

not yet quite 11 o'clock, & as it was then 10 o'clock we had 2 hours before us in this dreary station with heavy rain, so that we must be content to stay where we were. But Dr Gray got the Times for himself & the Illustrated News for me, so you may be sure he was happy. On our way from Windsor we passed Eton, a collection of fine old buildings of red brick with stone accents, in the Eigan gothic style.

We reached Oxford about 3 1/2, & had about 1/2 a mile's drive from the station outside the town to our hotel. Dr Gray went out at once to make calls & deliver letters of introduction, having ordered dinner at 5 1/2, and I changed my dress; I was just nicely comforted and established in the sitting-room, when he came in, & said in calling at Dr Jackson's they had invited us to dine at 6 1/2, so there was no choice to be made through again! - So poor I must always wear a cap, & so a bonnet is inconvenient, & the streets were wet with rain, we took a Cab. On Dr Gray ordering it where to drive, in "own Court" I noticed the waiter. I saw his face & remembrance, till Dr Gray explained that the quadrangle took its name from the bell, great room of windows, which was in the tower over the gateway leading into this Court of Christ Church - Now to give you some idea of Oxford College, you must know that a College is a great building of stone built around a square court-yard; the entrance is by a great gate with high door, generally in the centre of the side fronting on the street. Of course they are in different styles of architecture, having been founded at very different times, but almost all Gothic, & you may imagine the fine effect of these stone buildings, some quite old & weather-beaten, surrounded by these green embankments with the town grass plot in the centre. And the curious antique effect of, from the streets, these long ranges of buildings in three ancient styles, broken only by curious windows, which generally on the street on the ground floor, (though often there are windows till the second story) are patterned with iron bars. Hence the College is large, there is another Court yard beyond, also surrounded - the side of the Court yard is generally occupied by the Chapel & dining hall, sometimes the chapel has an entrance from the street, but often only through the Court yard - Here are 14 Colleges in Oxford & 8 Halls all

are separate & independent of each other - The Halls are different from the Colleges inasmuch that they have not endowments of lands or, & are more connected to the students themselves. Attached to the Colleges & Halls are various establishments, they keep a great store of Bibles, & a small Church & a Rectory, & a last & best endowment of the College is a Cathedral, & a Chapel, is a Cathedral, & are houses in the College, which is internally arranged like a town, where keeps great numbers close to the College, I had only three beds, the room pulled up, at the gate, the one is I had to get out & was cap flying back in it, for it had only just started, & then great some old wooden door the & yourself in an



This sketch of with any last letter as a rough plan of Oxford } there No 33

camped & furnished; shown upstairs to the person, sweet & my brother. The little western is a striking & the most abrupt of what he does say. fellow of Magdalen. He is a queer little ex is abrupt it is quite sort of was, & a helms attendants after drawing room, for the dining room is on the ground floor, & Mrs. Jackson proposed to take me up stairs to show me her children, for Lady Fisher had told me I must see her baby. These are 8 children, & the eldest is 9 years



Gray, Jane Loring. 1851. "Gray, Jane Mar. 24, 1851 [to Loring] [enclosed map]."
Asa and Jane Gray travel correspondence

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