

I was lazy & stayed in door - Dr. Gray went off
to Clapham to see the Birds & went to church
with them - Came back in the afternoon & we
had a quiet Cf. together -

~~no Tuesday~~
~~Monday~~ I went over to see the Herbarium,
having a letter to carry to Dr. Gray - It is the
old house of the King of Hanover, Cumberland
House - Not very palatial, but a handsome
country house of 50 years ago say, though I fancy
really older - Not so convenient as Dr. Gray's,
for the plants must be in different rooms, up
stairs & down & off here & there - Certainly the
effect is not so neat & finished - But they
always contrive the windows to look out on
something green & lovely - Fresh lawns & beautiful
trees - I came back through the gardens -

But such a day! One hour bright sunshine, two
next such a whirl of wind & rain! I was caught
& hurried in the museum, ^(on 2) & have the rain
over, but had too much walking & standing,
& got over-tired

There is Monday - It rained in the morning, but in
the afternoon I got to call on Mrs. Hooker, but
sat unconsciously, getting London addresses &c.

Cups of tea were brought in - She says it is the
universal custom now, the afternoon tea -

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New, W - London, W

Sept. 24th 78

Dear Sue

Has there ever such a doll
minute! When we first came we had
dull, cloudy days, though showers now & then,
but for or there sunshiny clear though,
a soft, pleasant air like one of our bright
October days - Friday it rained all day &
since then I cannot tell, one half hour to
the other what it will be - This morning we
rained at 8 with the most tremendous rain;
after breakfast at 9, it was so clear & bright
I planned a long day today in the garden -
Suddenly, half an hour ago, all was thick, black
clouds, a roaring, driving wind & falling rain;
I began to regret I had not gone out early, for I
thought I should be shut up all day - Now it
is bright sun-shine again! But how long it will
last I cannot tell, for I cannot see the west
or South - But certainly all over, clear &
truly beautiful! - But it has been warmer
than I expected in England in October - Sun
& sea-bent open out of door, but I have a fair
almost every day during some part of it - For one
room are chilly, having no sunshiny in them

The only fault to find with them, for me are very comfortable -

Oct. 1st. I have been very busy running up a piece of work & so left my journal until today - And now I have not much time, for tomorrow unless very unpleasant, we are to go off down into Dorsetshire to visit Mr. Church - A clergyman, one of our old Oxford acquaintances with whom Dr. Jay has kept up a correspondence - You will judge I am better, & so I am; but still lying still seems more agreeable than trying journeying again, but Dr. Jay is anxious to make some visit before the season gets later, & thinks a change may be a good thing for me - I have got over the fiddiness in my head & begin to feel more like a living being - It is a great relief! -

My journal this last week is not much for I have been very quiet - But let me note one improvement - We have bought a study lamp, one of the German Student lamps so common with us, but cracked up wonderfully as an invention of Pilschke, Brandt & Co., a reading & microscope lamp, Cost 18/ which put into gold would be 4.50, not cheap - But - it gives us eye again in the Cof., & makes it possible to be busy -

Saturday morn^g had a long time in the garden, caught in showers, & waited in the Temperate Orchid house for me to be over, & a pretty place to

rest in! Sat in the dorr, part of the time, of the above house, & heard the wind find & crackle through the strange foliage - Dr. Jay carried over to Dr. Hooker in the morning the California Phlox, & they were all delighted with them -

They invited us to a tea dinner - Being alone the children had tea & they dined at 6 1/2 - So I went & saw most of the children - Mrs. Hooker looks quite handsome without her bonnet, she was in muslin shirt & silk skirt - The next youngest Reginald, 2 years old, was playing on the sofa when I went in - does not speak yet - Brian P. is a lively little fellow with most charming manners - Charlie, 12, ^{and} at school - The daughter is 14, shy & quiet - In a white alpaca, short waist trimmed with black velvet - Eldest, Fiddle, almost 16, very delicate, anxious for his lamp - I should have thought him 14, the girl 13, - But they have all very graceful finished manners, & a sweet gentle way of speaking to each other -

We had a pleasant Ev. & came home early - Saw some charming water colour sketches by one of Mrs. Hooker's Uncles, quite an album -

Sunday was fluctuating & cold & showery -

Well! I think it would be refreshing as they do not dine until 7—

Dr. Gray had gone up to London, & as I was waiting dinner for him, Miss Sullivan, who was at our house in C. last November, called - In her brougham, with Coachman & footman on the box! Very cordial & pleasant she was - Wanted us to go to her place at Philham next Monday to pass the night & go with her to see the fire-works at Sydenham - I was afraid to venture so much, & Dr. Gray thought he should not be back in time on Monday - we are to dine with her at Dr. Hooker's on Wednesday next -

Yesterday, Wednesday, Mrs. Hooker & I had arranged to go to London to lunch with Mrs. Bentham, & to order some boots, &c., &c. - But the threatening clouds prevented - So I stayed quietly & tried to rest off Tuesday's fatigue -

A letter came from mother from Glasgow - She was to cross that night, Tuesday, to Ireland, & they hope to be in London a week from Saturday, Oct. 10th - She could give me no address to write to her, & unfortunately had mislaid my letter at Glasgow - I could only

address to the P.O.

Today I took a brougham & went to Richmond to try a little shopping. I got on pretty well but bother somewhat over dividing pence into shillings & shillings into pounds. Such a stupid currency! — I did not find things much cheaper than with us when you put everything into gold —

Monday came the home letters, so delightful! — Many thanks to Lizzie for hers, a snail mail from Isa, & yours, dear Sue, Charles & Lizzie.

Putnam's notes — Last Ev. came another from Lizzie P. enclosing a note from Kate Eliot —

It is such a pleasure, no one knows like they hunger & thirst for them in a strange land, to get letters from home! —

Dr. Gray is just back from dining in London with Dr. Hooker at a little club where he has had a famous good time — He has had an invitation to the Athenaeum while in London, & gets all sorts of civilities & attentions — A letter came this Ev. from Mr. Loring just landed from the City of Baltimore — I am sorry we are going away these few days —

Very much love to you all & individually —

Perhaps my next letter will be more entertaining —

Ever affely, Jane —



Gray, Jane Loring. 1868. "Gray, Jane Sept. 29, 1868 [to Susan M. Jackson]." *Asa and Jane Gray travel correspondence*

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