

Lee Hollis, 5700
Madison Park June 20
86.

My dear Mary Catherine,

I was going to

write to you yesterday, but I had a miserable headache all day and had to go to bed at twelve. I did not go to sleep until four this morning, so that I do not feel good for much today. However I am glad I did not write yesterday, as I have your letter this morning. Welcome was an unexpected though very welcome guest. On Friday morning, about ten, Mary and I were up in our room. I was trying on our dresses, and finding that one of them fitted me perfectly, we had just settled that she was to send the body of our dress-maker and have one made by the same pattern in black for me, when there was a ring at the bell, followed by footsteps in the hall and Mabel came up to say that Mr West wanted to see me. He had left London the day before, come to the Imperial where he had left his luggage, and come here to ask about his business rooms. I felt by instinct he would rather come here, and there is no friend I

would as soon put into the little room
as himself. So I told him if he liked to
take up his abode with us, he should,
until I go away with Mary on July 31st
and live he in now. It was really touching
to see how pleased he seemed to be to have
a place where he could come and be at
rest and feel at home. He and Mrs
Stephenson sit on very well together, though
they are so different. John can imagine his
great refinement and gifts, and he appre-
ciates J's hospitality and practical
manliness. To all is quite comfortable.
The afternoon he came, I was having Dr
and Mrs Barnes to tea, and Mrs Douglas
and Mrs Deans. Mrs Deans had sent
the Shakespeare card to Mr, Mrs & Miss
Stephenson. Of course I declined for I had
and in replying I said we were
going to have some music on Friday
and I should be glad if she would come
only I did not like to ask her to come
so far. However she said she had to attend
a meeting of the Council of Education that
afternoon, and would come on from
there. It was most fortunate that
Mr West came too, just in time, for
with his playing and Mary's singing,

the afternoon was very enjoyable.
Mrs Deans asked both him and Mary
to go to the Shakespeare on the 29th and
I think we shall. John will be away. Mrs
Deans is going to take Mary, as her guest,
to Mrs Eld's at home on the 21st, tomorrow,
as her card said. "and party". I shall, after
all, go with John, and it will be our
call. We shall stay about an hour, and
come back by ourselves. Mary is really
having a very bright visit, and she ap-
preciates everything so gratefully that
it is a pleasure to be able to give her such
a succession of treats. Her best being here
is a sort of musical education for her.
I shall have another little afternoon
tea next week. With such good music
and singing, there is no need for talk.
I am very glad you are throat passed
off so quickly. I think there must have
been some fever about it. It is a good
thing to have ginine made up in five
grain powders, and take half a powder
now and then. He always used to take
A about with us in India. I hope
you will be comfortable at the cottage
up in the hills. It does seem very cheap

Fawcett House
27 Wilfrid Street
London, S.W. 1

8222

and there are ^{to be} pleasant people
during the summer. If not, you are
independent of them. I often wish I could
look out upon our mountains again.
Here, if you are able to do some work, it
will make all the difference. It came into
my mind, too late, that perhaps that
letter would be over weight. There was a
bundle just at the time of posting it,
and I did not think to weigh it. No other
letters came home for you, only a post
card for the meeting of the Educational
Council which I need not send on. I
gave Mrs. Owen your address, as she
said she wanted to write to you, but
I will send her a card today, with
the new one. She said she missed you
awfully. I mean her cold and is
staying at home from church. Mr.
West sends his very kind remembrance
to you. It is pleasant to have him here,
but I don't recall the old days, and the
drinking of that landing door, to keep
all quiet in Mamma's room. All
the rest are at church this morning. I
is going to speak to the Belmont boys
on Wednesday. I have not yet a new
housemaid, etc. I shall not write for until
I come back from Alford. Your affectionate E. F. S.