

If I don't get sick away from home,
I truly enjoyed so much -

I have written to Mrs. James
that I will take the 11.15 train on
Tuesday, & to Joe that I will go there
on Thursday, & shall write to the
Tomeys that I hope to get there Satur-
day - Then I shall try to go to Hastings
on Monday, come down Wednesday
Aft., & start for home Friday or Sat-
urday -

They are all very kind here in
urging me to stay, & I have enjoyed
myself very much - But, in your car
only, I get a little bit homesick when
I am not well, & am longing to be with
you again -

I went over this morn., & Annie's
showed me all over the Hospital, & I
sat & talked with her for some time -
She came over to tea last Ev -

I got a note from Mrs. James yesterday
morn. wondering where I was - Say, your
letters were waitg. for me there -

I mean time with kind remembrance, I am thy loving Jane

Tell Hannah to pass in the week all the to be read & that need it, a the to let her

Kew - finished up Oct. 11/87

My dear Joe, I think I am getting into the old way of ~~being~~ running on too much into detail & making such an immense journal, that it certainly is some labor to write it & must be some to read it! - I must try to condense -

But I ought to say before leaving Wells, we passed in the market place, an old stone canopy covering an ever-running fountain, built by some good Bishop of old, who laid water pipes from one of the springs in the Bishop's pasture to supply the town's people - He saw the little old stone house in the grounds over the Spring "St. Andrew's well." - Such a good deed, though not in running water, should be remembered. & the old Bishop's honour, if his name be forgot -

Mr. Church wanted to take a later train & I'm not sure we had time good bye in the station - Coming from London we had the carriage to Salisbury & ourselves & there being no arms to divide the seats I could lie down quite luxuriously - In most carriages with arms, each side holding four, they leave one arm out on each side, so you have a nice chance for reclining, if the carriage is not full - I took advantage of it until we had to change to another train at Salisbury - We picked up our luggage at 4 o'clock, & reached London at dusk - (Did I say we all went back to lunch (meat & pudding & cheese & bread & fruit) at Tom Church's?) Oh, the disagreeableness of arriving in London by one of these great trains! The immense waiting, the confusion, no checks, & us to keep an eye on your traps,

as far as baldio, from flannel to lace, are called - Both Mrs. Smith & Mrs. Thompson have been in India a good deal - He had a very pleasant Eq. - Mrs. Smith had been staying with the Protons - Dr. Gray met Col. Baird Smith at Charles Proton's home years ago, & was greatly fascinated with him - She was a daughter of De Quincy's -

Sir Wentworth Dilke asked us to come with the Hookers & pass Sunday in their country place, some hours journey off with them - But the Hookers could not go, as the governess is away on holiday, & we were expecting mother Saturday Eq -

Friday we had Dr. Reichenbach, a botanist from Hamburg now staying in Kew, (the one who wanted Dr. Gray to send him my photograph) to dine - He is truly a character!

Saturday I went to call on the Thompsons, after finishing our letters, & had a pleasant call - Dr. Gray ran off to London, to go thence to call at Clepham & see if Ann Ward had got home, & to dine at Mrs. Prunty's, who had invited us before - The young man is a student of medicinal plants, the firm being in the drug business - Dr. Gray had a nice time - They are an old Quaker family, though they have dropped the thee & thou & draw - He met there another son who has been a great deal in China, & knows Col. Cunningham very well - He passes his winters at a place he owns on the Mediterranean between Mentone & Monaco; & Dr. Gray has promised to pass a day or two there when he gets up the line of march towards Egypt -

Sunday, but for a walk in the garden, ^{was quite} lazy - Dr. Gray went to Dr. Hooker's in the ^{evening of the day} ~~day~~ a mile beyond

Yellow - who has travelled in Arabia, & is written a book there - & Consul at Bombay, a friend of C. Hall's -

And now, my forecous decret, had my job from I hope to be with you again.

I had a lot of talking to do - until I left this morn. at 10 - Mr. James went with me to the Cars, a journey - Gen. Hooker sat nearly all the way - Recognized him from his photograph -

Went to walk up here, but found the place - Pleasant house, all very cozy & comfortable - very kind welcome - Martha & Joe both look uncommonly well, & Willie is a charming little boy - I wish you could have come, it would have pleased them - Only I suppose you & Joe would have discussed, & I avoid dangerous subjects -

Saturday I expect to go to New York - Monday to Washington, back Wednesday, & I will write when farther movements decided - Thank Mrs. O. for letter I will answer it if I can - Money came safe - Love to family & friends - Ask Hannah if she has remembered the bed valance -

Elizabeth - March 23. 65 -

My dearest love,

Here I am so far on my homeward way, in truth I wish I were going direct, instead of stopping, for it gets tantalizing when once my face is set towards you, to stop - But everybody is very kind & everything made so pleasant for me, I am very ungrateful! - And I ought to be a proud & happy woman, when I get such a sweet letter as greeted me here from you today! You make me very happy, & all the time I think what a nice husband I have! And how much better he is than all the men

then if you get a cab, you must get a P.R. porter to take
your things, the man may not leave his horse -
I suppose one learns to manage in time, but ~~we~~ have
dazed! - It was only a mile or two more to New Street
at the Waterloo Station, & then would have been getting
me across the Bridge, so we decided to take a cab
all the way - It was a weary drive, & we were glad to
reach our lodgings, get a hearty tea & quiet rest -

They are building a net work of rail-ways all
around London, another year we can get from
one Station to another ^{by P.R.} almost everywhere, but now
the distances are very great - They said from Waterloo
(the S.W.) one of those to New, or Paddington, where we came
in, ^{was} 4 miles - The North London, which also goes to New,
still farther, I suppose - The distances, in the huge
place, are positively dreary!

Tuesday I was glad to be quiet - We found the home
letters, from Mr. Lee, & Mrs. Whitely & my maid Lizzie, on
Monday morn. - It rained, or I should have tried to
get to see Mrs. Donke, who had come the day before to
Dr. Hooker's, kind Recia Hooker of old times -

Dr. Gray went up to dine with Mr. Wilke. He came
to America with the most Dixon, & passed a long
at New York two summers ago - He is standing as a
liberal member for Chelsea, & Dr. Gray was to dine
with him & then go to hear him speak - He spoke
about 12 o'clock, quite entertained - The meeting was
in a Baptist Chapel, ~~nothing in church but principal~~
& the Baptist minister made a very good speech -
Then Mr. Wilke, fluent & easy, & referred to his "the 2"
triumphed friend from America on the platform -
Dr. Gray did not know but he would be dragged in
to speak; especially, as after Mr. Wilke's speech was

through, anyone in the crowd who pleased, asked
questions of the Candidate & other answered -

Wednesday we dined at Dr. Hooker's to meet
Miss Sullivan, whom Mr. Gray remembers dining
with at our house last November - Mr. Lydall
(or heat) & Mr. Parry, a mathematician, were also
there, Dr. & Mrs. Donke, & Mr. Downing who had come
down & lunch, ^{with us} & seen over the gardens with Dr.
Gray - Mrs. Hooker was in white muslin, high-necked
& long sleeves, but no lining - She is very pretty, & generally
I think dresses well & becomingly - Mrs. Donke pearl
with trimmed with white, lace sleeves & waist, though her
waist was lined, as she is very delicate & a great invalid.
Miss Sullivan in full dress - A handsome neck
& round arms cut off her too full face, so she looks
well in full dress - It was very pleasant meeting
dear Mrs. Donke again! - And we had a pleasant dinner.

Thursday I went over to see her again, for she
was only in New last week - In the Ev. we dined
with Dr. & Mrs. Thompson - They had asked us be-
fore we had to decline, & Dr. Gray thought we
should accept - Dr. Berkeley, the great pump man,
was staying with them, a most kindly, pleasant,
old man, a clergyman - Quite laid up with foot.
Miss Mrs. Band Smith, the widow of an Indian
officer - So sweet & lovely looking, & with such delicately
cut features, I thought she must be American, the
more as she talked in the slowest way with a slight
drawl which we have, not the sharp clip of the
English - She was in high-neck & long sleeves, black
more antique - Mrs. Thompson ^{was not in deep sympathy} in black skirt,



Gray, Jane Loring. 1865. "Gray, Jane Mar. 23, 1865 [to A. Gray]." *Asa and Jane Gray travel correspondence*

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/225927>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/262543>

Holding Institution

Harvard University Botany Libraries

Sponsored by

Arcadia 19th Century Collections Digitization/Harvard Library

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: Public domain. The Library considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection

License: <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/>

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.