

14

10. 9. 29

My dearest Aunt:

Here is at last news of a niece who
hopes never to behave so ill again, who never will behave so
ill again to her daughter or to you. This I know.

I wrote to you about the tea book; it plunged into its
revision, while my friend, Nicole de Saxeourt kept house
and saw that I had some rest.

Then, just after I wrote to you, my nose began to
hurt, right up at the top, and she came in whispering, saying
that her knee hurt. We couldn't think of a reason
for either phenomena. I compressed her knee; but what
can you do for a nose?

Her knee got worse: I put her to bed and sent for my
doctor. He said it was walking in either case — slight
abscesses of which there is a plague in Paris now.

She suffered more and more, and something broke down one
of my nostrils — a ghastly mess — while the other hurt
worse and worse.

Then, a week ago, she got very feverish, 103° , and I
had the sense to telephone a very famous doctor, Tinel of
the Salpêtrière, who knows her family well. He came
round, gave me back, said: 'I'm off for my instruments';
and half an hour later had cut her knee open under my
horrified eyes.

demonstration of how that 'awareness' has worked in the past, to-day, my own experiences: how it can be trained & increased. Thus giving a lead, at least to make the new mathematical axioms, (already shown to be physically true) as acceptable as Euclid's.

'Nothing less' you may say; & yet, in a sense, everything. In spite of noise, many other temporal troubles, no Cavalle —, baddest of bad consciences over you. I'm very happy — (no, I'm not — too over-tired & disappointed e - e - e -) — But I know I'll be done a great thing = that later you will be proud of me. Only the beginning, so far — BUT I KNOW.

Meanwhile soothing the sick pillows rest my sight — for the first time affected — I shall see an eye-man directly things are fixed.

I am going to be happy: I know when —

When I am well again:

When the book & its demonstration both are perfected:

When I arrive at your gate — cleaves having preceded

When I see my friend, who is very gifted, strong & well, & knows that I helped ^{me}:

When the 3 spots on the outside of my nose are gone:

When my old master, Sullivan the physician, grumbles at me that I'll be done well,

She hardly moved: I call that courage. It was, he explained, an abscess under the muscle & in such a state that if he hadn't come, she might have lost her leg — by the poison shifting into the artery & setting up gangrene, I think.

So, as we've no money for nursing-homes & hospitals ^{here} are impossible, the nursing has ^{to be} done here. ~~But~~ If you ever have a septic wound to be dressed, come to me. The very proud — he said that he could not do the dressings better himself. He also dealt with the other side of my nose — which is still horrible. And horribly disfiguring. As well I can't go out much.

Nivelle still suffers a great deal, but never complains. The dressing of her knee is a long job, & as hideous to look at as it is to feel. But she only thinks of me. Sleeps in the little salon, & every day the concierge carries her out to the big divan in my room & back at night. We tell each other stories, & have late some Plato — Not an easy life; but in one way it is a good thing, for I've no time to over-work anymore on the book, & that will be all the better for it. The time to think, especially the chief part, ^{was} man's 'awareness' of the real value of the conveniences he is verbed & called time & space: a

They will come &

That is to say - Now - For, I tried and not, I'll be
learned what the 'Amor intellectualis Dei' is -

When I was 16 you gave me my Emerson - I still
have parts of him by heart - He said -
"He that loveth maketh his own the heavenly that he loves".
- a spoke also of 'the capture of the intellect at the approach
of the fact.' Both these I have to enjoy -

(Here I fell fast asleep - The doctor comes
early -

(Fell asleep again - am in bed - most end -
" " " Tell her about Prometheus &
that I am trying to light the small bear flame -

Jay.

