

Berlin, December 21st 1895

AL/3778

My dear Kelly

As I happen to have a quiet evening by myself to-night, I want to send you my warm wishes in advance and

try to find out what you are going to do with yourself in the holidays.

I rather fancy you will have a quiet family-gathering at Brighton, since your mother would probably feel doubly alone without you. But on

the other hand I cannot help

Does your own family of members remain because of your mother,

wishing a change of scene and air
for you personally after this
harassing term. No doubt each
is the best antidote against sorrow,
but as it hardly can quite neu-
tralise the other, the two together
do not form the most enjoyable
compromise, nor the most salutary
either. At any rate it cannot
have been a cheerful time for
you, and so I wish you would
have a comfortable Xmas. season

among pleasant and cheering
people.

As to ourselves, we are going to
spend the quietest Xmas we have
ever had before, with the exception
of that one at Stuttgart, since
I lately after my little nephew's
death. My sister Ellen wants
to spend the "Fest" with her sons
at Brunnhausen, accordingly will
not come to us before the beginning
of January. It is hardly worth

while having a Xmas. tree for us
three, were it not that to a German
mind it appears almost like a
sacrilege to go without it.

I have been very busy at the be-
ginning of term, and indeed some
time before it, but of late I have
been subsiding into the ordinary
jog-jog again, uninterupted so
far by any excitements. Your
ex-teacher and friend ~~Walter~~ ^{Walter} ~~Triskin~~ ^{Triskin}
seems likewise to have settled into

cont

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her new honours and responsibilities
she called ^{on me} the other night, looking
very nice in a handsome dress
and with more repose and content
about her than formerly. I am
glad there is one more lady-like
head-wisdom to be registered
among the rather antiquated
majority of German school-mistresses.
The other day I had a letter from
Miss Kennedy, mentioning a
visit ^{call} from you at the time Miss
B. Carter was staying with her

with the
Mrs. Fair of the
Bairns - habits of which

and missing me very kindly to
come over to England and as Mrs.
I need not say that I often feel
an inclination to do so, and do
I believe that there would be
danger to my health, but ^{even}
holidays are so short in the summer
that when it comes to the point
I always feel as if I could spend
no time from the country
now that Bournemouth has
such an attraction.

*of which I am extremely anxious
to see you
I am very
affectionately
yours
Mrs. Norton*

Among the various books I have
been reading of late, there has
been one by an English author,
George Egerton (a lady), called
"Keynotes" that has very much
interested me. Apparently the
author is a highly sensitive
woman, a mixture of English
and Norwegian elements, very
imaginative and at the same
time bolder and more outspoken
in her views than any English
writer I know. Do you know

*the same writer
Mrs. Norton*

anything of or about her. ²

As to German books, there is nothing
in the way of modern novels that
I think would at all interest you.
But as you have decidedly a taste
of romance, perhaps the little
volume of natural science (Zoology)
may amuse you that has lately
come out. I send it by book-post
as a Xmas-greeting.

My mother and she both charge
me with their love to you; they are
pretty well and the latter very busy