

Margravine of Cornhill  
London June

Dear William —

I have two letters from you to acknowledge — the latest date May 19<sup>t</sup>. In regard to the invitation from Mr Martineau it would have been better to have provided for him, if possible, at his house Viph R., whose plans are so uncertain, to be provided for at the last if he can be at Birmingham; however I think it very probable that he will be able to secure no two rooms & that it will prove all right.

We have got today a short interview

of the reason of our receiving such  
a number of invitations from aristocratic  
circles. A series of receptions, garden  
parties, excursions to Country seats with  
lunches &c have been arranged to be  
given by leading people to the principal  
people connected with Col: Exhibition  
during the month of June, & we have  
been here ever since have had a  
charming time. R. very Murphy is not  
in every case willing to take your  
place. he is however trying trying  
to arrange to take us to three of these  
entertainments before we leave on  
Tuesday — to a garden party at Ken-  
sington tomorrow — to dinner G. Brassey's  
Country house to lunch on Saturday

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to the Countess of Salisburys on  
Monday eve. The latter part of the  
list of entertainments I shall send  
at same time as this - please keep it -  
you need not use me to spend  
your money freely, it goes like the  
wind in spite of all my care. I am  
positively ashamed to tell you that  
I have now drawn £70. since I hope  
that will last throughout June &  
longer. A large portion of that sum  
is represented by clothing for you, my  
self & other members of our family. Also  
less money up to date. London is  
unusually crowded. The hotels are  
converging for bedrooms among  
the private lodgings & the latter have  
raised their prices in accordance

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with the demand. We are paying £3. weekly for two small rooms & half as much more for food in comparison with ~~about the same~~ <sup>about twice</sup> as we are at 95. We are very comfortable & if I knew where you wished to be in London or the dates I would secure them for that time.

I hope the meetings of the Royal Soc: passed off satisfactorily & that you will make a pleasant break in the monotony of George's life. I had a kind short letter from him this week & judge that he has tired himself out with preparations about forwarding things to the E. We visited the E. for the third time last Tuesday & were glad to find the Canadian department greatly improved altho' it will ever bear

Impoverished Companies with  
both the Australian & Indian Depart-  
ments. yesterday evening & having in  
the evening been to the Bank, St. Paul's  
& other business places in that neigh-  
bourhood took lunch & returned  
to Bond St. & repassed & delighted  
ourselves by a long visit to Long's  
Pictures. I think them much finer  
than Holman Hunt's. Amo Komin  
is still on exhibition but some  
of his newer ones are even better.  
In the evg. after dinner we devoted  
ourselves to the homely employment  
of repairing 12 shirts. That is a specie-  
men of a full day, so lucky we are  
to deductary work till lunch time.

Mr. R. is going to take us to see  
Devonshire house wh: with one  
or two bits, is all we have in  
view for the rest of the day.

I hope when you come over that  
you will be careful to avoid  
bringing anything that is not passing  
required & also arranging to have  
all ship clothes & wraps at the  
the Dominion Co's stores where  
we left ours. We intend to rid  
ourselves of our largest trunk by  
taking it with us to Manchester  
& sending it from the railway station  
there to Liverpool to be sent me  
so there on our return to Montreal.  
I have been interrupted by a long

visit  
a person Mrs Mulgan & Mrs Canon  
which obliges me to cut my writing  
sharp off. to avoid missing the  
mail. Give my loving thanks to  
Every for his letter shd you chance  
to be writing. I had hoped to write  
to him at this time but the oppor-  
tunity is gone. Please also to give  
much love to Dr & Dr. I am sorry not  
to write to them also but find this  
impossible. Eva asks me to  
include her when sending any  
hst love to you. Believe me  
ever w b your affectionate wife  
August.