

Letters by or to Fanny Nightingale

Publication/Creation

1854

Persistent URL

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it will be a troublesome
job to you pray put it
by if so - Mr sent 2nd pair
Gowns home to me in
such a tumbled state
condition the last time
I employed her that
I now wore them but
gave them away -

March 22nd
I examined my old
Bonnets yesterday &
found nothing that
would do; so I send
a Gown which if the
poor Knabots like to
transmogrify, they may.
I like the shape & make
& work & colour. but
the weight & the
material makes the
Gown unwearable -
will Henriette Dugac
Weston 12 or 15 yrs of
aged silk at 4/6
& exactly the colour

a few days longer
but you have had
great fatigue ^{fatigue} & I do
hope you have no
midnight meetings
in your room. I pray the
go to bed in decent
time & sleep & in
peace - I hope you
have written to Horace
you see what she says
about writing to the
poets to forward her
letters and those Mr
W. C. D.

Private & Confidential
At last the enclosed
is come & a charming
letter it is, & a great
relief to receive it
after her long silence.
I do not think that
she would like it to
go beyond ourselves
read it first & see.
Your Papa is anxious
to have the Martins
the end of the week

of the ^{trimming} ~~trimming~~ ^{that make}
I will they ^{(if they}
have the patience.
to unpick the pattern
gown & make ^{one} ~~one~~
^{without any lining in the skirt}
a gown ^{exactly} like
the pattern & put
the trimming on too
exactly like the
pattern - it would
not be difficult to
patient people but
if they object or say
any difficulty, please
have it put up in
the box again ^{tell I send}
for it -

I am rigging out Eliza
Tanne to go to the
hospital at Forquay
& shall give her
the dismantled gown
when returned, ^{to me} with
the other - & when
we have cooked it ^{here}
into a decent gown
with close sleeves fit
for a consumptive
patient -
I may find them some
dirty Caps to make
up if they do this;
well - I like to do it
but as I do not want the
gown just now, & as I fear

that he may
make a shooting
Party for him so
we hope that they
will come Thursday
or Friday & the
Nicholsons with them
but he has written
to Mr H. to whom
will arrange it -
what a jolly party

they then at, no
mention of Thompson
or of any other eno-
to Waverley, or of
the Somerville party
from Mrs I you might
^{have} got some good intro-
ductions for Florence.
As you do not come
for the Mills we
are in no hurry dear
Charles & I don't say
you will like to stay

Surely dear Child that
 dear old Bella donna
 has upinted itself &
 is doing now what
 it was told to do or
 how could she write
 in that vigorous way.
 many thanks for sending
 it - Freddy's (aka
 & Sam are packed &
 ready but you have
 not sent me the
 direction I asked for
 & I do not like to
 send such a precious
 freight to wander

about Harrow amongst
the Philistines —
I have much to say
but they call for my
letter even thus
M

There are flowers
scarlet Rhododendron
&c in Houness box
for you

Saturday morning

It is indeed dearest Child
a great comfort to hear
that Dr Williams has
taken the decision into
his own hands - & that
You & Sir Harris have
consented to the arrange-
ment, which I truly trust
& I hope you & I will
think the best - when I
think of the fearful cough
which followed upon
all the exertion of last
Summer, I shudder & wonder
which no doubt would have

had similar results. So
let us rest & be thankful.
we shall be delighted
to see you dearest
Child whenever you
come & Sir Harry when
he can give himself any
rest here. & Faddy too.
but what a contrast
will our green leaves &
singing birds be to the
exciting life of London.
type Ph Surace will
be an intermediate step
which will prepare

we must thank God that
 her bitter trial is over
 & that she is gone from
 what was become a
 world of woe to her.
 I shall write to Mrs. Stone
 immediately. I think she
 will be sadly upset
 at losing the companion
 of her whole life, altho'
 virtually she has been gone
 this year or more.
 ever your affectionate Mother
 Tuesday. M

Dear Child / as dear
 friends must part at
 some period or other &
 as we have warned you
 already of this sad
 truth, I hope you are
 prepared for the fatal
 event which is to take
 place on Monday -
 we leave Winchester
 on Monday next by

do not wait for Florence
 Maule can return
 for her. Major is
 all pride in the Rob
 house show for you
 not that there is any
 thing to be proud of
 but a fine healthy
 leaver. Kind regards
 to your Mother
 ever yours M

Dear Child / I was so anxious
 to know how your poor
 wandering Correspondent
 was getting on that I
 have ventured to open
 the enclosed. the account
 is bad enough, she is
 either really deceived or

the train which leaves
Southampton at one
o'clock so we shall
expect to find you
bag & baggage at
Farnbro' accordingly.
Pray do not leave any
thing behind, ~~and~~ for
you & Florence join us
in the carriage of parcels
& bring that nice little

square wooden box
which we sent you the
other day. So dear old
Mrs Margant is gone
at last. She was one
of the olden times ^{vigorous}
alike in mind & body.
We shall not look upon
her like again. We
have had many a pleasant
hour together which
many a fern & beautiful
view in Derbyshire will
often bring to mind; but

determined to be so. ~~and~~
either case is bad enough
the wiser thinks that
no one knows any thing
of the affair so be careful
how you mention it.
So dear Child Florence says
tell Monday with Miss
Dutton & then there
is the visit to Richmond

& you I think will be
ready to come home long
before she will, unless
she appoints Mrs Brew-
bridge to meet her must
wish upon her return
from Bath with Arthur
Mills. at any time
therefore that you feel
inclined to return take
mantle & sit off, I

have 2 of the Wearies
I will send them with
the other things on

^{also more of}
warming - Lascarte you
Sparza Woe ch'entails.
So I decided only withdrawing
the envious prophecy
concerning William -
I have a sad broken hearted
letter from James there. I fear
that Williams experience
would not be encouraging
to her. Your Aunt Forster
writes word that she has been
looking out for a pleasant
home just to "step over"
to Emily but that Alf has

too thick, can scarcely
get you washed & starched
in time to give a clean
impression. have you
not a beautiful blue
glass for best?

The flower seeds are come
& are in the ground since
the rain is incessant for
~~days~~
but we have enjoyed 2
or 3 beautiful days
& I have strolled through
the great lawn upon such a
carpet of Wood Anemones Violets
& Primroses the high wind making
more above in the tall firs while
all below was still. I thought
of your former birthdays then

My very warm regards from
Henry & myself to you & your
dear children. W.D.G.

Your pleasant picture
of your quiet proceeding
(for I do not associate
too much excitement
with 5 o'clock dinners
& going to bed in pajamas)
was very welcome to
old Daddy & Mamma
sitting vis a vis with
the coffee pot between us.
Your Paper gives ample
room to both for any.

been confined to the house
for a week with Cough &
Cold. next Saturday
possibly they may come -
what a nice letter from
Papa write to him by
all means & don't forget
if you have not done it
already to make your
arrangements for return
improvement a long time
ago. but you have not
seen him since we have
the

you did not return the
Parker Bill for the Borne
Is the enclosed unpaid?
Mr Biddecome sends this
Blue Paper & says the
jewels are beautiful
will you like to have
them. Thank Mamma
for her good intentions
but nothing came of them
have you 5 Pocketknives
of mine Charlotte asks
she cannot find 5. we

digressions you may choose
to commit thinking that
you are both well
provided for, for the
present, & are not in-
clined to be wild for
the future. Should you
feel the least inclined
to stay till Wednesday
or rather Thursday for
I think you will scarcely
be up to travelling
home the day after

the Ball, may do -
I should like Mamma
to go on Saturday
to Combe & your
night then journey
home together bringing
Helen Richardson
who can be put off
from the 25th to the
23rd. I am sorry to hear
that you are so busy
seeing that Miss Thompson
2 Mount Row Davis R
wonderful wash & clear
tailor

Dear Sir

Will you be able to find time to answer
to grant a Committee!
friends of the Emperor
& myself & hope you
to sit upon subjects
for the Prussian Exhibition
he came & that made
a catalogue of what he
is to have - he is delighted
with the situation & says
Humboldt goes with the
Queen of the Exhibition from
one wing to another.

I must give her a gate for
my foot stuck upon the
top bar of the stile & Peter
was obliged to unhorse
it before I could cross. I
mention it to show the
impossibility of mounting
your stairs - or any ones
till I have made further
advance - Your St James
Place lodging, ground floor
is very tempting; quiet
& convenient in every way
but then you will be out
of town in June - please
ask what the price would
be in June or July. if I am

Embley 13th
Again my dear I have
to thank you kindly
for much interest &c
my recollections — you do
indeed keep me company.
You are seeing a number
of interesting people &
I hope have strength
enough to enjoy them
but I am not quite
sure. Death is very busy
with us of the average
of 9 per annum in our
two parishes, 2 are dead
in the last fortnight —

Obliged to stop in London
for 3 or 4 weeks for the
sake of ^{a course of} Electricity &
to take a ride round
the Int^l Exhibition in
a garden chair (if allowed
as in 51). but I do not
suppose they would make
an engagement for so
long to come — dear
good Mrs Wacebudge
the Comforter; whether
as to Emily, or Florence
or the lodging in St
James's place! I am

so glad that her journey
has answered & that she
is better. What should
we do without her? ^{if}
if she should come to
Manor House I hope she
will take pity upon us,
tell her please —
We have delicious weather
rain & frost occasionally
but sweet summer
days & bright sunshone
often — & yet much
illness. they call for
my letter they love my ^{little} ^{flowers}
will you trust your father
with the Silver Owl for

Indigro at Owen Lodge
leaving the widow very
sorrow & the bell will
soon toll for Remmell's
wife at the Fourth Lodge
of which he came to tell
us at 5 o'clock this morning.
poor fellow he has been
a good husband to her
unfortunately the most
miserable baby is not yet
gone — I am very glad
to be here my dear George
yet walk up stairs but
I call upon the people &

some of them come into the
Carnage. & to Widow Humm
& Sally Noice I have got out.
the latter was full of your
visits, your singing es-
pecially seems to have
carried her to the 3^d heaven
"He's a good man Sir Harry
& I am so glad that Miss
has got 'un" — without
conclusion she has been an
extraordinary woman
what would she have
been with it? good &
clear as she is — Sophy
Bellance's daughter is on her
good behaviour again. I think

Dearest Childer I forgot
to say that by all
means we hope you
will bring Alfred Curre
& his Gun. if he has
one. I have written
to ask your Al Joanne
& Hilary to come on
Sunday & stay on. There
are so many people coming
whom your Al Joanne

return them. The Cardshooks
£2. 10. 0 are much more
in my way, & would be
very useful here; the
Despatch from Brooks
is come. & is it a
letter from Wicks -
a Despatch for Mrs
Flood would be a very
useful present without
but you are spending
at a great rate
ever yours
M

Dearest Childer

Your Pa says that
if you go to Wexley
you had better stay
till Wednesday as
one night will be
a great hurry & fatigue.
So go & welcome. we
have had a pleasant
Sunday & you need not

should like to see & so many who would like to see her. The East Martins, Parker, & Mr. Ly Doyley, perhaps some of the Fowles put them selves off till Monday which I am sorry for. I did not send the £5 to him if he approves. I ask him how that would be. I enclose the £5 for you to forward to him if he approves. in haste ever yours

Dear for Monday & Tuesday for we both enjoy the novelty of a Potentate. We are rejoiced to hear such improved accounts of Mr. Duckworth & Lady Colman pray remember me very affectionately to her. I have written to Mrs. Jas Martin who long ago mentioned the 25th or 6th, & has not written since, that we are engaged to dine out on the 25th (at Middelburg) but that after that day they may come at their own time. I have also told her that the Nicholsons are engaged till the 29th when if convenient to them I hope they will meet here so I hope you will join the Nicholsons for that day. if you do I will write to Lady Doyley to come on the 29th too. Those are pretty near the price marked & must

more after the end of June
which would allow us to
postpone our visit till
October - if nothing fears
is to be had now
kind love to Sir Harry
they loving Mother
your Father with which
the Lady Muriel of
the Revue des dees -
is bought or hired
from Koshkarnes

MS 9043/6
Tuesday, 18th

We were very glad dearest
Child to hear of you from
Chesham. It is comparatively
quiet & comfort. I was
glad to think of your most
enjoyable visit to Bagshot
& Windsor. but the hilly
burley of London. both
for you & Florence. one
can hardly think you can
either of you survive it -
the weather here is cold &
rainy to me rather refreshing
but I fear not to you
Ash's school has been
up to see the most splendid
show of Rhododendrons in

ever had. eviate the situation
these solitary regions -
I am making use of
a small addition of
strength to call upon &
on 3 neighbours. The Stanley
received me with open
arms, so dear Lady
Will who was reported
to be en prison. I will
you tell Mr Nightingale
who has I hear been
enquiring about my
policies that I am as
staunch a whig as ever.
the only fault I can
find with Mr Curzon
for he is almost a
perfect man. is that he
is a Tory but I tell him

I shall bring him round by
degrees. I should think
that D Patmore's triumph
would convert many -
we read the Times di-
legently & know more
about the International
than most of its visitors
Still if you do hear
of a nice lodging to
be had at the end of
June I think I must
go to it - but don't
trouble yourself to
enquire - the ground
floor in Dover St is
my pattern - I shall
write after it & ask
if they can recommend
any thing like it -
they advertise 4 months

in it about which we cannot
speak gratefully enough.

Her kindness to Edmund & to me
has been & is most excessive, & the
warm way in which she has wel-
comed my relations to Claydon
has touched me beyond measure.

She has spared no exertion & fatigue
to make every body happy, and so I
need not tell you how happy we have
all been, or how much I long to be
her indeed a daughter.

Yours affectionately

Margaret M. Verney.

Claydon House
Bucks

July 18. 1868.

My dear Mr. Nightingale,

Though I have never
seen you I hope you will allow
me to write to you, as Edmund &
I wish to thank you very warmly
for your kind present to us.

Lady Verney told us that we were
to choose whatever we liked best.

and we have got a delightful
souvenir of Malta, a very large
vase in carved stone, with wreaths
of shells & sea weed & dolphins &
Mermen, it is extremely handsome
& looks so well in the hall.

The cases containing that & an
alabaster vase from Florence,
which is Miss Nightingale's present
to us have just arrived, and we

unpacked them yesterday, it was
such an excitement & delight to catch
the different prices gradually emerging
from the straw, quite uninjured
& fitting into their proper places.
We prize it very highly as a remem-
brance of all your kindness.

Lady Verney will have told you
how charmingly the festivities here
have all passed off, nothing could be
better than all the arrangements made,
but what Lady Verney will not
have told you is all her own share

Our English Heroine. Florence Nightingale

Who is she! with gentle tread,
 Watching o'er the dying bed
 Of her brave Country men who moan,
She heeds their cry - she's there alone

Soothing each agony, wound, and pain
 Of those in battle nearly slain:
 Who is this noble one! who goes,
Where danger is! - the Soldier knows.

He'll sound her name in many a tale
The heroine Florence Nightingale;
For it is she who comfort gave
Unto the dying and the brave.

And mercy in her annals gives
The name of Howard which still lives;
And shall not we with pleasure hail
The name of Florence Nightingale!

Yes! noble woman! many a wish
Is uttered for thy happiness:
Oh! may thy health and strength not fail,
Kind-hearted Florence Nightingale.

1854.

Bessie Seaton.