

Lee Hollis.

Oct. 9<sup>th</sup> / 85.

My dear Husband,

When I wrote to you last week, I did not know whether Noel would be able to go up at all for a scholarship without a nomination from a Life Member, but on enquiring from the Bursar he replied that there were generally seven or eight nominations placed at the disposal of the Council and that these were given to boys who passed a good preliminary examination. I also asked him of the nomination of Mr Sale, a gentleman to whom I had written previously, and who had given me a sort of half promise was vacant. He replied that it was, and so I wrote to Mr Sale, to act for it again, but I have not heard from him yet. The Bursar says that the declaration of the mother will be required in place of a certificate of birth, but as I am not Noel's mother there may be a difficulty about that.

had, was altogether to Mr. Douglass the  
day after tomorrow. I hope it will be  
for his good, as I shall miss him very  
much. Miss Andrus is coming to tea  
this afternoon, I shall wait for about  
Dilian going on for the winter season.  
Dilian seems to wish to do so, and  
it will be a useful training for her.

I have your letter in reply to mine  
about those letters. I cannot see that  
I am guilty of any violation of con-  
fidence in reading what I naturally  
expected was put into my hands for  
that purpose. I should never think,  
any more than you would, of picking  
up letters, or looking into things not  
intended for me. But you must  
remember that that same packet,  
containing those same letters of  
Mrs's, had been given to me before,  
for the express purpose of reading  
them. And when a second time  
it was given me, I never thought  
it was more "private" than at first.  
And when I did open it, and found

other letters, it never occurred to me  
that you would give me such letters  
unintentionally. You would only  
have had the purpose of acquainting  
me with their contents, I thought. I  
am very thankful now, to learn from  
yourself that you did not think they  
were they. It takes away, in some sort,  
from the cruelty of the revelation.  
But a grave and fatal responsibility  
lies at the doors of those who deliberately  
returned such letters to you, without  
ever telling you where and what they  
were, and caused you to bring to  
my knowledge words which can never  
never pass out of my memory. It now  
all seems to me snatched away in a  
dead very mist. I have only life of  
soul and body which serves me  
to go on in a mechanical way  
doing such duties as I am obliged to  
do. Yesterday I went to lunch with  
Mrs. Beards, to meet a lady who was after-  
wards to speak at a dressing room  
meeting. The excitement, small as it

has, gave me a sharp headache, so I see  
that I had better stay at home for the  
future. You do not say anything  
more about your holiday to Dargeling.  
I hope you were able to take it, for it  
would very likely keep away the pain  
in your head. You will soon now have  
done with your calendar life. It would  
be a pity for you to come home just  
at the worst part of the winter. A visit  
to Bourmann, Palestine &c would  
keep you out of the coldest weather.  
If you could get there in March,  
we should probably not have any  
very sharp weather after that, and  
you would still be in time to  
do something for Wool before he  
goes away to school in September.  
I think it is well, for the children's  
sakes, that you have decided against  
the archdeacon's business. Try to  
make their lives as happy as you can, but  
I feel my own burden too heavy at  
times, to be able to do much bright work.  
Mamma sends her love to you & she  
continues the same old love & sympathy.