

To George for his
Cousin Ella.

Acc. 976
Ivy Lodge.
Trinity. 24-5-85.

My dearest George,

As our letters have
crossed one another, I shall
answer yours of yesterday, at
once, in case we should wait
too long; each expecting the
other to write first.

You were a kind boy to write
again: It was more than I
deserved; still, I dare say you
would feel yourself repaid,
if you knew the pleasure
your letter gave me. -
You must not think you are
too far away to be of any
"comfort". Distance, held nothing
whatever to do with it. -

Of course, there are a great many
merely conventional words spoken
when a great sorrow comes
into one's life; these, always
seem to me more an intrusion
than a comfort. But sympathy
from you, George, - whom I
both love, & know to be true,
had been far more precious to
me, than, I daresay, you would
believe. - yes, the old home
is entirely broken up; most of
the furniture is sold now, as
well as the house. Mully had
retained a little for her own
use; we have, all of us, had
a few things bought back for
us, which we didn't wish to
go into the possession of
strangers. I have not heard yet
what the sale realized. Mully,

is staying in the meantime at
Maggie's. I think, as married. I
don't know what plans they
mean to follow; they do not
seem to know themselves yet;
but they are not likely to take
up house together. —

I shall be so glad to get a
photo of you, as I don't like
your last, nearly so well as
the old smiling one. The last
was graver than I ever remember
to have seen you. I know just
the expression I should like you
to have, but can scarcely hope
the operator will be fortunate
enough to catch the particular
look. I must close for. I should
like to have one taken soon,
but always feel it such an ordeal.
I mean to try get a good one

of July one of these days.
which of course I shall send
you one of, if successful. —
This wee bit, seems hardly
worth sending, but we have
a young fellow staying with
us, who keeps asking me
every few seconds, whether
I am not at a convenient
place for signing my name;
now, Mr. Hayben has just
come in, so I shall say
Bien vous benisse for the
present. —

Ever dearest George
your loving Cousin
Ellen.

