Nobast, 7 Aug. 1872
Sunday evening.

My dear old Bird,
Wednesday brought a letter from you, which let us know you were well and still at Harrocks. The letter mother told me to be sure and tell you that she was very much interested, very much interested. She repeated, in your letter, about her English Cousins. You can't please her more than by sending her news of these cousins and friends, except perhaps, by giving details about yourself and your doings. We can quite understand how the news of mothers illness must have disturbed you. Of course it was best to let you know everything we could. She seems now to be going as well, though of course one can't tell when there may be a fresh development. Buryfield seemed to think that she would probably improve as the weather
got wilder. of course, come on.

and although we have had some pretty

sharp frosts, the weather on the

whole has been good, and the

cold has not upset her. she has

had no serious return of the pain.

which was so exhausting. the

great thing, or at least, the only

ingoreful nursing—care of food,

and care not to let her overtax herself.

she is pretty generally able to sit

up in her chair, in afternoon, of

evening, and read, and so long

as she can do this. she is contented

and happy.

she has received letters from old

mr. bowker about you. he thought

you were looking well. this, and

thinks it is no wonder, considereing

what fresh food must be. indeed

he seems to have been great.

concerned about you. to have

strongly impressed the healthful atmosphere

of england, of especially of english

ways and society, over the very
Doubtful condition of things in France & especially in Paris, as a reason why you should stay in England. I trust, venture into this poisonous French atmosphere. We certainly saw the true John Bull prejudice against "they nasty French".

I don't seem to have much to say. I, and it probably does not matter as the whole family is visiting. Even Douglas has added his contribution to a very good Bishop letter. I like his practical reflections.

By the way, Hughes gave me a much more cheerful view of your condition than Brandwick. If possible you could go over to Ireland for a week or so. Perhaps you might find it feasible. You would find them very nice I suspect. They are all well off. Whether you would get much benefit of the state of Ireland generally by going to Ulster. To Belfast, the only prosperous place in the country, is a little doubtful but it might help. Hughes letter was funny, just a collection of disjointed bits of news. He doesn't talk in a literary style. How Douglas does, after his letter, though he never reads, and Hughes does, you see the middle.

Shea Douglas speaks of the big steamers. This is the reservations, a new plant for the W & I Co. She carries an enormous cargo. Probably, Shea has to go, I think that Mary Atkins come in to say that there were two letters from Walker among the masses. I had to figure out that you could get possibly have come in by (unless you had left before your last letter) before I could come down their agreement.

Please send Douglas in for a couple hours, talking aboutology, metaphysics, and poetry. He always alters him as a way, unless he is too tired of trying to talk well, which is a little irritating.

It has just struck midnight, so I had better close, especially as if we are another 5 to pay. Think you have enough this time in your letters. I am looking forward to your visit. He always was.