

69 Lancaster Gate
London.

W.

Dec: 27th 1901.

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Dearest Miss

Mamma has got a violent cold & is altogether somewhat diseased, so she has delegated me to write to you. As I have not written to you for ages I feel almost as if you were some strange female, quite unknown to me & so I feel almost nervous.

The chief item of the week was Christmas. The dinner was perhaps rather gloomy: these were the eaters: Sir R. Lady S. Miss M. Mr. J. B. Duncan (in the house) Sidney & Ethel Foster, Dicky & Andrew. Elinor could not come as she was attacked by illness, & Jim stayed at her bedside. I don't know if you have heard that Betty & Ellie went to Paris with Herbert, which accounts for them. The

babe came to land and was of course perfect though strangely grown up. He flowed with conversation of the most pleasant kind, & was in fact the only thing that kept us alive through the gloom.

I came back from Holloway last Thursday. The whole case is most exciting, isn't it? It has sprung into such eminence since you left, though then it was in the bud. As to work it is most confused & confusing. At present I am preparing for the London Matriculation in June but whether I go or ~~not~~ to the B.A. depends on what the London University course is going to be. Apparently everything is now in the pot; at present Classics are compulsory & if they continue to be so I shall abandon ~~them~~ it. To my mind the burning question is: when will they settle?

Miss Penrose, the Principal, said probably at Christmas & here we are without a sign of anything. They are all dolts, I am afraid.

Apart from that it is most pleasant being there. The joy of having a room to yourself is great and strangely increases the self-importance. I think the worst part of it is Chapel which must be attended every morning before breakfast. Luckily I am in the choir which makes it less painful. I also belong to a Madrigal Society at Windsor, conducted by Sir Walter Parrot (I don't know how he is spelt) next year we are going to sing Bach's St. Matthew Passion. I suppose you won't be back for it by any chance?

I don't think there is any news -
at least I have not heard it if there
is. I would give twopence to be
at Mentone but perhaps you wouldn't!

Farewell

Your loving

Marjorie