1862. Assistant commissioner, 2nd class, Delhi, Punjab, 30th October 1868. - With powers of a magistrate, 8th February 1868. Adm. at the Middle Temple, Apr. 28, 1870. Called to the Bar, Jan. 26, 1872. Divisional Judge, Punjab, 1884-6. Judge of the Chief Court of the Punjab, 1886-9; retired, 1889. Commissioner in Delhi, 1893-4.
- 286Lt. George William Holdsworth. Died unmarried at Ripon in 1881. By then was Lt. Col.
- 287They were returning to England and were living in Bury St Edmunds in 1871. Their son was born in Agra in August 1866 but their daughter was born in Bury St Edmunds between October and December 1867.
- 288Rev. Joseph Baly was appointed to the Bengal Ecclesiastical establishment in 1861 and served as Chaplain at Sealkote, Simla, and Allahabad until 1870, when, while on furlough in England, he acted as Rector of Falmouth. He was Archdeacon of Calcutta from 1872 until he retired from India in 1883. In 1885 he was appointed chaplain at the church in Windsor Park, built by Queen Victoria, in which appointment he died in 1909, aged eighty-five.
- 289At Simla, August 10th [1867], Nellie (Ellen), second daughter of Mr. P. Mitchell, aged 11 and a half years.
- 290Son of Robert W. Thomas who was Deputy Commissioner of Kurnal, south of Umballa, in 1872. Charlie was born in 1855 so was the same age as Harry.
- 291"Pussie" is probably Honor Cary Thomas, Charlie's elder sister. She was the same age as Minnie.
- 292The baby, Arthur, was born 22nd June 1866 at Kussowlie.
- 293Probably Edward Clive Bayley, a member of John Lawrence's Executive Council. His younger children born in Simla 1864-67, the youngest dying there in 1869.
- 294Edward Dyer set up a brewery at Kussowli in about 1855. In 1866 the beer brewery was moved to Solan, near Simla, and the Kussowli site was converted into a distillery. From about 1860 until the move to Simla he was also running the Murree brewery. Thus the family must have been well known to Maria. By all accounts, Edward's wife Mary was a formidable lady and the family was prosperous, but there is nothing to explain Maria's remark in the letter.
- 295Major in the Royal Artillery and Director of Public Instruction in the Punjab died 20th August at Rawul Pindee. He married Catherine Agnes Armstrong at Exeter in 1959 and had three sons born in Lahore from 1860-63. A daughter was born at Murree in May 1865.
- 296Raymond Hugh Cockburn Nicolls born 19th August at Kussowlie, son of William Ward Nicolls & Teresa Crawford neé Thompson
- 297Presumably Elizabeth Oliver, wife of David.
- 298In the Abyssinian Campaign of 1867-1868, Britain dispatched a force of 16,000 men, led by Sir Robert Napier, to take the Emperor's fortress at Magdala and free several missionaries and two representatives of the British government who were being held hostage..
- 299Elder son born c1846. He joined the Indian Civil Service but had retired by 1881 and was living with his wife in Camberwell. He died in 1895. The family changed their name to Vyse, probably in the late 1870s when Mrs Vice and her unmarried daughter, Mary Griffin Vice, were living in Tavistock.
- 300 Berty was almost ten and William was nine. Harry who was receiving all Juxon's attention was twelve and a half.
- 301 Dr Alexander Frederick Bradshaw (1834-1923) married Ellen Charlotte Ewart at Umballa in 1864. His wife was 18 at marriage. They had son (Frederick Ewart) born at Meerut in 1865, a daughter (Elsie Margaret) born and christened in Kussowlie in 1866 and another daughter (Mary Frances) similarly in 1868. Dr Bradshaw rose to the rank of Surgeon -General.
- 302Ada Blanche Trench was born 25th July 1865 at Mussooree
- 303Coco was seven and a half.
- 304Capt. Edward Lindsay Hawkins. Nothing serious apparently happened as he retired as Major-General in 1886. His wife gave birth to a daughter at Government House, Murree on 18th September.
- 305Frances Mary Le Poer Trench born 1st October and christened at Simla 23rd October 1867
- 306Edward Lindsay Hawkins, Captain, R.H.A., to Florence Mary, only daughter of the late Rev. Frederick Fisher, Chaplain on the Bengal Establishment, at St. Stephen's Church, Westbourne Park, Oct. 2. 1866. Their daughter born at Government House, Murree, Sept. 18th 1867
- 307Caroline wife of Col. Arthur Scudamore of the 7th Hussars. They had a daughter born in Murree in 1863 and a son in Simla in 1866.
- 308 Lt. Col. Thomas Warren Mercer (1824-1910). First marriage to Maria Caroline Herklots, daughter of J. D. H. and Mary Cecilia Gibson. They had a son but she died within a few months of his birth. Second marriage to Jane Esther

- Smart, daughter of James Bluett. Lt. Col. Mercer on leave 1869. He and his wife returned via Bombay with Miss Holbrow in February 1870. Miss Holbrow was probably the governess for their younger sons.
- 309 In March 1863 the Memorial School was opened in three bungalows at Jutog near Simla. under the name (conferred on it by the public) of 'Bishop's School', and under the able management of Mr. Slater has become so popular, that not only are its present bungalows quite full, to the extent of seventy-two boys, but all vacancies are promised till the end of 1867. We hope that the difficulty of gaining admission to it will be removed by its speedy migration to new and appropriate buildings in Simla itself [The Calcutta Review, Volume 42. Page 68]
- 310 Smithett
- 311 Their sons Arthur Cecil Hamilton Smithett born 11th April 1863 and Harry Percival Hamilton who died in 1872 aged 7.
- 312 Irene
- 313 At Umballa, Oct. 16, Caesar R. Hawkins, C.S., Assistant Commissioner, Umballa, son of the Rev. Dr. Hawkins, Provost of Oriel College, Oxford, to Alice, daughter of Major E. N. Perkins, Bengal Staff Corps.
- 314 Harry Frederick Gully son of William, born February 1886, buried 19th October at Kussowlie.
- 315 To the north of Simla
- 316 She was the daughter of Wredenhall Robert Pogson, son of Col. Wredenhall Robert Pogson and his wife Ann Cordelia. Evelyn was born in Dacca in August 1852. Her grandmother died at Umballa the previous December. Her parents were living in Chinsurah. Her father died in 1878 and was noted as late of Hooghly, buried at Landour. In the 1911 census she was visiting her older sister Augusta Ellis (who married William Verrier Ellis in Chinsurah in 1870) at Westbury on Trym, Bristol. Both are described as living on private means. She died in 1915 at Tonbridge, Kent.
- 317 John Guyse Sparke, Major Bengal Staff Corps, died 27th November and was buried the next day in Umballa.
- 318 Owen, Lieut. Alexander G., H.M.'s Bengal staff corps married Georgiana M., widow of the late Major Vanderspar, Ceylon rifles, at Bath, Oct. 2. 1862. At Umballa, Jan. 30, 1868 wife of Capt. A.G. Owen, gave birth to a son.
- 319 Philip Clarke, steward, died at Sanuwar 10th August. His wife, Mary Ann died 10th June 1866. The daughters were Lavinia, Julia and Isabella, all born at Sanuwar between 1854 and 1857. Philip and Mary Ann had married at Kussowlie in 1853 when she was 17.
- 320 Clarke, William C.S. Bengal L.C., to Eleanor J.W. daughter of the late Charles C. Hay, of Cheltenham, married at Leckhampton church, Gloucestershire, Jan. 26. 1859. Their daughter Eleanor was born in India in June 1861 and another daughter at Umballa in 1864, then two sons at Kussowlie, one in August 1866, the next just born on 3rd October. Eleanor returned to England with her children and was living in lodgings in Cheltenham at the time of the 1871 census. Her oldest child is a son, Calvert S, aged 11, born in Cheltenham. He must be the son mentioned as a likely pupil of Miss Vice.
- 321 Amritsar
- 322 Ann, wife of Major Reynell George Taylor (1822-1886) whose military career warrants an entry in the Dictionary of Indian Biography. Among other things he was Commissioner of Peshawar in 1862 and Commissioner for Umballa in 1865. A son was born there in 1866 and a daughter in 1869. He was apparently deeply religious and established a Mission of the Church Missionary Society at Dera Ismail Khan. He died at Newton Abbot aged 64 in 1886. His wife was the daughter of Arthur B.E. Holdsworth of Widdecombe House, Stokenham, Devon, so not far from Dartmouth.
- 323 Major John Doran and his wife, Georgina Sultana, daughter of the late John Magrath, Bengal medical service. They married in London in November 1856 and their first child was christened at Rawul Pindee, Bengal. in August 1857. A daughter were born in Simla in 1853 where Major Doran was Commandant, 27th Regt. Punjab Infantry, and son was born in Peshawur in December 1865. Mrs Doran gave birth to their next child, a daughter, at Lee, Kent in January 1869 and she was living in the same place with all her children in 1871.
- 324 Thomas Wright was Brevet Lt. Colonel 5 August 1864, Commandant 11 Bengal Cavalry, 22 March 1866
- 325 Bullock cart
- 326 Cupboard
- 327 William Dare Sladen (1827-1876) In October 1861, while stationed at Gwalior, undertook to take ethnographical photographs for Government for transmission to the International Exhibition of 1862. However, he was posted to Meerut in November 1861 and C.S. Haygarth (qv) offered to take on the commission in his stead. He had, however, evidently made some unsuccessful attempts before his transfer, as evidenced by a letter from Major R.J. Meade, in temporary charge of the Gwalior Agency, to the Governor-General's Agent for Central India, dated Phool Bagh, 19 December 1861:
- ...I regret to have to inform you that, owing to his Chemical being of inferior quality or some other cause with which I am unacquainted, Captain Sladen failed in his attempt to take good Photographic likenesses of the Natives of this District, selected to sit to him for that purpose; and that his removal from this station to Meerut last month, before he could procure a fresh supply of chemicals, has prevented his renewing his efforts to carry out the arrangement sanctioned by Government...[John Falconer, British Library - A Biographical Dictionary of 19th Century Photographers in South and South-East Asia...]
- 328 Kotwals often controlled the fort of a major town or an area of smaller towns on behalf of another ruler, so a law

enforcer.

- 329A. O'Meara came to Simla in 1850 and was for twenty years the only dental surgeon in the Punjab. [Noted 'Simla Past and Present' p.113]
- 330Lt. Anthony William Twyford, 21st Hussars.
- 33121st Hussars
- 332Fanny Caroline wife of Robert Thomas Leigh, noted as Major in 1863. They had children born in Loodianah and Berhampore 1852-4 when Maria was also there.
- 333Comparatively few house owners practically owned the whole of Simla & one of these was Major Samuel Boileau Goad who at one time was second-in-command of the Simla Volunteers. 'Mr Carey's Guide of 1870' gives him as the owner of 33 houses with a rent-roll of over Rs, 38,000 p.a. Among other houses, he owned 'Holly Lodge' (rent Rs. 1,800) where Mrs Mackinnon founded "The Punjab Girls School" in 1866. He apparently took his own life in 1876 aged 70. Miss Goad was probably the only unmarried daughter of his first marriage, Julia Catherine, born in 1846. Her mother died within seventeen days of her birth. She married in London in May 1870.
- 334Possibly Major Arthur Vincent Dumbleton of 21st Hussars. He retired to Tasmania in 1869 so may have influenced the Jones family to contemplate emigrating there themselves.
- 335John Guyse Sparke, Major Bengal Staff Corps. Mary was born at Allahabad in 1848.
- 336A public office for administrative or judicial business
- 337Hungerford Deedes Jackson
- 338Alfred Abercromby Dick, Esq., 11th Bengal Lancers, to Fanny, fifth daughter of Elliot Macnaghten, Esq., 46, Eaton-square, at St Michael's, Chester-square, Dec. 3 1867. Elliot Macnaughten's sister Alicia was Dighton Macnaghten Probyn's mother. Capt. Dick died at Torquay in March 1874.
- 339Daughter of David and Elizabeth Oliver of Kussowlie, born 27th April 1852.
- 340Agnes Caulfield, widow, died at Simla 13th November and buried the next day.
- 341Possibly the family of Peter Mitchell, C.I.E., who bought 'Rothney Castle' in Simla in 1867.
- 342 Water (pani).
- 343 Florence Eva Stirling Jones
- 344Eydon, a village and civil parish in South Northamptonshire, about 8 miles north-east of Banbury.
- 345Reverend Richard Mant's edition of the Bible
- 346 This may refer to two miniatures of a girl and a swarthy boy, the latter appears to have 'Wm Todd 1791'. Framed photographs of a man and woman, the latter dressed in the same way as the girl suggest that their parents' miniatures were gifted in some other way.
- 347 Handkerchief.
- 348Coco did not go back to school at Simla but stayed with Miss Vice with Berty and Willie.
- 349 Ellen Alice Harrison, born May 1853 to James Edward Harrison, apothecary, and wife Adeline Maria.
- 350 Milkman
- 351 Court composed of military officers to which matters of debt are brought by civilians against those within the Service. Juxon had retired by this time.
- 352 Woodford Finden, Bengal Army, married Louisa M., daughter of the late Col. J. Morden, of Aubrey Park, at Horringer, Suffolk, August 25th 1869. He was born in London in 1844, reached the rank of Surgeon Lt. Col. by 1891 and retired 1896.
- 353 Frances Ann, wife of Edward Baily Tuson. July 1872 Dep. Surgeon General, Meerut Circle.
- 354 Sophie Charlotte Hochepped-Larpent and Capt Edmund Fortescue were married on 22 February 1862. Their daughter, Katherine, was born in Kussowlie 15 August 1867, and a son born there the previous year.
- 355 Mabel Louise, daughter of Frederick Wood Macmullan 11th Bengal Lancers, born at Umballa May 7th 1866.
- 356 Emily Butler, youngest daughter of the late Lieut. Gen. John Butler, C.B., B.N.I. married W. H. E. Terraneau at Calcutta, April 23rd 1872. Her father had died at Simla, 30th April 1872.
- 357 Mrs Williams, supplier of wool, possibly at Simla
- 358 City in the north of Punjab province. Under Sikh rule the place was quite unimportant, being mainly occupied by a settlement of boatmen, and at the time of annexation contained about 500 houses. It was then chosen as the site of a cantonment and as the headquarters of the civil administration. For some years it was the seat of the Commissioner of the Division, but in 1859 his headquarters were transferred to Rawalpindi. Under British rule, Jhelum has steadily advanced in prosperity; and is the entrepôt for most of the trade of the District, though, since the completion of the Sind-Sāgar branch of the North-Western Railway; the salt trade no longer passes through it. It is an important timber dépôt, the timber from the Kashmir forests which is floated down the river being collected here. A good deal of boat-building is carried on. The cantonment, which is 3 miles from the civil station, contains the church and post office. The normal strength of the garrison is one Native cavalry and four Native infantry regiments. The municipality was founded in 1867. [Wiki]
- 359 Eliza Smalley married William Paske in Madras in 1854. Children born in Bengal, two in Kussowli. In England 1871 census, William a Lt. Col. H.M. Madras Army, living in Clapham with wife and all their children.
- 360 Robert William Clifton married Jane Potter at Kussowlee 23rd January 1868. He held the rank of Surgeon from

31st August 1872

- 361 Hon. Robert Elphinstone Boyle. (1837-1924). Bengal Staff Corps. Captain 10 Dec 1866. Died unmarried.
- 362 Hindi - cobbler
- 363 Lt. Col. John Matthew Cripps - Commissioner, Punjab, Umballa Division, 17 Oct. 67
- 364 Major Thomas Woollams Holland, Bengal Staff Corps, & wife Helena.
- 365 Col. Henry Duncan Twysden's wife died the previous April of cholera. He remarried Martha Louisa Mendham 24th March 1869 at Brompton, Kensington. He was 48 she 18. He died at Harrogate in 1880. His wife Martha was sole executrix. His personal estate was under £10,000.
- 366 Store house.
- 367 P.P.C. is short for the French, *pour prendre conge*. In English this meant that one was leaving an area.
- 368 Col. Robert Christopher Tytler of the Bengal Infantry. His second wife was Harriet Christine, daughter of Lt. Col. John L. Earle. They had married at Lucknow in 1848. He died at Simla in 1872 at the age of 53. She also died at Simla but not until 1907.
- 369 Edward Lindsay Hawkins married Florence Mary Fisher 2 Oct 1866 at St Stephen, Paddington. At Government House, Murree, Sept. 18, 1867 the wife of Captain E.L. Hawkins, Royal Horse Artillery, gave birth to a daughter. A younger daughter, Irene Beatrice born in 1870, married Dr Sidney Backhouse Hulke, the younger brother of Dr Frederick Backhouse Hulke, the husband of Irene (Coco).
- 370 Kotputli - an ancient city in Rajasthan - traditional dance.
- 371 Town in Afghanistan
- 372 For Easter.
- 373 Kumzari? - a Persian language native to the Arab world.
- 374 Boy? (Hindi)
- 375 Terms used for days in the Roman calendar.
- 376 Emily Lucretia Millward Pogson, born in Simla in 1852 and her sister, Alice Augustus Milward Pogson, also born in Simla in 1854, daughters of Wredenhall Robert Pogson,
- 377 Rev. Joseph Baly, Chaplain at Simla, married Amelia Rose Coope at Falmouth, Cornwall in 1853. Their daughter, Amelia Maria, was born in 1854.
- 378 Edgbaston Warwick Wharton Rotton was born 8th June 1856 and died the 18th April. He was a year younger than Harry.
- 379 Horace Herbert George Rotton was born in October 1852.
- 380 This letter is missing.
- 381 Maria's younger sister, Henrietta, who married Walter Raleigh Gilbert Hickey at Berhampore in 1854.
- 382 Walter Raleigh Gilbert Hickey born 1861 at Chagford, Devon., died in London in 1912.
- 383 Raymond Gilbert Hickey born 1865 in Calcutta, died in Vancouver, Canada, in 1912.
- 384 Capt. Fitzhardinge Kingscote married Agnes Grant Stuart on 17 July 1863 in Upper Canada where he had been posted. He took a posting in Bengal and his second child was born at Meerut in 1865. A son was born in Kussowlie 18th June 1868.
- 385 Wife of the Rev. Charles Thomas Toussaint, chaplain of Kussowlie. She gave birth to a daughter in Kussowlie on 9th August 1868. They had married at Landour in 1857. He died at Umballa 29th November 1869 aged 79!
- 386 A district in the north-east of the town.
- 387 There is a gap between this and the last letter when the reason for the family quarantining would probably have been given.
- 388 Walter Raleigh Gilbert Hickey (1861-1912), eldest son of Maria's sister Henrietta. Later became a coffee planter in Malaya.
- 389 Honoria M. Marshall, daughter of the Rev. W.K. Marshall, curate of Bridgeworth, Shropshire, and niece of the late Sir H. Lawrence, K.C.B. married Frederick Murray Hay Forbes, Esq. 39th N.I. inspector of schools of 1st circle, Punjab, 5 January 1858 at Mooltan.
- 390 At Nowgong, Bundelkand, May 29, 1868 Cornelia, wife of Lieut. col. L. J. Farquharson, comdnt. 7th Bengal cavalry. Capt. Lenox James F. married Cornelia Hendrica Appledore, daughter of Johannes Jacobus Cruywagen, at Gwalior Oct. 15. 1855. Miss Cruywagen arrived on the 'Minerva' on 19th April 1855 from London via Cape Town. Her sister, Christina, did not return to the Cape but married Lieut. Edward Hay at Nowgong, 27th June 1868.
- 391 Minnie had been to Kussowli for a short holiday.
- 392 Narkanda - a small mountain town to the north-east of Simla on the Hindustan-Tibet Road in Himachal Pradesh.
- 393 Black Mountain Expedition against Hassanzai tribesmen 3-22 October 1868. Second Brigade, Col. J.L. Vaughan - 1st Battalion 6th Regiment of Foot; 3rd Sikh Infantry; 2nd Gurkha Rifles [FIBIS]
- 394 Florence
- 395 Calcutta jeweller
- 396 A total solar eclipse 18th August
- 397 Major Thomas Wollams Holland, Bengal Staff Corps.
- 398 Harriot Isabel. daughter of Fitzhardinge Kingscote and his wife Agnes, born at Meerut 22 December 1865.

- 399 Norman Hay Forbes born at Murree in 1863, Alice Mary Forbes also born at Murree in 1863, Lindsay Anstruther Forbes born at Dalhousie in 1865.
- 400 Charles, Nephew & Co. 9 Court House St., Calcutta from 1848-1870, & a branch in Simla 1866-1870. The firm comprised Charles John Pittar, Parke Pittar Jd. & Thomas Powell, retailing silversmiths, jewellers & watchmakers. Successors to Pittar & Co. [Indian Colonial Silver Marks]
- 401 Rev. William Knox Marshall - no published work found.
- 402 A cantonment about 90 miles south of Umballa
- 403 Children of Major David MacFarlan Royal Horse Artillery. He was wounded in the defence of Lucknow and returned to Scotland and married Jemima Macnair at Auchenleck, Stirlingshire in 1859. The children were born in 1860, '62 and '66. There is no record of a child being born in 1867 who would match Florence in age.
- 404 Andrew Crawford (1815-1899), army officer and immigration promoter. At 18 he joined the East India Co. as an ensign and for thirty-eight years in India served in various regiments through many campaigns. In the mid-1840s Crawford and his wife came to Van Diemen's Land to spend leave with her relations. He bought land at Richmond and returned to India. Like many others he was disappointed with conditions in the new Indian army and, always an indefatigable pamphleteer, expressed his dissatisfaction in his Remarks on the Indian Army which was privately printed in London in 1857. On 31 December 1861 he retired with the honorary rank of lieutenant-colonel; his last position had been assistant adjutant general of the northern division, Bombay army. After almost two years in England he emigrated to Tasmania with his family in 1864. Once again he was impressed by the potentialities of the colony as a desirable place for Anglo-Indian settlement and immediately began to write his Letter to the Officers of H.M. Indian Services, Civil and Military which was published in Hobart Town on 23 October 1865. In this book he set out his proposals for an association with a hundred shareholders to take up land which he had chosen and named Castra near Ulverstone. Each was to have 320 acres (130 ha) at £2 an acre, double the government price, which after incidental expenses had been met would leave £24,000 to build a church, parsonage, schools and roads. The original scheme came to naught but the reception of the Letter was considerable. In October 1867 the Tasmanian parliament passed An Act to amend the Immigration Act of 1855, and An Act to enable the Governor to Reserve Land for Settlement by Persons coming from India. The latter, to remain in force for three years but later extended, set aside 50,000 acres (20,234 ha) for Indian settlers. A committee known as Castra & Co. was set up in the Bombay Presidency and by 1876 Crawford had chosen for himself and other Anglo-Indians 9700 acres (3925 ha) at Castra. He calculated the aggregate income of the officers would bring to the colony over £10,000 a year. Few actually settled at Castra though some did clear their land. Of the forty-one who bought land, twenty were living in Tasmania in 1880. The colony and the north-west in particular was greatly enriched by these people who had more leisure, taste and money than most to devote to community affairs. Three entered the Tasmanian parliament and Crawford held the seat of West Devon in 1876-77. [Australian Dictionary of Biography]
- 405 Sibella married Robert William Sherriff. Henry's letters to his mother at the time of the marriage clearly show that he thought very poorly of her choice of husband. There is no indication of any letters between them until this. Robert's father was an architect/builder in Calcutta. Robert died in Calcutta in 1881. Four years later, Sibella left for New York from London on the S.S. Erin. She travelled, a lady, with the elite in the saloon rather than with the many in steerage, with the intention of a "protracted stay". It appears that she joined her eldest, possibly only surviving son, Leonard, in Luzerne, Pennsylvania, and was living with his family in 1900. She died in 1905.
- 406 Major Henry Alexander Taylor, Deputy Assistant Commissary General at Kussowlie in 1870. He married Emily Phillips at Cawnpore in 1854. They had a daughter born at Kussowlie 22nd July 1868 and baptised there 3rd September.
- 407 Lloyds Register 1869-70.
- 408 Noted 1861 census, of Kenton, Northumberland, aged 39, married to Ann, aged 42, occupation, Farmer 303 Acres & Shipowner Employing 6 Men. His wife was with him on the King Arthur. He was noted as Master of the ship from 1866 to 1875.
- 409 Gum of *Pterocarpus I Marupium*, a tree growing in mountains of the Malabar coast of India, a powerful astringent. In diarrhoea is often an excellent adjunct to opium. This preparation appears to be Pulvis Kino Comp.
- 410 Part of the upper abdomen immediately over the stomach
- 411 Tonic
- 412 Wooden - Lieut. and Qrmr. Charles Wooden, V.C., late 104th Fusiliers, died at Dover, April 24, 1876 aged 50.
- 413 Foot bath
- 414 Shoulder blades
- 415 58th foot-staff-Assistant-Surgeon George Fearon to be Assistant-Surgeon, vice Bailey, appointed to the Staff 4th Sept. 1867. [Edin. Gazette]
 Medical Dept, Assistant Surgeon George Fearon, from 58th Foot, to be a staff Assist. Surgeon vice, James O'Reilly, M.B. [London Gazette issue 1868-12-22]
 58th foot - Staff Assist-Surg. James O'Reilly, M.B. to be Assist. Surg, vice George Fearon, appointed to the Staff. [Manchester Courier and Lancashire General Advertiser 24 December 1868]
 Staff Assistant-Surgeon George Fearon has been permitted to resign his commission dated 6th March 1869. [London

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- 416Sail-maker
- 417 Frank Thosby Long, born 1866, son of Frank Long, an East India merchant, who married Louisa Agnes Woods at Allahabad in 1865.
- 418Solution of iron and chlorine.
- 419Mixture
- 420Rhubarb
- 421Captain's wife.
- 422Mustard plaster
- 423Remedy for gout and rheumatism using extracts from *Colchicum autumnal* (autumn crocus).
- 424Blistering
- 425From the plant henbane.
- 426Relating to the intestines
- 427Muscle on the side of the neck that extends up from the thorax to the base of the skull behind the ear.
- 428Ada Blanche Le Poer Trench, born Mussoree 25th July 1865 to Major Henry Le Poer Trench (1820-1907) and Eleanor Clara neè Nugent, his wife. It may be that other of her children were also with her on the ship.
- 429Inflammation
- 430Upper forward part of the ship with crew living quarters
- 431Poultice or moist warm cloth to relieve pain
- 432Zinc Sulphate lotion
- 433Florence
- 434Pimples
- 435"God willing"
- 436Spurious feeling of the need to evacuate the bowels.
- 437Collection and pressing of seaweed was a popular hobby. It appears from family scrapbooks that some of the seaweed that Juxon bottled was later dried and preserved.
- 438Watering eyes
- 439Lighthouse on the Lizard Peninsula, Cornwall
- 440 Juxon had given his house the name of his parent's house in Exeter where he was born.
- 441A plan described by Juxon in a letter to his daughter, Minnie, 29th November 1868. The Suez Canal was not opened for passenger ships until 1869, before which all travel between Suez and Alexandria was by barges and camels
- 442 John Jones (1699-1785) buried in an altar tomb in Chumleigh Churchyard. His father, John, married Margaret Juxo, niece of Dr. Juxon, Bishop of Hereford (afterwards Archbishop of Canterbury), who attended Charles 1. on the scaffold.
- 443 Father's great aunt.
- 444Fanny Bent's gift
- 445Photographs were always important for Juxon. His early photographs, some of which he took, were stuck into a scrap book. His first proper album designed for cartes de visite has Juxon Henry Jones (later amended as much else to Juxon-Jones!), Surgeon Major, R. Artillery, Peshawur - 1862 on the fly-leaf.
- 446 At the time of the making of his Will, Juxon was already 54 and the ages of his children were: Minnie 16, Harry 14, Bertram almost 12, William almost 11, Irene 9, Annie 6, and Florence almost 2. Maria was 38, so there was a possibility of her remarrying so he had to consider the future welfare of his children.
- 447Waite Stirling was consecrated 21st December 1869 at Westminster Abbey. Enthroned in the Falkland Islands 14th January 1872. A photograph of him taken in Eastbourne suggests that he visited the family after Beatrice was born.
- 448Camden, London, described by Charles Booth as a 'lodging street' c1898.
- 449Maria
- 450 Beatrice was just under three months old.
- 451His brother
- 452Jane E South, a married woman aged 31 from Somerset is the nurse listed in the census taken a couple of months later.
- 453 The Treaty of Versailles which ended the Franco-Prussian War ,which had started the previous July, was signed 26th February. Preceding that, on 8th February, elections were held for the first legislature of the French Third Republic.
- 4541871 census address
- 455 Minnie's uncle Rev. Charles Stirling, Vicar of New Malden, took as his second wife in 1864, Mary Elizabeth Turner, daughter of Joseph Holden Turner. Her only surviving brother was Frederick Holden Turner, a solicitor in Bedford Square. He had married Charlotte Mary Seargeant in 1860 but they had no children. I suspect they are the Mr & Mrs Turner referred to.
- 456Mrs Emma Olliver, a widow aged 72, lived at Arlington House, Seaside Road, with her unmarried sister, Sarah A. Duke aged 55.

457 These letters survive and have been transcribed and printed as a pdf: *John Jones Letters 1791-1822*.

458 Elder brother, Vicar of Moreton Pinkney. Noted in the 1871 census as are his wife, daughter Marion and son Bertram. Also there is his sister, Irene.

459 William Henry George Hockin eldest son of Thomas Burd Hockin, Maria's mother's brother. He was a Commander in the P.&O. Steam Navigation Co. service.

460 Christiana Emma Elizabeth Jane née Messenger. They married in June 1865.

461 Anne Horndon Hockin, born in Hong Kong c.1872

462 Mary Sibilla Graham Stirling was Maria's eldest sister, born 1st September 1826. She was living with their father in Exeter.

463 Mary Elizabeth, wife of the Rev. Charles Stirling, Maria's brother.

464 Could this be a reference to Beatrice Waite who would be near in age to Anne Horndon Hockin?

465 Arrivals P & O steamer Sunda, 1,683 tons, Hockin, Hongkong 23rd June [Straits Times Overland Journal, 13 July 1873, Page 16]
[Noted P & O steamer Sunda (1) 1866. 1882 sold to agent of Sultan of Zanzibar. 1,682]

466 Nickname for Christiana.

467 Home in Exeter of Rev. William Hockin, eldest brother of Maria's mother.

468 He died on 4th February 1874 at Budleigh Salterton, Devon, leaving his wife sole executor. His effects were under £2,000.

469 Beatrice

470 Daughters of Waite Stirling and his late wife Louisa Jane Phinn who died in Argentina in 1864. Eleanor was born in 1854 and married William Frederick Robinson in 1878. Gertrude was born in 1860 and married Alfred John Dickenson in Argentina in 1886.

471 Probably the wife of Charles Percival Phinn, the brother of Louisa. His mother died in 1869.

472 31 Lushington Road

473 Juxon was an avid reader of 'Punch' and cut out all sorts of cartoons and other pieces he found interesting. Some for February 1873 were put in a scrapbook for Florence which was dedicated to her by her mother March 19th 1880 when she was twelve "For darling Flo, in loving remembrances of her Father who collected all these Scraps for a Book for her".

474 Edward Winder, watchmaker, 65 Terminus Road [1874 Sussex Directory]

475 His sister Irene

476 Also his sister. She died 7th June 1874

477 Moreton Pinkney, brother Frank's home.

478 Possibly Rev. Edward McConkey McCready, at some time Vicar at Magheradroll, Ballynahinch, County Down, Ireland.

479 Harry appeared in Indian Army lists as "Lt. 10 jun 74", so the examination is likely to have been in relation to this.

480 Emma Vice married Arthur Stewart of the Forest Department at Kussowlie 11th October 1873 so this letter must pre-date that event.

481 Probably Sibella Sherriff. Maria's other sister in India was Henrietta Hickey. Her husband, Walter, died in January 1872. By the 1881 census she was back in England but may well have come back after his death.

482 Possibly Alice Upton Boileau daughter of Thomas Ebenezer John and Elizabeth Hannah Boileau, born 1849.

483 Harry?

484 1871 census Yarra Yarra is house in Fieldridge Rd, Eastbourne, occupied by William Routledge, a retired Australian merchant.

485 Elizabeth H. Boileau was living in Eastbourne in 1871, a widow aged 58 living on an annuity with two daughters.

486 Therese J Violette was living with her widowed step-mother in Lismore Road in 1871. She was 28 and a teacher of languages.

487 Henry W. Keay, printer and engraver.

488 Wife

489 Now aged 17

490 Beatrice is the youngest, born 1870

491 Robert Insoll of The Old Orchard, Grove Road, was the Eastbourne agent for the Duke of Devonshire. There were no young people in his own household with whom Minnie and Harry would have mixed socially.

492 Legacy from Juxon's aunt or mother.

493 Francis George Patrick, son of Juxon's sister Henrietta. He resigned as a clerk at Paddington, working for Great Western Railways in 1871. In 1875 he was a clerk at Natal Land & Colonization Co., 41 Threadneedle St., London. It is possible that Bertram has a job in the same office.

494 Thomas Harris Devonshire was a solicitor living at 3 Trinity Place. William would have known his eldest son, Thomas as they were both born in 1858 and George Devonshire as they were both around his own age. There are photos of George and (Thomas) Easton Devonshire in fancy dress costumes in Minnie's photo album given her by Henry Lowe c.1878.

- 495 Probably with her brother Charles who was the vicar of Christ Church, New Maldon
- 496 Juxon Henry Juxon-Jones noted as a Lieutenant in the Indian Army 10th June 1874.
- 497 8th September
- 498 Youngest son of Henrietta. In April 1875 he matriculated at Queen's College, Oxford. and became a clergyman.
- 499 The envelope dated this day and posted was addressed to Francis St. Patrick Esq., Natal Land & Colonization Co., 41 Threadneedle St., E.C., London. Natal was annexed as a British Colony in 1843
- 500 Langa libalele, king of a Bantu tribe who had fled to the colony of Natal in 1848. During the diamond rush of the 1870s, many of his young men worked on the mines in Kimberley where they acquired guns. In 1873 the colonial authorities of Natal demanded that the guns be registered, Langa libalele refused and a stand-off ensued, resulting in a violent skirmish in which British troops were killed. Langa libalele fled across the mountains into Basutoland, but was captured, tried and banished to Robben Island. He eventually returned to his home, but remained under house arrest. [Wikipedia]
- 501 A marketing tool used by the Canadian Government as the the laws in many European countries forbade open encouragement of immigration by any foreign country. It served to encourage steamship booking agents to recruit desirable settlers (farmer, domestics, etc.) as immigrants to the west of Canada.