

Notes

Tuesday 11.

My dear dearest -

At last I begin to come to life again, & wake up, though this mornning showed the same grey sky, & wandering mist. Such a sudden change always makes me feel intensely stupid - As you see I have written every day but to send you a letter I fear I cannot, for the mess leaves at a different time every day, & w^d need a commanding intellect to understand all its intricacies, so all I can do is to write, & post it when I can.

Yesterday - Eva thought such foggy weather needed some diversion so asked the two Selwyns, the two Darys & Major to come over after tea & shake toffee - Sucre à la Crème they tried, & some of it - was quite a success, but such a noise the

made they had dumb proverbs
they played on 5 Jew's harps, or
rather, Rankine played, & the
others tried to, with various
measures of want of success.
Then finally Rankine & Freddy
tried that ridiculous cock-
fighting, & we all laughed till
we sd laugh no more at the
absurd sight - Altogether it
was a jolly evening, though it
w^d have been much more so
if "my B" - c^d have been with us.

And now oh Bernard, you
never w^d have had the conscience
to marry me, if you c^d have fore-
seen what I w^d be subjected to
in consequence - Here has Mrs. Higgins
just asked me to tea, to meet
old Mrs. Redpath, & Mrs. Walker.
Picture it? Think of it? I told her
it was too sudden a plunge into
the society of old matrons; that
w^d come after tea, when some
more youthful guests were ex-
pected.

Eva & I as usual took a
morning walk, & then we went

out in the boat wh. is a very
light & nice one & rowed first
to the Point & then out to see
how papa progressed with his
dredging. This proved a long
pull & we did not get back
till after 2 P. when stewed
lamb, & some of our beans
seemed uncommonly good.
The cars are on piers, & are light
& well-arranged. I rowed
part of the way, & found the
experience of Lake George very
useful. The greatest trouble
is the carrying up of the boat
to the boat-house - Kempe, ^{son}
& I tried it, but it was too
much for me, & I struck after
a few yards. Such a weight,
when one's feet are stumbling
over boulders, is rather severe.
After dinner & a nap - (for
still I can sleep pretty well) -
we went to bathe & the gleam
of sunshine we had had, ever
gone & cold & grey, had returned;
however - we donned our
bathing attire, & went down the

beach in view of an admiring audience, Hankin was just going off in the boat. So he took me & I out into deep water, I tumbled in & swam to shore with what speed I could for the water was freezing.

Cecil Selwyn leaves us tomorrow & then our party will be quite a small one - You will be pleased to learn that mamma daily receives a large jug of cream, so you will have a strong inducement to hurry here. We have had delicious strawberries but the wet weather has deprived us of them lately.

Miss Linnar has been ill, I went to see her & to my surprise found her quite good-looking. She was in bed & divested of her ridiculous coiffure & her own pretty hair about her face she was more nearly pretty than I could have thought possible.

They all like my large picture of Lake George. I was working on it yesterday, but must hurry if it's

to fulfil the mission I had des-^{2.}
tined for it.

The sky effects here are not half
as fine as what we had at Rome,
everyone asks me what news I have
of you! which is trying, when I
know I can scarcely hope to hear
till to-morrow at soonest. Fear
my patience will give out if the
post does not bring me word
it seems so very long. My own dear
Bernard, since I had word as
token of you - nothing left of my
marriage but my ring, & my
new name, wh. I wish they wd
not call me, for it reminded me
of how far away, my dear
husband is.

Wednesday -

The Major's party proved quite a
large one, & a little singing was tried
though as no one seemed to be ac-
quainted with ^{all} the words of any
song, the music was somewhat
fitful, beginning bravely with
verse no. 1 & dying away at no. 2.
or at furthest at the beginning of
no. 3. - And oh! how dark the scene

was coming home. It was literally
stumbling over "the stones of darkness"
& it is so cold - It requires all
one's resolution to undress & go to
bed. I again a great effort to
face the cold floors & chilly air
in the mornings - Eva & I groan
about it, & fight for the quilt,
which is made of some stumpy
material, & refuses to stay in
its place, going all to one side
or the other. The said evan-
young lady says I am like
Amelia in *Valley Fair* who wrote
so many letters to her George, that
he was forced to light his pipe
with them, as he could read no more.

Which makes me stop & sustain
a fitting thought on the many
"fond Amelias", who have no faith
either in their husbands or their
love. Ah beloved, how little
anything matters, while we can
love each other, & trust each other
whether we are together or separ-
ated. You can scarcely know how
it is more than life, to me to be
able to believe in you, so entirely

as I do.

This morning Eva & I went up to the Post, got several letters for papa, & then the girl said - "There was one for Mrs Harrington -" "Where is it?" I naturally inquired "I don't know, some one must have taken it with theirs" she answered. So disconsolate, I had to depart. But, after a walk up the road I found the thing had returned my letter, I oh how glad I was to have the distance bridged over with words - I shall not mind being so much away that I can hear from you - It is a great relief to me to know that the weather is cooler, I wish that I could have seen you really forth in white - Did you manage to put the fuggery on according to orders - Bring it down here with you, it will be useful.

I shall hope to hear more of your plans soon, & to have some definite point of hope as to when I shall see you again. I almost wish I had gone with

you, it seems such a bad beginning
to separate so soon, but I honestly
thought that I sh^d be in y^r due
way - & that this was the best
arrangement -

I have begun the best of
the Netherlands & find it
fascinating - Cecil left us
this morning - & the sun has
reappeared, so I shall look
forward to being warm
again in a day or two -

I wish I wrote a
greater hand but - somehow
the pen will scrawl - I in-
deed the letter is already long
but I must - thank you dear
for writing so soon, & for all
your loving words -

All here send kind greetings
And your wife sends you
a whole heart, full of love
& loving thoughts -
Your Anna

I am sure you will write as often
as you can - Do you intend me to
direct my letters to your lodgings if you do
not say -