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Birk Hall
Aberdeenshire
Sept 28

I must write one word
of gratitude for your
great kindness, that you
may not think it quite
wasted. It was quite
all that I expected -
the restrictions which
M. Des Genettes mentions
being those which hold
everywhere - When I have
more time, I should like
to tell you the comparative
work (a. h. o. work) of the
religious literatures at
Paris -

I was summoned from
Scotland (the day after I

wrote to you) to nurse my
sister in Aberdeenshire -
& came down here, by
express, to find her
delirious, though knowing
me - Sir James Clark,
who has been to me like
a father, fears arrange-
ment or imbecility as
the ultimate consequence.

To me it is no shock but
a relief, as what I have
been expecting for years
is now shared & my
responsibility divided with
a medical man whom
I can trust.

I know that all that
I say to you is sub sigillo.

but this especially, as I
have not yet told my
father & mother, who are
still in Derbyshire.

Oh if mother saw what
I have seen, had watched
as I have the downward
course of the finest intellect
& the sweetest temper
thro' irritability, nervousness
& weakness to final
despairment - & all brought
on by the conventional life
of the present phase of
civilization, which fritters
away all that is spiritual
in women - they would
cure conventional acrite-
ments, as I do now, instead
of rejoicing over what leads

to their daughters' destruction.

I could not write to
thank you as I should wish
for your persevering kindness
& to say that, as soon as
I can, I shall take advantage
of it. For I have had
for a fortnight the sole
control of this poor
irritated brain, night & day.

When that time will
come, God only knows.

I am now bringing my
poor lister slowly home,
day by day. The excessive
excitability & shattered
nerves not bearing more

Pray for us -

Yours
M.

I will keep M. Des Genetes' letter, if you will allow me, as an introduction when I go to Paris, for which I thank you much. And, that of the Sup^{re} Gen^l, if I am not asking too much, as an introduction to her.

The medical men are doing the work of des:truction in Paris just as they have done in London. They have ousted the religious orders from the Hotel Dieu, the Pitié. For I don't call the dames de S. Antoine nor de S. Louis, who have those hospitals now, a

religious order - The
daughters of S. Vincent &
the Sœurs Hospitalières
de S. Thomas de Villeneuve
are I believe the only
ones who deserve that
name now -

Do you know M.
Etienne, the Superior of
the Lazarists, Rue de
Sèvres?