

as far as baldies, 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 Hortons - Dr. Gray met Col. Baird Smith at Charles Norton's some years ago, & was greatly fascinated with him - She was a daughter of De Quincy's -

Sir Wentworth Dilke asked us to come with the Hortons & pass Sunday in their country place, some hours journey off with them - But the Hortons could not go, as the Governor 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. Pantony'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 Edw. 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 starts up the line of march towards Egypt -

Sunday, but for a walk in the garden ^{at a distance of three miles} quite lazy - Dr. Gray went to Dr. Horton's in the Eq. a niceifford

Kew - finished up Oct. 11th ¹⁸⁶⁰

My dear Ace, 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 garden 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 forgotten -

Mr. Church waited to take a later train & I & my & we rode him good bye in the station - Coming from London we had the carriage & 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 home, & reached London at dusk - (Did I say we all went back to lunch (meat & pudding & cheese & bread & fruit) at Mrs. 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,

Wells - who has travelled in Arabia so, & written a book there - & a friend of his, a friend of C. Hall's -

Monday I tried my first trip to London - Mrs. Lombe was going back to Torquay, & she kindly came in the fly, & took me with her to the Station. We all went to London together, & bade good bye to her & Dr. Lombe, hoping before we go home again, to see them at Torquay -

By the help of cabs & omnibuses we got on with very little walking, & I went & ordered a pair of boots, all kid, double-soled, buttoned, high in the leg, 18/6, not so very cheap when you put it into fold - gloves are cheaper, 4/6 buttoned 4/6 common 2/6 - both good - As for the rest I enclose my ^{latest} shopping account for your amusement; but if you put everything into fold you see things are very little cheaper, many the same, some cost more in fold than I should have given in paper at home -

London did not look either, as impressive as I expected - I think New York & Boston have improved much more in these 20 years - The buildings looked low & dingy - We called at the British Museum on Dr. & Mrs. J. E. Gray - She told me she was over 80, such a bright, quick, active old lady, looking so vigorous I should not have thought her much more than 70 - People look so much less changed than I expected - Have my eyes grown older?

Yesterday came at last tidings that mother would be in London in the Evg - It was such a pleasure - I had made great preparations for Saturday for lunch, thinking surely they were coming, & was so disappointed. Mrs. Hooker called in the Aft. while she was here, Dr.

Gray came in, saying the Princess of Wales was calling at the Duchess of Cambridge's, just beyond us; so I kept a sharp look out, & had a glimpse of her, & good look at the equipage, when she drove back - A low carriage, she driving, a pretty pair of small grey horses, her Uncle, Prince John of Sleswick by her side, a groom in the little seat behind - An outrider on a grey horse - All the colour & livery, red rosettes on the horses ears - She looked like her pictures, all the glimpse I caught of her, ^{a sweet, delicate face -} rather than - A little plain dark hat, & brown cape round her - One would only say "what a pretty, neat equipage!" -

I was writing a note at dusk to Mother, when she & Mr. Among appeared - They had come from Watford & Bedford that morn'g - They dined with us, & there was only too much to ask & to tell - I think Mother looked thin, but I can scarcely say - Mr. Among has full beard & moustache, & I thought looked tired -

They are to come tomorrow if fine, to do the gardens & Hampton Court - I have been hoping that they might come this morning, it was so pleasant - But I suppose shopping was too necessary, as they only stay 5 days - I wish I were strong eno. to go to London & help her, & see more of her - We have scarcely talked about plans as yet, & must hear from Charles before deciding -

She had just got a batch of letters, from Jon & from C.

We expect to go & make a visit to Mr. Darnley on the 27th. when we hope to see the Morses - They had arranged to come & pass a day here, but have had to give it up -

Mrs. Dabney will I hope come again on Saturday - Miss Sullivan has invited us there, & so has Mrs. Munro.

Much love to you all & each, from your ever affe.
Jane -



Gray, Jane Loring. 1868. "Gray, Jane Oct. 14, 1868 [to Susan M. Jackson]." *Asa and Jane Gray travel correspondence*

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