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4 Egerton Road, Fallowfield  
Manchester. Oct 18<sup>th</sup> 1883

My dearest Anna

I fear we have not how  
missed a letter of yours. As Will men-  
tioned that you had had one from  
George, which you were going to enclose &  
I cannot <sup>not</sup> ask you to write long but  
but I miss hearing from you so  
much, even altho' you have replaced  
this week's one by beautiful photos of  
Edith & Clara. The larger heads are extreme-  
ly pretty & both sets have been greatly  
all mine. W. W. likening them to some  
of Raphael's pictures. They look like great  
black-eyed children - in the one Clara  
is most inquisitive in the other most sweet.  
Thank you very much for them. It will  
be quite a pleasure to show them. I also  
received the Shakers that you mentioned  
the evening before. I hope I have previously

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then keep your feet your own photo. which  
is only so-so. I fear however that I did  
not say I had got the inclusion of  
a piece of your silk dress. I am glad  
you saw it early as we can think or  
talk about where is most suitable to  
go with it as the pass on. I like to  
believe because we like them in large  
patterns - stripes are nice but more  
squares are at their highest. I don't like,  
if we have money left when we  
return to England, to bring both you  
& Florence a really made dress. No  
doubt they will require attention but not  
do much work as making. Unfortunately  
July & August - January & February are  
the best months I we are not likely  
to have at the date. It will be so much  
better & easier for me if you will quite  
frankly say what you would prefer & I will  
aim at coming near it. Don't you think  
black silk or some combination of that kind  
of thing will be best for it? I mean silk or because

per fare, also, but trust to go MAY 11 1880  
NEW YORK to give  
 me as to Colours &c. L'pool shops are  
 very good - better than Manchester & perhaps  
 it may be easier for us to shop there -  
 altho' I already find that shopping is just  
 as tiring here as at home. Both Em & I  
 made ourselves look like fighters with  
 the fatigue we had in L'pool. The  
 crossing of the ferry. The drive there - the  
 finding the right tram-car - hurrying  
 back to meet some other engagement,  
 when we had only begun to get some  
 of a long list of things was dreadful.  
 I want to see what the "Civil Service  
 Store" have in London & whether  
 Mrs. R. may offer to go with us &  
 then decide which place is best. We  
 must keep down our baggage & so  
 make cachis at these two centers, cal-  
 culating whether the advantages at  
 London will cover the carriage  
 to L'pool. We have also foreign places  
 & this means to keep us but luggage

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is such a business that unless paper  
finds specimens that he is going to  
ship from some part the shells here  
to compare our purchases to silver  
gold & precious stones & are prices  
won't compare much in such cases.  
In a letter rec<sup>d</sup> from H. she tells me she is  
going to get Joan. There seems as good as  
can be. Ellen really was very thoughtful  
so Joan returning to her former mistress  
by & by? or is there hope of her remaining  
with H. more permanently? We are so much  
in the dark about our return & how we  
shall manage about the summer as paper will have  
to be most of the time preparing for the voyage that  
it is most difficult to come to any decision: even  
in January it will still be a difficulty so I  
am greatly tempted to ask Will to finish the  
plan of outside improvements for the Cottage  
or get an estimate from Legg at 1/2 of reasonable  
to say so or with it. In any case this wd in-  
crease the value of the property & make it  
a far greater pleasure to me. I laid aside the  
intent to do this & I may as well refer to it. What  
do you think? here I shall not wait any

in one year - but that gives  
 us time. So as I write I feel more  
 cheerful - & if only I remain here  
 in my bedroom for a while how  
 I shall try to write to Will about  
 it. (I have been here all the night & Mrs.  
 W. is so distressed that but I shall be  
 cold that she has but a few  
 kind words. I have written to P. & R. &  
 as I cannot enter upon passing  
 details in this to you I will enclose  
 parts that shall you think it worth  
 while to go through read them before  
 receiving. How curious is my mind  
 the dread of Mrs Will how will she  
 receive my soliciting part  
 of her husband upon this. I  
 asked him before hand to do me the  
 favour of preparing a plan & I know  
 he travelled round for the mountain  
 mts. from wh: he made a sketch  
 of the distance of pillars & but not a working  
 plan such as Mr. Liggat would require

I left that in his Cupboard, below his  
 books in his old room. Would you  
 excuse the way you say request?  
 Now for another thing wh: my son  
 to write. Mrs Williamson wishes to  
 come to Canada next August. Her  
 husband is on the fence. He is much  
 older than she & fears the sea may reduce  
 his strength. but the great & aweful difficulty  
 is what to do with their precious Herbert.  
 In an unguarded moment I said I  
 suggested to him how I have tried  
 to take they went on to the Rockies to his Com  
 pany to Eric. He caught at this having  
 previously heard so much of Eric. She thought they  
 wd be so long. It is a remarkable boy - instantly  
 obedient without effort obedient - very kind, ever  
 innocuous, loving & true. He has been 4  
 years at a Kindergarten & knows a little about  
 things but has no particular bent unless  
 hot air more to be. but as I hear by saying  
 it may come to nothing. So I must not burden  
 myself with fears of better either to you or  
 myself. So once again good bye. With  
 my kind love to Bernard & the children.  
 your loving Mother