

7 GREAT STUART STREET,
EDINBURGH.

March. 28. 1900

Always your
true friend
Sybil

My very dear Anna

I call a truce, just
at the outside & beg to be forgiven,
having no satisfactory reason to
give for my disgraceful silence.
Unless you consider an "unwritable"
mood, to be such. I have often
debated this point, whether it is
better to write a very dull
tiresome letter & so pay one's
debts in bad money, or to
wait until the true mood comes.
I've never settled it yet.

But thoughts many fly across to
you often & to dear Clare. I do
hope she is strong & well, as she

that will be all right. With much love to yourself dear

on business, those to Papa, unless on rare occasions, were all that, for he was say to me, he had a letter about so & always read some, whatever was of a friendly or personal nature -

Dear, dear Father - Alas you & I have had such a few can look back on, & you, though married, practically never left him - I must tell you about my class, wh^{ch} interests me so very much -

About 45 present & many only coming every 2nd Sunday, being servants. Is it true in Canada, that on their Sunday out, many servants don't know any one that they can go to? My class is at the Y. W. C. A. Rooms. I begin at a 4th to 5 o'clock. at 4 there is tea in a large side-room & any one may come to it. I go, so as to speak to the girls & several of them told me it was such a boon to have a place to go to. They need not come into the

is sweet & attractive - we often talk
of her - First let me say, I am so
sorry that I have no letters, my
Father did not keep letters, & I
dont think I received more than
one from your dear Father, I
remember that was, when my
dear one began to be ill - it was
only a few lines -

I've have just been re-reading your
dear last letter - all that a letter
ought to be, & so often is not, talking
out one's heart to one's friend -

I do most heartily sympathize in
your anxiety about George & Rankin,
especially the latter & I dont know
that I have anything to say, except
that faith & prayer must prevail,
& that dear Sir William's beautiful
simple, kind true life, behind
all he said & did must tell -

I think over here, I see a wider kind of
Religion wh. suits people like George, taking

in all things & not condemning any thing
but sin. What do you think of a Sunday
Evening class in a Free Church, after
the ordinary service, on the religious
poetry of Rudyard Kipling!

Well I wish you had been there to
hear Mr. Kelman give it, & to see
the young men, drinking in his
delightful teaching - I can't repeat it;
but one thing I realise, what a great
thing it was to seek out in an author
the good from his standpoint, instead
of condemning - That is, if the author
is worthy of study -

Do you like Matthew Arnold? I have
been reading some of his essays &
enjoying them so much - in "Culture
& Anarchy" - I heard a lecture on
him lately -

Who writes your Father's life, letting
people's own letters tell the story
seems to be the best way, if possible -
But I can quite fancy that Sir William
was too busy, to write many letters, except

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Class, unless they like; but they are almost sure to do so, & so one gets bored of a set, who might not think of attending such a class. They seem so friendless, & many have gladly responded to my invitation to come & see me, if I could help them in any way, saying there was no one whose advice they could ask. Some told me, they used to walk about the St. on Sunday afternoons, rather than confess that they had no friends. Doesn't it seem forlorn - I think there is more distance between servant & mistress over here, than at home -

she cant take her, because her mother
became insane & the Gov. is strict on
that point. This lady, who is interested
in, is most anxious to send her out
of this country, because her sister
is a thoroughly bad woman & wants
to get Katie to live with her.

The Mr. Firth who writes, has had
Katie for years, she always
takes 2 girls & trains them, as
her contribution to life.

Do you think she could go out
privately - w^d such a girl find
a place. ask Miss Tenn - it seems
to me as if she w^d need some base
^{like a girls home, or even as mentioned.}
but Miss Thompson, is so anxious
about her, & speaks so highly of her,
I offered to ask a friend, when
our negotiations with Mr. Wallace
failed - Give my dear Clare very much
love from me, I owe her a letter & will
write some day, I keep a big place in my heart
for her - she also to Lois, I hope she will be as
broad in mind as you & Clare say she is in body