

amid, were very impressive - But the Egyptian heads, by as a hog's-head, are pander in impression. The Nubians have a snout, not that placed, serene, grandeur - a great arm & fist, belonging to one Egyptian head, startled us at first as to what the monstrous porphyry thing was -

We met Dr. J. C. Gray, who recommended the Blacas collection, not open generally but visible on demand - Here were exquisite pairs of Cameos & intaglios, something, to say, carnelian, jasper, &c. - One of Augustus 5 inches large! - So exquisite in delicate lovely expression, all of them - Gold ornaments, Etruscan, Greek, Roman - necklaces earrings, brooches, bracelets, so graceful & unique - The silver cabinet of a Roman bride, nose-trappings, (great silver necklaces), paws for togas, pindles, &c. &c. Then Eastern ornaments, Norwegian, Old Irish, some modern gifts of Napoleon 1st. to great people who had bequeathed them, Abyssinian Theodoros' helmet shield & bracelets, & strange, uncounted precious metal Abyssinian things -

Dr. Gray wanted to show them all the reading-room, & looked up Mr. Carr there, the assistant botanist, & he very kindly took us in - But it would take more time than I have to describe that superb room, with its most convenient arrangements for any student, & then the library, with 25 miles of shelves for books recently added! so compact, & airy & light in its arrangements - Then he took us through the rooms again, & we saw such a beautiful, beautiful bust of Esculapius, say the Angel of healing & such an Apollo, two of the greatest treasures from ~~the~~ ^{branded down} antiquity - A horse's head that might please Euclid, &c. Ever briefly to all,
 Love Lf.

New - Oct. 17th - '68 -

My dear Sue,

Only a hasty minute today for journal, for I was in London all day yesterday, & am expecting Mrs. Watney this morn'g., so if I don't get this sheet finished, I shall put it off until next Wednesday eve. There are the regular mails across river, the German Wednesday, & Barnard, Saturday, & as the steamers stop at Queens town, we have until Wednesday & Saturday to write, as letters posted here before 4 P.M. should be in time for Queens town - But I shall try & watch a little to see when my letters reach you, but we trust too much, & they miss the mail -

Wednesday I stayed in the house all day. About four o'clock, Dr. Gray came rushing up in his eager way to hurry me down to the door to meet Miss Sullivan, who had been calling at the Hooker's, & had only a moment as she was off to London to write, & had then to drive home & dress! I believe she is some four or five miles from London - Well, people who have two or three carriages, & horses to match can rush about in that way! - She wanted us to go to an early dinner there on Monday, & then she

would take us to Sydenham & see the Palace, & the
five-brooks in the City - To come back to Brown House
to pass the night, & return here Tuesday - So we
agreed, & that is next week programme for the
first - The week after we are to go to Mr. Darwin's
for some days -

Thursday was not so bright a day but about 11
another of those, Misses Fordland & Dorothy appeared -
A little before, came a letter from Lizzie & me, so
another could have the news - And she brought just
a Chair of Sept. 27th -

We went for the Rook Chair & set out for the garden -
We could only take a part of course, with their short
time - The temperate ferns, Aloe & cactus house, Orna-
mental house, tropical ferns - recently enlarged &
just arranged, so lovely with tree ferns & hanging ferns
& masses of peat foliage, & delicate maiden-hairs, &c. &c.)
thru the palm house, & up to the temperate house -
Thence I came directly back, leaving them to go to
the Curious Cornish house, one of the larger buildings,
with tree ferns 30 ft. high - They could only go to the
museum of birds, had to leave the others - But they
all seemed interested & pleased; but it was a good long
tramp - They came back here to lunch, cold meat & baked
potatoes, bread & butter & cheese, & a nice pudding & some apples
& grapes - grapes ~~here~~ are only 1/2 a lb. & very good. (Black
Hambury) Then we got a fly already booked at the "Coach
& Horses," & they set out with Dr. Gray for Hampton Court -
Drove through Richmond Park, with the beautiful view
of Trichenham, through Busby & Hampton Parks - They
were rather late for the Palace & had to hurry through,
but saw the gardens & the great grape vine & very old,

filling a house - The paper are cut for the Queen at
Paris, & sometimes the vine has borne a ton! - Then
they drove back through Eddington by the Great road (Mutual
Friend), & Trichenham, (see Philip Strawberry Hill, &c. &c.)
told the train at Trichenham, Dr. Gray keeping on back
to New -

Yesterday morning - Dr. Gray & I took the North
London train to the City - I went to Sharland's
where I dealt 10 years ago - I wanted some cotton for
underclothes, paid 13d. a yard, which if you put it
into fold is much cheaper than at home. It was like
New York Mills cotton - Silk, for an apron, 4/6 the yd.
Nothing so cheap that I have seen so far, but notions
& tape! - Mother comes to the same conclusion with
me, that if you want to come abroad, supply yourself
completely at home - You can get there what you
want, you may buy cheaper or dearer, & less trouble -
Here you can buy nice things, but very dear, & a good
deal of trouble - Her party have done a good deal
of shopping & they find as I do, everything but flowers
so expensive - Stockings 2/6, 3/1, 3/6, gold - I can get
what I want at home for 50s. 4/75 paper - Even Calcutta
at Home's 1.25 - I have not tried dress-making sewing
yet - Hats 3 guineas, & upwards, very underdone here
too small, & I changed them for larger 9/3, paper 2.21!!
We stopped at Paul's Churchyard for brushes, 3 tooth-brushes
2/6, paper, say 90, those are cheaper - Hair brush 4/6 -
Then we took a bus to British Museum, meeting
mother & party, except Miss Dorothy - It is such
an immensity, the Br. Mus., that one can only
glance at things, unless you take ^{the} speciality -
The Oceanian birds & skin, paper from - - list



Gray, Jane Loring. 1868. "Gray, Jane Oct. 17, 1868 [to Susan M. Jackson]." *Asa and Jane Gray travel correspondence*

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