

Bunhensum. Oct. 1 83.

[A]lfeld  
AL/3709

My dear Nelly

I have to thank you not only for your  
last nice, long and affectionate letter  
but, I believe, also for a little book  
which came to me from Lucerne,  
~~and~~ which I cannot trace to anybody  
else but you; ~~and~~ <sup>it</sup> which has accor-  
dingly made me rejoice over an un-  
expected tip of yours to Switzerland.  
The book is "Vier. Lessen or a lesson  
to fathers" making reference in its  
preface to the little Portynese pam-  
phlet on "English as this is spoke"  
which you mentioned in your letter.  
Besides, the handwriting on the cover  
was like yours, at least so far as it

Please send me kindly to all our people incl. of the Missionaries



it is possible to recognise any fixed character in your handwriting — and finally I do not know who else could have sent me such a present. So you must please to accept my thanks, as long as you do not positively deny the authorship of the anonymous volume surprise. The book itself has helped to amuse me during a most tiresome convalescence from an inflammation of the bowels, but had very much pulled me down last month. In fact I am only just beginning to recover my strength and my appearance.

I was very glad to get your letter and hear about your prospective as well

as your retrospective doings. What a grand thing this Manchester school business is! So I presume at least from the incredibly splendid salary, and I am sure you will get it as certainly as you ought to get it for you are not only for the head — mistress of a large and important school, if for anything, and will act your part admirably by and by I am convinced. It is rather ridiculous that you should be afraid of the presentation, and say, "I do not shine in society" — as if anybody would care to have a so-called society — young — lady for the head of a school!



Meanwhile you have my very best  
wishes and prophecies, and I shall  
look forward with much expectation  
to news from you in January.  
Since I last wrote to you, my own  
prospects have suddenly disclosed a new  
opening, which gives me pleasure for  
the moment, though I do not believe  
anything will come of it. I have  
told you before about the Victoria  
Lyceum and the question of electing  
a new head for it in the place of Miss  
Acher. I should never have applied  
though I got hints from several quarters  
but some weeks ago I had a letter  
from one of the German crown-princes  
confidants, proposing my coming  
to Berlin in October and getting acquainted

I have written with much expectation

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interest in me and have entered into  
communication with me. The result  
is that I shall go to Berlin on the  
12<sup>th</sup> of this month, attend at the  
ceremony of the re-opening (speeches,  
feasting etc) get introduced to the  
several members of the committee  
and see something of the work of  
the Lyceum - I get looked at and  
examined in my turn, I suppose,  
and finally return to Stuttgart,  
most probably having refused or  
avoided being asked to undertake  
any office. but that I should  
not very much <sup>wish</sup> to have it and indeed  
consider the proposal a great honour  
but I would not, on account of my

health, undertake the responsibility  
of walking to and fro in all weathers  
and I hear that there is no lodging  
in the college itself for the "Dischlein"  
to live here. It is a pity the matter  
should actually bring any such secondary  
considerations, but so it is, and my  
chief interest will therefore be a most  
impersonal one in the college itself  
and the persons connected with it. Of  
course I shall never the less wish to  
make a favourable impression, but  
I do not expect to earn a material  
advantage therefrom. However I feel  
honoured by their having thought of me  
and that is a pleasure in itself.  
Owing to my consilient state, my  
mother did not wish to leave me  
here, where both out - door and in



Love influences are rather rough in this  
autumn - season. I shall therefore go  
to stay with the relations at Bramschweig  
(Co. Brunswick) till I go to Berlin. I suppose  
and hope to be back at Stuttgart by the  
end of the month; my mother and Lisa  
having come back yesterday. They both  
charged me to send you their love and  
were much interested in your prospects.  
My sister Elly too, and her daughter  
Eva (whom you saw at the Picnic) beg  
to be kindly remembered to you. One  
of my sister's stepsons - a nice young  
man by the bye - is going to spend the  
winter in London and I hope he will  
have the good luck to see something of  
some of my friends at least. Very good  
bye dear Kelly, I am rather hurried  
it being my last day here - besides I