

1 Upper Harley St.  
Aug 21

You must have thought me  
very ungrateful not to  
answer your kind note  
sooner. But I am now  
in service, & the labour  
of furnishing & settling  
this immense place, &  
doing it alone, has been  
not a little -

My "story" is this.  
After you left England, I  
remained with my dear  
Aunt - She died on Xmas  
Day - As soon after as I  
could, I went to Paris -  
Here I fell ill - As soon  
as I recovered, & the very  
day I had presented myself

To M. Des Genettes & the  
Society, I was summoned  
back to England to nurse  
my Grandmother. She died  
on Good Friday. These  
were the only two homes  
I have ever known.

But, during my absence  
in Paris, my friends, Mrs.  
Herbert, Lady Canning &  
Mrs. Procebride had  
organized this present plan  
(for me) - & when I came  
back to England, I found  
the engagements with the  
Committee actually made.  
During my long & severe  
attendance upon my dear  
Grandmother's death-bed,  
the most painful one I  
have ever known - (for seven

days & nights during which  
I sat up with her, she  
never ceased to thrash  
all the preliminaries of  
this arrangement were  
settled for me. I then  
returned to Paris, & went  
in to the Louvre, where I  
found all I expected -  
I had however another  
blow there, which prevented  
my doing all I hoped -

And here I am - that is  
all. I returned most unwillingly  
to fulfil my engagements.  
During these few months,  
I have three times been home,  
& each time have found  
matters worse than before.  
The monomania about me  
gradually increasing, so that  
every thing which happens  
is now imputed to me. Sir  
James Clark told me in the

spring, (when this matter  
was settled) that I could  
not do otherwise than I  
have done. Yet the indig-  
nation at my leaving home  
is undiminished -

And here I am. I have  
begun this work without a  
single creature to help me.  
Others have priests & sisters  
& Superiors - I have no one.  
I am wholly unfit to be a  
superior myself - There is  
no attraction in it that  
I should desire it - I can  
only therefore say to the  
rest of your note  
Adieu Marie.

Thringate

M. De Genettes' & the Leurs' kind  
refs to me at Paris was beyond  
all gratitude, thanks & your introduction  
& kindness.