

See Hollies. July 25/86.

5706

Catherine.

Thank you for

Three more
months of meat par.
You let me know
here?
I'll send much
to you. He is
a little boy.
I'm affectionate
E. J. Stephens

the little box of plants which came
all right on Monday. They really were
as fresh as if they had just been taken
from the ground. I kept them in a
sawyer in wet earth in the peat house
for a day or two and then planted some
of them in pots in the peat house, and
the rest in a sheltered part of the icketery,
and they seem as if they would prosper.
I also brought from Thorne, some of
the real peat mosses, which are doing
very well in the wind. The flowers of the
alpine plants came out very nicely. I
hope I shall be able to keep them. Noel
was very pleased with the stems. He
has them already, but they are very rare
ones, and so valuable for exchange.
I enclose a few for the little boy. There
was a letter from Henrietta yesterday
with a number of American stamps.
There was nothing special in the letter
so I need not send it. I shall answer it
this week and send her some. This
letter came for you yesterday. Carria

sent the great 2. dividend. £ 9.13.4.
I did not think it would have come,
as the stock was being sold. See whole
amount of the Hull dock is £ 2.13.9.
which is at the rate of 1 per cent. This
is the worst it has ever come to. I see by
the papers that the N. & S. dividend is 1/4
per cent less than it was last year, but
there seems to be a prospect of that
getting better by and by. I took Silian
to Cheltenham last Monday. It was
a trying day, and I had a bad headache
when I got back. Then Esther is going
away, and having to put the new
housemaid into her work, has made
the week a bustling one, and I seem
to have lost a good deal of the benefit
of my Bedford visit, but I shall get it
back when I go in August. Esther is to be
away three weeks. Miss Slack came
on Monday. She does not create any
difference in the house, and the
change is very pleasant for her. Her life
must be a dreary one in that dull
London street, and it is exercising

an altogether pinched and shrivelling
influence upon her character. I am
very sorry for her. It can only go on
increasing to the end, as no change is
likely to come into it. Her only real
pursuit now appears to be the study of
Prophecy. She has made a beautiful
water colour sketch of one of the Russell
estates. She and Noel have great talks
about painting. Silian seems to have
got on very well with his exam. John
went to Cheltenham yesterday, took her
up and on with him to Kott^m. He
comes back from there on Tuesday,
bringing back Mabel, who will then
have been three weeks and three days
with her aunt. John goes on August 16
to Carlisle to a meeting of S.P.C.K. He will
be the Bishop's guest for three days at
Knox Castle, so I must get his black silk
socks finished in time. This S.P.C.K. work
brings him into contact with the ecclesias-
tically great ones of the earth. I went to see
Miss Peares last week. She says she will
give me the subscription for Yates, and
I will send it on to Mrs Peares. I also
went to see Mrs Whittam. They both made

many injuries after you ^{Fawcett Library} ^{London S.W.4} ⁸²²⁹ sent love.
I hope you have not been troubled very
more with headaches. They are bad enough
at any time, but above all away from
home and amongst strangers. The
new housemaid sets on very well. She
is very much, I think, of Laura's type,
quick and clever and capable of being
made a good servant of. She is
to be rather too quick. She gets through her
work in half the time I am used to, and
has method in it. Also she does not ^{take}
hold of a cold so I am staying in with
him from church, it is beginning and
ending with his head. Miss Slack has
gone to her aunt's church, and will not
go out again today. The Madras baskets
and the ornate idol came yesterday.
There are one dozen of baskets one inside
the other, all of palm leaf. They will be
very useful. He came got the new up-
board put up on the landing. It is
about the height of the bookcase and
dearer in your room, but narrower
with glass doors to the book part. It holds
the Indian curios which are not ornamented.
I do not want you to have any more Indian
possessions. I should not wonder if you
were to take a continental clapping for the first