

W9/L2/6 (21) 1 of 2

Hobart. 1st Aug 1891
The Studio. Sat aftn.

Dearest Doo,

You don't know how much
resolution is in this letter.
It is a perfect Saturday afternoon,
temperature delightful, bright
sun with just a little country
haze over the town, the river
like glass. And I turn my
back on it all & sit down here
to write to you. I have just
come in. I have read your letter
of 24th June, written on the eve
of your leaving for Paris and
Brittany. We have all been
picturing what a delightful
trip you will have, & everyone
whom we tell says, "lucky
dog", or equivalent words.
I hope you will be able to go to
York again before the vacation

is over. You blame us for
addressing you to Mrs Main
too soon. Why didn't you tell
us when your term ended?
Then we could have reckoned.
But we were afraid of the letters
going to Bushey & not being
forwarded.

Mary Stephens was buried
at Sandy Bay on Tuesday.
Alice & Millie & all the family went;
Mrs Wright & Patty Maull - Mrs
Hudspeth, Mary Odior, Evelyn
Mace & a few others. Of men
there were only Mr Brown, Tom
Lewis, Cruickshank, & G. Adams.
Rev Wray officiated. Some of the
girls brought beautiful flowers.
Patty Maull a most beautiful
Cross of white chrysanthemums
& roses on dark green leaves,
another a wreath of violets &
white flowers, a little violet
Cross & so on. Poor old
Stephens looks very broken.
It is a pity that Alice is not

going to stay at home. She goes
back to Melbourne on Monday.
Millie will be very lonely & I
think every one would be happier
if Alice had charge, instead
of old Miss Jarvis. I suppose
Stephens wants Alice to qualify
as a nurse, so that she might
get her living in case of his death.
But any way I think it a pity.

Our office troubles don't seem
nearer settlement, but I hope
two or three days more will
suffice. As I have said before
Gony is so impractical. He
has big ideas of his rights &
can't see that the thing must
be arranged on business principles.
I am not going to give up any
rights I have, & he has had
to admit them. I send you
a slip of the new firm's
note paper. We have all our
forms & printed, ready to begin.

Mitchell has managed my business
very well for me. I have had
supper at his house two or three
times when I went to discuss
matters. He has everything in
very nice style.

The mining excitement still
continues, though there is not
very much doing. Things will
take a start when the Leekham
railway is finished about
Christmas. Probably a
private company will make
the railway from the Derwent
Valley Line to Leekham.

The town is very full. Swarms
of strange mining speculators
& abound. A large proportion
great rascals I am afraid.
There is hardly a house to be
got any where. I hear that
the typhoid patients are
doing very well - Westwood,
H. Buckland & W. Fairley.
A good many people have

W9/L2/6 (21) 20f2

been suffering from what I take
to be influenza or something
like it. Rhona, Lou Young,
Galeuby & Law have all had it.
I hope we may get off without
such a visitation as you had
in England, but we may
get it in spring & early summer,
as you did.

Lizzie has not returned.
Katie Walch came back
yesterday. She & Liz travelled
together as far as Ross, but
Lizzie is now staying at
Chiswick for a fortnight or
so. Effie came on Tuesday
or Wednesday, & will probably
stay till Lizzie comes back.
With Frances & Effie we are
very well off, & Isa keeps
well, though of course she is
a good deal disturbed at night.

looking after the Mother.

The little Mother is very well indeed, for her, & enjoys her occasional drives very much.

I am well & in good spirits, altho' I don't sleep well - waking up early in the morning, & often not going to sleep again.

I have occasional notes from Rowick. He has got over his foolish quarrel with me, & now writes in the most gushing strain. Have you seen anything of him lately?

I forget whether I said anything about your visit to the Yearly Meeting. Every one was very greatly interested in your account of it. I hope you will manage to see a little of some of the friends before you come back.

When you see Lyndhurst tell him that I am going to write to him & give him all information about the University. I am quite ashamed at having been so long, but really I have no time.

I suppose you will see Carrie Man. I don't know what her name is now. When you do give her my warmest congratulations & best wishes for her happiness. Also congratulate Mr Man for me.

This is a shabby scribble but I have to go down to the office to write some business letters & have barely left myself time.

There are a lot of candidates up for Brighton in place of Tommy Dillon, amongst others Henry Dobson, George Chapman and J Hodgman (brother of Miss Hodgman).

Minnie is here, & she is writing you a few lines, so I am going to leave this for her to enclose her note, & Minnie will post it.

Adieu, beloved!

Yrs. R. H.