

Keswick 28
Sept 3 1871

Hand just received these 28
Stamps enclosed letters.
Please thank him for the
same he sent -
Gms

My Dear Aunt

Today has been
thoroughly wet, & a wet Sunday is
always unpleasant. I went to
Church in the morning & heard a
Sermon from no less a personage
than Mr. Ryle, known as the
author of Tracts for the times &c &c
The Sermon was very fair but
nothing particular. He speaks loud
but not very distinctly. In fact
his words seem somehow
echoe in his mouth before they get
out.

so become confused. In the
afternoon I fortunately found
a copy of "Kitty Ledwith's Diary"
& so reading that has kept me
out of mischief for the rest
of the day. I am staying now
alone at Mr Wards old
lodgings, & find it a considerable
change to be so much by myself
after being with so many kind
friends in Edinburgh.

The Wards are now settling in
their new house, I can't say
settled as they have not yet
managed to get a servant, but
have to trust to precarious charwomen
& are otherwise in a chaotic state.

The work at present lies up.

Borrowdale. We start by a
cumbria at 9.45 - 8.50 by it
about 3 miles to the Borrowdale Hotel.
From here we walk up Borrowdale
4 or 5 miles to the fount where work
begins. Yesterday we had rather a
cover & more eventful day than usual.
We climbed up by a brook called
unpoetically Sour Gull Gile into
the Coombe in which it takes its
rise. This coombe is walled in
on every side but one by an
amphitheatre of mountains steep &
cliff at their tops. At their feet
their feet - low slopes of debris &
huge masses of fallen rocks.
The bottom of the Coombe is flat &
marshy & the little stream winds
through it. The water is beautifully
clear & in every little pool we saw
small trout rushing about getting under
stones as they caught sight of us.

after working there a while & having lunch, we climbed up one of the sides of the corrie & got to the top summit of a high ridge of mountains. It was very clear & we had a magnificent view. The height was about 2400 feet. Looking down to the East we saw into Borrowdale deep & shut in by mountains & the fields lying flat & green along the river. Further away the range of which Helvellyn formed part appeared overlooking the tops of several mountain ridges & closing the horizon. More to the North the Pennine hills forming the backbone of England were clearly visible through a broad gap. Northward Saddleback & Skiddaw stood bold & clear. Further west in a long narrow valley lay Buttermere & Crummock water.

Shining like mirrors, & separated
from each other by a flat alluvial
strip of land. Following this valley
you could see it widening out into the
plain. Beyond that the Solway Firth shined
on the very horizon the Scottish hills
of its further shore. The sea was
visible through two over-gaps in the
mountains one nearly west &
looking up the valley in which the loch
lake of Ennedale lies. The other a notch
with its bold cliffs of Great Gables
at one side showed a part of the
coast which must have been near
the mouth of Morecombe Bay. Beyond
The sun was pretty low & the colouring
of the landscape splendid. The mountains
full of deep indigo shadows & purple
lights. One might have looked all
day, but we had not time
to spare & so had to hurry on.

MICHAEL SMITH
ARCH.
ACC. NO. 10.10.11
1872

Spencer Bauman says in her last
letter about your coming to London that
Study fainting is anything more
than a joke, of course I need not
say how delighted I would be. I do
not know what arrangements
would be proposed. I feel bound to
go back to Mrs. West for at least
the first three months, & of course a
Student's boarding house is not a place
for you to come to, of indeed which is
not likely there would be any room. The
cheapest & best way where there are
more than one person is to Lodge
merely paying so much per week for
Rooms & attendance, & keeping yourself as
you like.

Goodbye for the present.

I hope my descriptive letter will not
bore you. Believe me yours

George