

Lee Hollow. Oct 30 1884.

5643

My dear Husband,

I had your letter
yesterday afternoon. I have sent Major
Mallet one penny, to cover your
subscription and add a donation
to the G. H. S. (which at first I read girls' High
School!! - found) and I have written to
Holtzer to telegraph to Clark & Co. when
the Organ is shipped. Our Shakespeare
affair is over. It all passed off very well.

There were 31 present. Mr. Thompson
and Mrs. Joseph read *Wassena* and
Portia admirably. Mr. Bruttell's *Stylock*
was very good. Indeed all the parts were
well taken, and the arrangements went
on smoothly, and the weather was fine
and so we are thankful. I am sure you
would have been pleased to see Mr.

pretty, your room looked, and the tea
table here in the dining room was quite
a picture, covered with the beautiful
Indian china, and our mat tea ser-
vices and all things for full fantasm
honors. The people just stood about
and tea was handed to them on trays.

May you be here when we have the

great Shakespeare. Yesterday I went to
Mrs Tennyson's to tea, to hear Mrs
Tennyson read "Primer" again.
He did it with all his heart, and the
better part of it was a true version.
When I came back, I found that Major
and Mrs Cotton had been to call. They
are staying in Malvern. I am going
out tomorrow and shall ask them
to come some afternoon. Did I tell
you I have treated myself to Carlyle's
Life. Some of his letters are worth their
weight in gold. For Proude's part in it,
I do not care at all, but there is a
man I cannot sympathize with.
He is a faller and a sufferer, but
for Carlyle's religious character, I have
the deepest reverence. His letters to
his mother breathe the purest spirit
of Christianity. I am in sending
you the children's books. I see there
is now a cheap edition of Lee's
Pie. I have sent you a copy for myself
as I did not know of it. He all goes
as usual. Noel writes very well at school.
You will be glad to hear that in his
mid term examinations, marks

for all subjects counted, he stands
first in the school. As there are so many
older than himself, this is good. He
has a real interest in his work, and I
try to enter into it with him as much
as possible, for Noel does so much better
when he knows that he has someone to
sympathize with him. He does well
with his painting. Last Sunday morning
before church, he took his drawing block
and sitting at the writing table in front
of the dining room window, made in
about an hour, a lovely little water colour
sketch of the hills, with the costumes tinted
upon them. Many gentlemen said it was
remarkably good. Elian writes as most
industriously for this season. In December
I think she will pass, for she is so persevering.
He has a good mind for collecting and
arranging facts, but he does not develop
a spark of originality, and I can see too, that
his opinions, as expressed in conversation
are but a reflex of those of other people.
Mabel, also if she lives to be a hundred, will
never qualify for the "Cambridge Trial."
He has a much more suggestive mind. But
he is really too leisurely. I cannot

find that tailor's bill without going through
heaps of papers, but the amount is
£8.11. and you can remember what
you have led. The return proof from London
was £3. but I think it is worth the money.
I have not bought every thing in the
hope of dotting that the children and
myself will want for the winter, and let
me tell you with a shout of triumph
that our dotting for all four of us, this
year, not counting boots and shoes
amounts to less than twelve pounds.
And I assure you we always look like
gentle people. There is an economical
wife for you. So I thought I might afford
to buy Carlyle. But I shall send you a list
of all expenses in December. Mamma
sends her love to you. He does not seem
quite so well this morning, the heart seemed
to be acting neatly again, but it is peeling
off. I don't know what could have been the
cause of it. He has to keep quiet and then
he does very well. He has been most in-
terested in this life of Carlyle. Mabel
will tell you her own story. Remember me
to Mr. Carter. An. you can your connection
with Conyngton will miss itself.
Ever your loving Ep