

extensive, it was a monastery & refuge too, I believe -
And there is the public-dining room & the abbots' house,
then the ^{crypt} ~~cloisters~~ built over the choir, & the monks' dormitory above the cloister-square & refectory, the abbots' library, & the great kitchen its huge chimney still towering up, though except the crypt, it is the only thing left with any portion of roof - Then the Church, the great frame of the East window still standing, & some gravestones lying flat & the outlines still there of the monumental brasses, but the pavement of the Church now but the green grass! Trees grew within some of the walls, & this beautiful ivy shrouding & mantling & clinging, & Gothic arches & round niches & bits of carving, & beautiful proportions, & old masonry, I wish I could give you some faint idea! I was tired & took a cat across the pass & in at the window of the crypt, while our old guide led the others round, & so I missed the old Jew tree, under which the few monks encamped as they laid the foundations of the beginning of the Abbey, which grew to be as large & grand, & has fallen away & ruin, & the Jew standing still! He had to hurry away from us in our last hour of tracing, ^{at the R.R. station} & so through these lovely grounds again to our carriage, & go back to Ripon for the train - He saw an American hemlock spruce in the grounds at least 150 ft. high & scattered to the ground! And other trees equally fine & beautiful - I am afraid I must stop here, 12/20

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Rev. Oct. 15. 69

My dear Luc,

We left York on Saturday, Oct. 2nd, for Ripon, there to take carriage for Fountain's Abbey - There was none ready at the station, & C. commissioned a gentleman to send us one from the town, some miles away. He waited & clunched & waited, & none came; & at last one appeared, sent by a gentleman for his luggage - He seized upon it, the more that the rail-way porter, who had secured us in broad Yorkshire that they had forgotten us, warmly remonstrated with the gentleman who drove it, on the impossibility & impropriety of all these boxes & packages "going in a nice flight" - Some drove through Ripon in a pelting rain, & the gentleman stopping at the "Unicorn" for his great coat, the gentleman came to the door & looked at us with immense disgust. It was a pretty drive through country road, two hedges or pretty with hawthorn hedges, & holly hedges & bushes, so bright & cheery, & then a quantity of roechkas coming in, of a lighter shade of red, & presently we entered through the open gates of a fine park, - grand trees & groups, & quantities of deer grazing or lying down - It is a little odd, the bucks & does & fawns almost all herd separately - There were also ^{some} fine large, red deer -



Gray, Jane Loring. 1869. "Gray, Jane Oct. 15, 1869 [to Susan M. Jackson]." *Asa and Jane Gray travel correspondence*

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