

Before marriage
about 1875

My dearest Bernard,

I wanted to
ask you last-night-whether
you thought Friday was the
best-day for Dr Bell to come - If
you like any other time better
it will be just the same to us.

Anna has marked such a
beautiful verse in the new Bible
Deut. 1. 31 - read it - dear it seems to
gather up all my life in those
few words, & to give such a pre-
cious confidence that God's love
all the way, in the past, will be
all the way in the future -

Did I see you love, when I
said that, about liking to be with
you next-best to being alone - It
was a foolish speech dear, & I am
afraid not quite true either - I
certainly sh^d not like to have my

words come true - I have got
stay away any hour or day that
you ~~at~~ spend with me -

I am afraid I cannot promise
never to say silly things, but you
must not mind them - Because
I love you so really & truly that
nothing we'll grieve me more than
to see you by word or deed -

I enclose the list of the
things that belong to the new
establishment, that mamma
paid for - & the text I want
you to have engraved in that
ring, I will tell you some day
why I want that one so par-
ticularly -

Your ever
Anne

Monday