

Letters to various correspondents 1864-1869

Publication/Creation

1864-1869

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are going to leave
home at Whitentide
- if so, whether you
will receive me for
a few weeks or two -
but with the full
expectation that it
may not be convenient
to you then to arrange
this.

Believe me

Dear Madam

Yours gratefully &
sincerely

Florence Nightingale

Miss Mayo

5482/59

6477

115, Park Street, W.

March 24/64

Dear Madam

Pet (the cat) will
come up by rail & day-
whither I shall send
for her. If she comes
in time, she will have
the honor of coming
to your house & night;
if she is late, she shall
be sent on Saturday.
I hope, as Pet does
not require a bed-
room & sleeping-room

to be prepared, the
uncertainty will be
no inconvenience to
you -

My eyes water at
the idea of seeing
the country at the
beautiful time of
Whitewatide in your
beautiful house -
But I am so much
weakened, & business
is at all times so
pressing now, that I

dare not promise
myself the pleasure.
And, therefore, tho'
I feel your very
great kindness in
offering it, yet, as
you probably are
deciding now on
your engagements, I
fear I must decline
it.

Should I, when
Whitewatide is nearer,
I be able to hope
to come, I shall
venture to write &
ask whether you

5482/60/1

Miss M. J. J. J. J.

Hampstead N. VI. 52573

Aug 3/64

My dear Mrs. Chao

It is not want of interest, as I am sure you know, which prevents me from acknowledging at once the arrival of a grand daughter of yours into our world. Which, I do think, is really good news.

May all good attend her & you & her mama
ever yours overflowing
Christiana

52573

5482/60/2



Mr. Chie
Whitfield
Keneford



So when, while all
those are living into
whose hearts these
dates are branded
with a fiery iron,
there can be no a
public Monument such
a mistake, if it is then

Ever yours

J. W.

Had Sir C. Lewis been War
Secretary in 1860, I, for one,
could tell of many a
historical fact which
would not have been.
(Historical, I mean, not
in Fox's sense.) J. W.

5482/61

Hampton, N. W. ⁶⁷⁶⁷
Sept 5/61

My dear Mrs. Child
I have twice seen the
inscription on Sir C. Lewis
statue, reading thus:-
"Secretary of State for War,
from 1860 to 1863."

I thought it was a
mistake of the reporters -
But you may perhaps
who I know the real
dates.

Sidney Herbert died
August 2, 1861. He
resigned about a fortnight
before his death. I

have a letter from
him, dated July 16,
1861. (He was then at
Aps) telling me of his
having put his
resignation in Lord
Palmerston's hands
& of Sir C. Lewis' being
his probable successor.
I have also copy of
a Minute, signed by
him on July 16 as
War Minister. [War
Department boxes
sent to him & Aps
up to July 16, 1861]
Sir C. Lewis was

War Minister from
the end of July 1861
at earliest (indeed
I have seen no Minute
signed by him as
S. of S. for War earlier
than August 1861)
till Easter 1863 when
he died. [He was not
a year & three quarters
in the War Department]

Was it Fox who
said, - "don't read the
history, for that, I know,
is false."

Is it not likely to be

5482/62

has herself written & you
announcing her wish to
return of Mrs. Corster.
But I shall wait two
days, before giving her
Mrs. Corster's note, in
case you may wish to
answer this.

Believe me
ever yours full of
the deepest regard
Florence Nightingale

Hamstead N. W. 67933
Sept 21/62

Dear Miss Thornton
I was a little puzzled
at receiving a note to
Ann Woollett - enclosed
& one from you this
morning - on the ground
that I might be parting
with her.

So far from being
about to part with her,
I retained her for 6
months (from January
till August) this year

in a hotel where I had
nothing for her I do,
because I did not
wish, & she did not
wish, to part. And
it is not a fortnight
since I have reorganized
my tiny household - no
small addition to the
trouble of a very busy
morning - on the very
ground that she wished
I remain with me.

When Mrs. Foster
returned in the spring
of '63(?), I gave Ann Wootte

the option of returning I her.
And again I did so, when
I was compelled to go into
a hotel in January of
this year. Ann Wootte
has uniformly refused
to part with me. She
is a very good girl. I
have twice raised her
wages - once quite recently.
But her desire to remain
with me was her own.

I shall, of course, make
her an arbiter of her
own fate - it would be
very unfair to do otherwise.
And it may be that she

Much I feel for you
the heavy lot it has
pleased God to lay
upon you, & beg to
remain

Yours sincerely
Florence Nightingale

Mrs. Matthew

5482/63

67788 B

11/1/05

35 South Street,
Park Lane,
London. W.

Dear Madam

I merely write one
word, because I cannot
bear that you should
think yours of the late
unnoticed by me,
who was proud to
call Surgeon Major Matthew
my friend, & who
know, perhaps better
than any, the extent
of the irreparable loss

you have sustained.

But I am entirely
a prisoner of my bed.
Often, & especially now,
suffering so much
that I cannot even
have my position
altered, so as to have
my bed made, for
28 hours at a time
overwhelmed with
sufferings. This must
excuse my delay in
answering you.

I assure you I did my
very best with this
Patriotic Union & was
deceived a promise
that, if it could be
done, it should be
done.

I will always bear
you in mind.

But I have very
little hope -

I will try again now.

But I anticipate
no farther result,
I will only repeat at
this moment how

5482/64

June 21/65

34 South Street,
Park Lane,
London. W.

Dear Mr. Rawlinson
On Friday (23rd) at
2 p.m., please, to
meet Mr. Ellis here
at luncheon. He
is very glad to be instructed.
Ever yours sincerely
Brightingale

5482/65

67545
June 21/65

34 South Street,
Park Lane,
London. W

Will you meet, at
the General Register
Office, & morrow
Thursday, at 2 p.m.,
Mr. Luthestand & Latt
& other Men, who
are going down to
the Herlesh Hospital
Your Committee Meeting

as the W.B. is sent
off in consequence -

I.W.

Alvina Nightingale

68219

5482/66

Private

June 30/66

34 South Street,
Park Lane,
London. W.

My dear Sir
I was very kind of
you to think of me
as wishing to see
Mr. Suter tomorrow -
I wish I could -
But I am a complete
prisoner from illness,
and have leave my

bed, except I see
some of my business-
familiar people,
which always
incapacitates me
from work for some
time.

We are in all the
business now of winding

up our unfinished
business, which means
leaving it unfinished.
And I am afraid
I could not do any
thing merely for
pleasure, however
great the pleasure
though you say much
Yours sincerely
F. H. H. Gale

5482/67/1

Private

67967

35 South Street,
Park Lane,
London. W.

Dear Madam (as yet)
I have nothing good to
tell you - but I should
like, (if you can give me
an address) to write to
you, merely giving you
an account of the steps
I have taken (as yet)
as it may be some
guide to you for the future)

Yours sincerely
F. Highmore

5482/67/2

67907



Mr. Matthew
Belton Street
Lynn
Norfolk



A
LYNN
JA 12
65

would call upon you
for this purpose, if
you permitted it.
but she will not
be in London till
next week - Oh, I
could find a lady-
friend to ask you
for verbal answer
any day that you
would allow -

Pray pardon a
hopeless invalid, &
permit me to remain

Your faithful servt
Florence Nightingale
The Lady Harriet Conson

5482/68

56136

12 Jan/66

35 South Street,
Park Lane,
London. W.

Madam

A person, named
Emma Nail, who
wishes to enter my
service as maid &
housekeeper (housekeeper,
that is, of my tiny
household) has
referred me to you
& to Lady Wadehouse
for her character.

I am an incurable
& entirely a prisoner to

my bed. No duties of
a lady's maid are
required. But
constant waiting
upon me, & constant
surveillance of my
small household, are
necessary.

Intire trustworthiness
is the main quality
required.

Of course, she must
be sober, honest,
respectable, cleanly,
quiet.

It is unfair, & I feel
I ask these ^{searching} ~~invented~~
questions, when Emma
Shail was probably
never in this
Confidential capacity
before.

But I should be
truly obliged, if you
would tell me the
character which
you received with
her - & the reason
why she left your
service so soon.

My sister, Lady Rodney

May believe me
Dear Sir John Riddell
Ever yours truly & gratefully
Florence Nightingale

5482/69

47399
June 5/86

35 South Street,
Park Lane,
London. W.

My dear Sir John Riddell
It does seem a long
time since I heard
from you - And, it
was a great pleasure
to me to see your
hand writing again
Your kind remembrance
Though I am only
now acknowledging

your note, I'd not
fail to honour your
introduction - and
I answered your
Stetson Correspondent
who appears to wish
to organize something
of the kind of the
United States Sanitary
Commission, at once.

I am afraid the last
hopes of averting war
are over.

I am a hopeless invalid,
entirely a prisoner
of my room. But
I am, thank God,
able to do my
work - & shall
always remember the
kind assistance you
have always been
ready to give.

5482/70

67788^c

35 South Street,
Park Lane,
London. W.

July 4/86

Private

Believe me, dear Madam,
You have no more
Anxious friend
Than
Yours sincerely
Florence Nightingale
Mrs. Matthews

Dear Madam
I approach myself
that I could not find
time to write to you
by last night's post
that, after my letter had
been gone, I received
the joyful news that
the Patriotic Fund
"will be able now
to give, as they think
"assistance" to you "for
the support & education
of your children"

It was agreed to
"sanction the application
"of a portion of the
"balance of the purpose
"above stated - that
"is, for the children
"of those who suffered
"in the late war with
"Russia, though they
"should have married
"after the war."

Your letter & Lord
Grey came in very
opportunely. For Lord

Grey thought the case a
"hard one - if the facts
"were true".

And we had an opportunity
of saying they were.

I will write & you in
greater detail about
this.

At present there is
such a pressure upon
my time & strength
that I am unable.

I hope also, when the
new Act of Parliament
is passed, to secure
some provision for
yourself.

Association

Dear yours

Frederic Nijmegen

Madame Lavinia Schwabe

5482/71

56448

July 22/66

35 South Street,
Park Lane,
London. W.

Dear Madame Schwabe
Should not you get one
your advertisements for
your "Lick & Wounded"?
as far as possible!

The great ladies who,
(their shame be it
spoken,) subscribe only
for the Australian,
have already got one
their second list of
subscriptions.

I would have been

you my subscription
before, but that I did
not know whether you
were in operation
yet. Nor do I now.

I hope Mr. Harry Kerney
told you that, if your
son-in-law at Kingston
would send me any
specific questions
I will gladly answer
them.
But I have had so many

I answer that I could
not write a treatise
at a venture.

I think, with regard
to sending books or
money" to your sick
& wounded, we must
wait to know what
they want.

I have not seen any
of your Circulars
yet & scarcely know
what to call your

5482/72

677980

Aug 28/66

35 South Street,
Park Lane,
London. W.

Dear Madam

You were kind enough to
ask for a Photograph of me.
I am told that the only one
for which I ever sat, by
Command of the Queen, is
not like me.

I have sent your little
girl a book which perhaps,
as she grows older, she may
read with interest, as it
is about other people than
myself. At the beginning is
a vignette from a statuette
done, since I have been ill,
& without my knowledge,
by my cousin, Miss Bonham.

Carter - the dear author of
which is now, alas! herself
gone from this world.

I am told this is more like
me than the photograph.

I was not even aware of the
fact of its existence till I
came to ask, in order to
comply with your request.

I also enclose a thing done of
me, many years ago, from
a drawing by my sister
Lady Verney, with a little
owl, which I brought from
Athens in my pocket some
15 years ago - & which was
a great pet with my family.

Pray believe me, with great truth,
Dear Madam

Ever your faithful servt.

Florence Nightingale

5482/73/1

Private

Nov 30/66
35 South Street, 6967
Park Lane,
London. W.

My dear Madam
On the 28th, as you
have doubtless heard
the Committee of the
Commissioners of the
Patriotic Fund deter-
mined that you
shall receive in
future the £14 per
year promised for

each child. I hope
& believe that this
determination is
final & to be
adhered to.

I shall not give
up the hope that
when the Commissioners
next meet, your
own case will be

further taken into
consideration. (besides
that of your children
which is, I trust,
now settled.)

May believe me
ever yours faithfully
Florence Nightingale

Mrs. Matthew

5482/73/2

67967

Mr. Matthews



5482/74

2 Pheasants
1 Hare

Jan 19/67 ⁶⁷⁷⁰³

35 South Street,
Park Lane,
London. W.

R. Rawlinson Esq
11 Bottons
West Brompton

With Dr. Nightingale's
Kindest regards

5482/75/1

67967
Feb 28/84

35 South Street,
Park Lane,
London. W.

Dear Madam

I cannot tell you how
much I feel for you,
when I think how you
must mourn for your
only boy - your noble
little fellow -

And I am pained
to hear that one of your
little girls is so delicate.

I should have
written to you some
days ago & offered my
most heart. felt

sympathy - but that I
have been so knocked
down with a very
serious attack on the
chest - for 17 days &
rights I could hardly
breathe. But I
have written & the
Patriotic and I ask
how it is that you
have never heard
from them.

There has not yet
been any time for a
reply.

No General Meeting or
Parliamentary Discussion
has as yet taken place.

I have been so extremely
busy that I have had to
carry on things, in spite
of my illness - And
this must be my excuse
for only saying now
how much I am
Yours sorrowfully
Florence Nightingale

Mrs. Matthew

5482/75/2

67967

W. Middleton Esq.
Fitcham Abbey

W. Lynn
Norfolk

Mrs. Matthew

~~Cottis Hill~~

~~St. James Walk~~

~~St. James Walk~~



A
LYNN
MR 2



TUNBRIDGE-WELLS
A
MR 1
67

LONDON
1867

as entitled to be paid the same salary, £500 a year, as other officers of the grade. But there is little chance of this addition being given, without annual censure by the Ministry or the Council.

Mr. Doyle, who has a wife & children, might be obliged therefore to take his promotion out of his own special Department, for which he is so well fitted. And were this to be the case, the whole work he has so successfully accomplished, would be endangered or destroyed.

McElliot

5482/76/1

52335

What am I to say about May 30/6?
Hi? R. 30/5

35 South Street,
Park Lane,
London W.

Dear Sir Frederic Rogers

I am afraid that you will have forgotten me - and what is worse, that you will very justly dislike being reminded of me.

I come, as usual, in the posture of a beggar - on all fours.

It is on a matter of some considerable importance connected with the "Charitable institutions" of Malta.

These places disgraced disgrace until they were
Sir Frederic Rogers Bart.

taken in hand by their
present "Comptroller," Mr.
Dyloff, a man of high
ability & integrity (an
Anglo-Danish). And
he has raised them not
only to a state of great
efficiency - but there are
few institutions in Europe
which can rival them.

Whether Mr. Dyloff is to
remain in charge of these
institutions or whether he
is to leave them for another
office, depends on the
following question.

[Mr. Dyloff himself knows

nothing of my writing to you]
Mr. Dyloff's salary (£400 a
year) is £200 lower than the
salary of other government
officers, although he is
responsible for the
expenditure of one-sixth
part of the revenue of the
Islands.

Reverend which is the
only salary of the class
which has to be voted.
And he has to beg his
salary, so to speak, from
persons not enlightened
enough to appreciate his
value on his efficiency.

He has long been considered

5482/76/2

52335

In 1864 the question was referred to the Colonial Office - and the result was communicated to Mr. Lytton in a letter of which the enclosed is a copy.

But it appears that the course followed was not in strict accordance with law - & that some other course would have to be taken, in order to transfer the salary from the "Voted Services" to the Consolidated Fund. (?)

Could a full consideration of the question be obtained?

35 South Street,
Fenchurch Lane,
London. W.

I know what Mr. Ryland
has done for the
"Charitable Institutions"
of the Islands of Malta.
It would be a great
misfortune if his
services were transferred
to any other Department.

I have never seen Mr.
Ryland - but I have for
years been in correspondence
with him. He was in
England some years ago
about his plans for a
Hospital for Movable
& for an Asylum for Aged
at Malta - which
plans I have given in
my "Notes on Hospitals."

These plans all passed
thru' my hands -
I am afraid that you will
think I am romancing
if I say that I have met
with no English or
Frenchman so enlightened
on these subjects - But
nevertheless it is true.

Pray excuse my unwarrantable
intruding in upon you - I
you will think that I
never appear but to
disturb you - But pray
believe me,
Dear Sir, I remain
your faithful servt.
Florence Nightingale

law, 15 years ago, my first
undertaking of the Trusteeship
of a Public Institution.
12 years ago, my return
from the Crimea home,
since which time I have
not revisited this home -
7 years ago, the death of the
best friend & fellow-worker
man or woman ever had -
Sidney Herbert, the War
Minister, whose great
exceptions were the highest
good as his early death
was the deepest loss the
Army - I had almost said
the Country - ever had -
5 years ago we finished the
Report of our N. India
Sanitary Commission, which
has, praise be to God &
thanks to the appointment
of Sir John Lawrence, as
Governor-General of India
in the same year, 1863,

5482/77/1 68303
Invalids London August 1868

Dear Sir

I should be very ungrateful
(if it were not for my
incessant occupations & my
continual illnesses, which
I must plead my excuse)
for not having written at
once to follow up my
hastily acknowledged
for your most kind note
& its enclosure - of June 23.

But you will hardly
believe that I have not
known for 15 years. What
it is to have 15 minutes
leisure. Not for 11 years
what it is to be well enough
to sit up or leave my room.
except twice a year in an Invalid Carriage
I must now beg leave to
return your cheque for £5 -
John Ridley Esq

But with as much gratitude
as if I had kept it. The
fund for Training Nurses is
sufficient. We do not now
receive subscriptions for it.
And, although, as you may
suppose, I have plenty of
objects which require money,
yet there is none to which
I could devote it. More
urgent than objects to which
you yourself could apply it.
— in other words, this I am
engaged in certain specific
pursuits which require
money, yet I do not like
to spend your £5. on any
object which may not be
yours. For training Nurses
& Midwives, "silver & gold"
we do not want, but living
heads & hearts & hands like
those of your daughters.

How gladly would I see them
as you desire if I could.

But at this moment I am
not in my own house. I have
been obliged, owing to the
enormous pressure of work
which has been telling upon
me for the last 18 months,
to be moved & not even
to give my address. If at
some future time I should
have a little more strength
& leisure, & you still wish
it, how gladly will I comply,
for my own sake & pleasure.

And now I must again
thank you for your kindness.
It came to encourage me at
a time. I will not say of
dependence, but a
solenn time to me. (every life
has its solenn times, if people
would but mark them!)
For this first week in August

5482/77/2

68303

2
Some good fruit both for
Gentiles & Europeans in India.
It is also 11 years this very
day since I was taken ill
with the illness from which
I have never risen again.
You too, how much I have
to thank God for, who has
indeed led me by a way
I have not known.
At the same time He has
been fit to send me
troubles & trials like
torrents of waters to
cross which one must
never look downwards.
For, if one did, one would
be too much terrified
to cross at all. I am
almost the last survivor
of my fellow-workers, tho'
many were but little
older than I. And this
year has seen the death

of my "Una", who was many
years younger than I.
Life, under this, loses - shall
I say? - or gain - all its
value. To become but
as a part of eternity.
And past & future
would seem almost
more a reality & a
presence than the present
- were it not for pressing
duty.
I don't know that I ever
wrote so long a letter
about my own things
before. For indeed
I am overwhelmed with
business.
Thank you, again & again
for your kindness which
relieve me, dear Sir,
makes me truly
Your faithful servt
Florence Nightingale

At any time you should
wish to communicate with me
& if you would kindly
acknowledge the receipt
of your rectored Cheque,
a letter will always find
me; addressed to me,

Care of
H. Bonham-Carter Esq
91 Gloucester Terrace
Hyde Park
London W.

And, if marked "Private"
on the envelope, it will
reach me unopened.

Yrs.

Private

5482/78

68302

London 17 Nov. '68

Dear Sir,

Chas. Benson acknowledged your last
Kind note, - ^{of Oct. 19} - It was not however forwarded
to me till some days after Mr. H. Bonham-
Carter had received it (by some mistake)
And he informed me he had acknowledged
it.

I keep the £5 Cheque in your name
(which you were kind enough to re-enclose)
as you insist upon it. And in your
name I will give it away, when I have
found an object which I think you
will believe suitable. Writing you
word of its destination. tho' I had
rather you had found this destination
yourself.

You sometimes speak sorrowfully of
the overwhelming evil of this world.
So indeed do I. But I hope you
think hopefully as I do of the crisis
of to-day.

Looking at the social reforms, the free
trade, the Corn Law repeal, the

administrative reforms, the educational
reforms, reforms in governing our great
dependencies, such as India, religious
reforms, financial reforms, sanitary
& commercial reforms. Which have
followed, directly or indirectly, the
great Political Reform of 1832, — may
we not trust & believe that
greater things than these may
flow from the Political Act of this
day, 1868?

You know perhaps as I do what
it is & how I have so minutes' leisure —
& will excuse this short & tardy
acknowledgment.

Tray dear Sir believe me
Ever your faithful servt.

Florence Nightingale

John Ridley Esq

independent, which they
continue to supervise.
I trust that you will
approve of the use made
of the two sums, both of
which have been acknowledged
with many thanks - &
beg that you will believe
me, dear Sir, ever your
faithful servant
Florence Nightingale

5482/79/1

69513
London January 7 1869

Dear Sir

I have now the pleasure
of informing you what I
have done with the £5
which you wished me to
employ for you

Reflecting, as I do, that
the only real charity is to
put persons in the way
of productive & remunerative
work who, from physical
defect, intellectual defect,
moral defect, are incapable
of finding it for themselves
- and that the Poor Law
might do for them, at least
John Ridley Esq

a considerable extent
but declares it impossible.
I have given in your name
£2.10 to the East End
Immigration Fund which
has, by Immigration & Emigration,
provided permanent employment
for about 1750 poor persons,
of the most unpromising
materials, nearly all of
whom are doing well - and
they go a good deal better than £4. per head.
And I have given in your
name £2.10 to the
Adult Industrial Home,
which is a private institution
receiving no reports, set
on foot by 3 poor ladies,
who have, under their own

supervision, enabled poor
women, deficient in intellect
deficient in habits of
temperance, - who would be
otherwise picking oakum
in the workhouse or doing
work, - to do laundry &
other work, by which they
earn considerable wages
& have decided a share
in the concern - according
to the productivity of their
labour & their good conduct.
But these ladies, who
furnished the original
"plant" themselves are
now desirous of building
a laundry & making the
institution otherwise

5482/79/2

68304

I had almost forgotten to say,
in answer to your generous
wish to "contribute towards"
a "monument to Una" - that
a rich merchant, whom I
am forbidden to name, but
whose singular generosity
first made "Una's" work
possible - for he actually
understood the whole
expence, about £1200 a
year, of her workhouse
Dressing Establishment,
till the Vestry, convinced
of its value, assumed them
itself - and these and
many other works has he
done for his native town -
has insisted upon defraying
the whole cost of the
"monument" which he has
undertaken to erect to the
memory of her public
services - J.N.

London Jan 28 1869

Sir

The question you have put to me is one very often put to me - & one impossible to answer except by those on the spot.

I could certainly send you the names & Regulations of Cottage Hospitals already established - or refer you to persons, as at Wrexham, Wadsworth, Widdoworth (in Derbyshire) who have established Cottage Hospitals & would send you their Regulations.

This would be the way to rid myself of all trouble & responsibility.

But in each case, the people & especially the Medical Men about a place should first judge of the necessity of a Cottage Hospital. And then & not till then, if all are agreed that a Cottage Hospital is necessary, then let them proceed & obtain the best site, the best plans, & fulfil all voluntary conditions.

Within my knowledge, a Cottage Hospital

has been the means - Not of lowering but
of raising the Death rate of the sick.

1. Whenever it is proposed to construct
a new Hospital, the first & more important
question which ought to be answered is:
Whether the Hospital is necessary.

2. Hospitals are a hard necessity of our
inferior imperfect Civilization - in which
they are (I would) great boons to a certain
class of poor persons - But so it is a
proven fact that, supply the same Medical
treatment, Nursing & Medical Comforts to
the sick poor at home, they recover
better than in Hospitals, we may hope that
they will be gradually replaced by such
a system of District Nursing.

3. It is a serious thing to introduce a Hospital
where from time immemorial there has
been none - & where no public demand
has been made for one - But this for
many reasons.

4. There are other great dangers attending
the agglomeration of sick in large Town
Hospitals - But these dangers are of course

very much liable to occur in small
village Hospitals. The chief question in
regard to projected Village Hospitals is
the one already put, viz. are they necessary?
It may be safely admitted that, in
certain Districts - (principally large Mining
or Pottery Districts, where there are
many accidents - or no convenient rail-
road - or other communication with
County Hospitals -) a Village Hospital
would be an advantage. But it by no
means follows that in other Districts
similar Hospitals are necessary.

In the proposed case, is there a
necessity which has been pressing
on the public notice & conscience
of such a nature that the establishment
of a Village Hospital ought no longer
to be delayed? To this question
a clear & decided answer ought to be
given. And, while giving it, the
projectors ought to show that the need,
if it exists, cannot be met by sending
cases to Plymouth or Exeter.

The moral aspect of a Village Hospital

ought also to be considered with
reference to the classes for which it is
intended. Except in, e.g. severe
Surgical Cases & the like where all
the appliances of a first-rate Hospital
may be required, is it wiser to withdraw
the sick from under the care of their
families & neighbours & from under
their own roofs, & to have them tended
by other hands elsewhere? -

This is a very presumptuous question.
6. Suppose all the circumstances are
favourable for establishing a Village
Hospital, the next question is one of
position, & amount & kind of
accommodation the proposed building
is to give. It is always dangerous
to bring sick poor from very humble
country dwellings where they have
fresh air about them into even
better quarters in an unhealthy village.
Hence, unless the building be well placed
& well constructed, it may become a
source of danger instead of benefit to the
sick poor concerned.

The greatest care should be bestowed on this consideration, if the Village Hospital is to exist at all.

In short, a more benevolent desire to benefit the poor in this matter can never exempt from the responsibility of looking at the proposal on every side & then deciding whether it is best or worst to give effect to the idea.

By the same post, I sent you an account of District Nursing, as it exists in a large town where, of course, it undergoes many more difficulties than it would have in nursing the sick poor at home in country districts.

I am a woman, overwhelmed with cares & business & ill-health - business which for 15 years has never left me 10 minutes' leisure - ill-health miserable which keeps me a constant prisoner of my room.

But, should you finally decide on a

Please Hospital & wish me & receive
to plan, I will gladly give them
all the attention in my power.

I beg I remain
Sir

Ever your faithful servt
Florence Nightingale

Wm Laver Esq

Florence Nightingale

5482/81

68373

35 South Street,
Park Lane,
W.

Feb 20/69

No: as you ^{say} the present War
primarily will not do
must for us -

Dearest

I send back your two
notes about ^{in from} Mrs. Kerridge -

I am very sorry to say
that we have not the
shadow of a vacancy at
present. But Mrs. Waddoppe
has written to Mrs. Kerridge
saying that if she would
fill up the required form
&c &c &c -

When we are in new St.
Thomas', we shall, on
account of the very much
larger No. of Patients, be
much more elastic in
being able to admit extra

Probationers. At present, it is not because we could not create more accommodation for Probationers, as because it is such a bad thing to have too great a proportion of Probationers to Patients;—there is not work enough or experience enough for training properly.

I am sure that our Committee
will stretch a point to admit
Mr. Norridge - as soon as
possible - provided she is
not afraid of training -
as many are -

We should be so very glad if she is competent & turns out well, I have one recommended by some one 'head of kin' to our founder. We have some very nice women too - but many a's & dozens of course.

I heard from the Sisters
of St. Elizabeth's Hospital
of your coming & support.
They were so much pleased.
Thank God, as you say, that
the Hospital is re-opened.

God bless you.

Ever, dearest, yours
F. Nightingale

35 South Street,
Park Lane,
W.

May 12/69

Dear Mr. Chadwick

Now can we thank you
enough for your bold outlaugh
at the Society of Arts?

I had already heard of
your presence there - And
now you have been good
enough to send me copies
of the Debate which is
one of the greatest importance.

I had already said all
I can at present say - in the
R. Indian Army Quarterly Report.
My paper is in the Appendix,
& has been reprinted by
Stanford of Charing Cross,
as a small red book.
I think I send you a copy

But, if not, I will

Also, I think I send you
a copy of a small paper
of mine, called: Way to
live & not die in India -
published now by Longman
at 1/6 -

Ever your most truly

J. Nightingale

35 South Street,
Park Lane,
W.

May 14/69

My dear Sir

How can we thank you enough for your new (& Third) Edition of the "Practical Hygiene," of which you have had the kindness to send me a copy.

I have only had time to read the first few pages on Water. But I mean to read it straight through - & will then try to thank you as it deserves.

So is, I am sure, the most complete Digest of S. A. Parker & Co.

facts regarding the great
Sanitary Cause which
at present exists.

Very believe me
my dear Sir

Yours sincerely & gratefully
Florence Nightingale