

W9/L2/6 (34) 10/3

Hobart.

21st Nov 1891.

Sunday Night.

Dear Doc,

I was beguiled into going to supper to Ted Giblin's this evening after Church, & now it is late and I am repenting. You see the evil effects of going to Church. If it had not been for that, this letter would have been finished. They have just got news of poor Galloway's death. It is wonderful how he has lasted so long. When he left here last to go to Riverina he looked as if he was dying. I always had a great regard for him. He seemed such a sterling fellow.

Sah will no doubt have told you about poor Marion Giblin's death. She has been gradually

growing weaker & more helpless,
in fact for some months her life
has been a living death. Still she
though long quite unable to speak
or make them understand her,
she seems to have been quite
able to understand what was
going on, & Hannah says showed
great pleasure on hearing of
Cornie's engagement. She sank
rapidly for the last few days & died
very quietly on Saturday morning.
She is to be buried to-morrow morning
at Cornelian Bay, next to her brother.

Cornie was married on Thursday
to Geo Davies from Kate Atkins's house.
The Davies & Gublin relations were all
there. Ridley & Adah went, also Mr.
Croby & Mrs Sarah. I understand
there were 7 bridesmaids. Sam gave
her a little present - a pretty silver
ruined terra cotta (or some sort of
ware) jug, which cost 19/. It seemed
as much as little as one could do.
I think it is a good thing for her,
& all his family seem to like it.
the daughter - Mary Davies - included.

I am glad that poor Miss Giblin
lived to see - or rather hear, of Connie
being settled. Poor soul, the younger
girls were always so much on her
mind, and yet I think they never
half appreciated her worth. She
always seemed to me one of the
most unselfish women I ever knew.
I suppose if she had not worked &
worried so much for other people,
she would not have broken down
as she did. Nature never respects
your motive. Worry & overwork in
the best cause will kill as surely,
perhaps more surely, than worry
about your crimes, or overwork
to heap up money for yourself.

But - in what we don't see,
in the things which are not seen &
which are therefore eternal in their
issues, the motive is the one essential.
It would be a poor look out for
humanity if this were not so.

Dives & Lazarus sums it all up
in a few lines - the reality behind
the outward appearance of
good or bad fortune. Poor Marian
Keblest hold of the reality.

Last mail brought me a letter from
old W. B. Bournick. He is an absurd old
fellow. He says ^{they} ~~we~~ feel quite sorry
your sister has so utterly forsaken &
disregarded us. I am sorry that the
daughter of my first & best colonial
friend should have so neglected us
old folks. She may have richer friends,
but few who regard her as we do.
For goodness sake write to the old
boy. Tell him that Paris is too far
off to allow of your calling on them
often. His address is Barra Barra,
South Vale, Norwood. Don't forget this,
and do it at once. His letter of
Oct 16 reached us Nov 20. Pretty quick,
is it not?

Alfred Dobson has arrived, looking
much the same as ever, perhaps a
little more lively. I met him & his wife
on Friday & spoke to them. I can't
say that they are an attractive pair.
Mr Dobson & his wife are expected on
Thursday, and I hear that Mrs.
Truligh is on her way back. Edmund
Wilson came back ⁱⁿ the same
vessel as the Dobsons. This F. D. L.
business has quite upset him & he
is off his head. He says he has ruined

2. W9/L2/6 (34) 20(3)

all his friends and fanciers that
he has no money & is starving - though
he really eats a large quantity.

Poor fellow, it is a sad business,
but I am afraid that there is an
inherited tendency to melancholy.

His sister Ada is very ill in
Melbourne, & Lady Wilson is staying
there to nurse her. I think I

told you that Mr Maule is back.
He met me the other day & said
he was so sorry he did not see you
in Paris, as he was there at the
same time. You somehow manage
to miss all the Jesuicians.

Dr Gibson has put me on diet
as he says, after sounding me all
over, that my liver is out of order.
That is the last thing I suspected,
although I have felt rather pumped
out & seedy for some time, perspiring
at the slightest exertion. He says
I must give up butter, fats, eggs,
milk, bacon, sugar, beer &c.
I asked him what I was to eat.
He says if I pay attention to diet

for a time the lives will soon come right, but it is a "ghastly" nuisance. He wants me to go away for a fortnight, but I don't think I can manage it just now.

Probably I shall go on Wednesday to the opening of the Lancashire Exhibition. Lizzie made up her mind to go, & she so seldom goes away that I don't like to disappoint her, though I would really rather not go. The thing is all humbug, & will I suspect be a failure. Liz will stay with Jean, & ought to stay for a while in Lancashire or elsewhere before she comes back. I may very likely take out the rest of the week, going to Sir Gibson's at Bellevue, & to Douglas Park.

We have a fair amount of work in the business, but not of the most profitable sort. I think we have got a full share of the old business, & also a few new clients.

Besides the business I am worried with a beastly lecture into which I have been beguiled, by the united exertions of Morton, Mr Clarke, & Rm Johnston. It is to be given in the Town Hall while the Science Association is here in Launceston & to form part of their programme. It will be worth lantern slides, & will be called 'Old Hobart'; but it is an enormous trouble hunting up the pictures for Nat Oldham to prepare the slides, & is a difficult subject to work up in an interesting way. It wants at least 3 months hunting over old newspapers &c. for the whole I think it much.

If it wasn't for that I would go away for a fortnight, but I cannot give every minute of spare time to the beach thing, & then I shall be hard pressed.

Are you getting materials for the Collins Picture? I fear that

you missed the Naval Exhibition.

Bob is getting better, but the weather has been so changeable that he was not able to get down to business nearly all last week. He had two southerly storms with wet & an interval of one hot day or perhaps two. To day has been beautiful. Ursula & Bernard were up to day. Ursula is very quiet. It is very pleasant to see her period of quarantine finished & to see her going about without that wretched cap. Ridley looks rather than worse. They have been so short handed at the office through influenza. Old Mrs. Pratt is getting round again. I saw her one day last week. She looked very pale & frail, but it is really a wonderful recovery.

The little mother is as usual. She & Buttons send their dear love, & so do all the others. Sam began a letter but was not able to finish. Mrs Holmes is still here & enjoying

3

herself greatly in a quiet way. She & Sam & Isa were to leave gone up to the Bower on Friday to stay over Sunday, but it was so pouring wet they had to postpone their visit until next Friday.

Did I tell you that Anna Mather is in Melbourne? She is of course staying with Emma. I understand Hillie Benson has lost money in the land boom, or in the depression resulting from it. It is not however enough to really cripple him. There are lots of failures just now all over the colonies, & here the VWh affairs are turning out badly & it is feared there will be a heavy call on the shareholders. This will be bad for the poor Clarkes.

Your letter which came on Friday, dated Clapham, ended very abruptly, and in spite of your promise to finish your story of your adventures from France to London in your next letter,

of the story. Much love - take care of yourself - Don't overwork
a worry, which are both waste of time - And bless you.

I am not too sanguine as to hope
you will really give us the conclusion.

We are anxious to hear about
your Paris work, who are your
chums, & how you are lodged
& looked after. Unless you have
some girls with you that will
look after you, we shall be
fidgetting. Mind & take care
of yourself. Paris is not London,
& we should not like you to be
there practically by yourself.

Have you yet posted us the
promised sketches? We are
anxiously looking for some.

Buttons has just come down
to say that she can't possibly
finish her letter. I am sorry
that you are put off with this
scrawl.

Kindest regards to Mrs Man
& the Tasmanians. We heard a
little about you from Kitty Marshall's
letter to some of the people here
which supplemented your fragment -
a good fragment - but still a fragment
in that it stopped short in the middle