

June 22<sup>nd</sup> 1866. 5701

My dear Mary Catherine This  
came for you this morning  
and I send it on at once. We  
are having a breezy day. There  
will be 30 of the Russell children  
from four to seven each, and  
Miss Eve, Mrs. Tenney & 9  
a wife of her betrothed. I have  
left all preparations to Mary  
and the children. I had a very  
promising dinner here after  
the housemaid's place this  
morning. I am writing for  
her character today, and if  
it is satisfactory, she will  
come to me on July 17<sup>th</sup>.  
Kamahi has not met with

anything to visit her yet.  
It was a pleasant gathering  
at Mrs. Elds. Next a pretty  
place it is, and all seemed  
to be harmoniously. Miss  
Cottary was there, sister of the  
Bishop of Hereford, and of  
Melbourne Cottary of Leeds. She  
is a well-studied woman and  
a well-read, so being her at Mrs.  
Elds. answered for a well at  
present. She is a well bred  
old fashioned sort of person.  
I am very glad to have her  
with her, he makes such a  
good centre. I hope you are  
settling down and feeling  
comfortable. We all send our  
love. Treat me directly. Mrs. E. F. S.

I had written on the back of the letter, when I found that the post had been, and there was a letter from you. I hope you would get the letter which I posted to Dailly, and Mrs Devers would write to you there. There is a post card from the Educ<sup>n</sup> Council, for a meeting to be held next Wednesday, but I will not send it, as it will be of no consequence. They want to establish a school of art here. The children's treat went off very well. There were 30 of them, and the teacher beside. Fortunately it was fine until about half an hour before they had to go. They all seemed to enjoy themselves, and the time went very quickly. There were about 25 children at the Palmerston meeting. I took some photographs, and they all

seemed much interested. I have  
hired a housemaid to come on  
the 17<sup>th</sup> she is a nice bright young  
girl, they live at Bradley. When we  
had our drive yesterday, we  
went there and I was much  
pleased with both her and her  
mother. The cottage was so clean  
and neat. Hannah gets more  
stupid every day. She leaves on  
Thursday, and Esther will do  
with Mary alone whilst I am away.  
She is to have her sister and the little  
girl to stay with her for a week.

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8223