

AL/2892

June 15th
1860



Aldborough
Friday

My dear Emily, Thank you very much for your letter and all the trouble you are taking for me. I should like to see Mrs Bodichon's pamphlet, if you would kindly ask some one to send it from Langham Place, & I would send the price in stamps when I know what it is. I know something of Dr. Pence Jones as an uncle of mine went to him & liked him very much. The 'Raro Haste' did not do any harm in this case, I think, as my mother did not know that I had given her the important sheet

unintentionally. You would think
my father awfully impetuous, if you
knew him, & I can see how much it
goes against him, & how inconvenient
it is. He is at home this afternoon, &
I am watching for him to come down
stairs, so that I may catch him & hear
what he has to say upon my affairs.

Thanks for your correction of my comments.
~~Do~~ you do not tell me if I am to send
any more while you are away from
Gateshead, I shall have a longer & more
difficult paper on novels ready in a
few days, if it is not too much trouble
to you to correct it. I am sure this kind


of thing does me good. I am glad you
like both Miss Faithful & Miss Proctor
so much. I hope, if I do come to London
to see a doctor, it may be while you are
there, that is before the 4th. I should be
sorry to put off coming till you return
from Chichester, if it can be arranged
otherwise. It is unfortunate that you
will be able to see so little of Miss Smith,
I thought you were going to stay with
her. I was surprised at your thinking
Godfrey forwarder than Gerald, as Gerald
struck me as much older in many ways.
Godfrey is a nice little fellow, but I am
always afraid to praise him too much,
lest my auntly feeling should lead me to

overstate his charms. Have you read "The
Hulk on the Floss" - it is so fine - I like it
almost better than Adam Bede, and
knowing something of the author's life, adds
to one's delight in it very much. It is so
impossible to believe that she has really sinned
against her own conscience. I won't say
any more about it, however, till I know
if you have read it, especially as it will
form the key note of my Theme on novels.
I should like to hear of some governesses
who do try to teach girls English, by giving
them interesting subjects for their Themes.
I remember ours at Blackheath with
mudders, at their stupidity.

We have had a succession of people to
spend the day, all thro' this week. Love to Jane.
Yours ever E Garrete



I have opened my letter to tell you of a long conversation that I have just had with my father. At first he was very discouraging. To my astonishment then but now I fancy he did it as a forlorn hope to check me; he said the whole idea was so disgusting that he could not entertain it for a moment. I asked what ~~was~~ there was to make doctoring more disgusting than nursing, which women were always doing, & which ladies had done publicly in the Crimea. He could not tell me. When I felt rather overcome with his opposition, I said as firmly as I could, that I must have this or something else, that I could not live without some real work,



and then he objected that it would take
7 years before I could practise. I said
that John Easton had only been six years
and that he would take his M. D. degree
in Nov^r, but that if it were seven years
I should then be little more than 31 years
old, and able to work for 20 years probably.
I told him that Mother had deemed willing
to entertain the idea, and that she had said
that it would be pleasant for me to live
with home; and at last he ended by saying
that, at least, he could not agree to it
without more thought &c. - so that I think
he will probably come round in time.
I mean to renew the subject pretty often.
I am going to write & tell home. Good-bye.