

TEMPLE CLUB,  
ARUNDEL ST STRAND. W.C.

Tuesday night.

My dear Griffiths,  
I called here early  
this morning for letters but did not  
find any; calling again to night  
(but too late for post as I have  
been out of town all day) I find  
yours of yesterday, which must have  
been delivered by some post since  
10 a.m. I am considerably  
astonished by what you tell me,  
and it seems to me that this  
cannot be "the Lodge" pic-nic, but  
something like a subscription  
pic-nic of certain members, which  
ought not to be called "the Lodge"  
pic-nic. "Young girls" foxgloves! like

their impudence I think. No,  
I don't mean to go, & certainly not  
now I have read your letter; unless  
very strong reasons arise. I can  
hardly say that Sir E. S. cares for the  
office of P. G. M.; i.e. in the sense of  
wishing to have it. I induced  
him to consent to take the office  
if the Brethren were in any difficulty  
for a suitable P. G. M., and wished that  
he should solve the difficulty.

I am going to Woolwich to visit  
my friend Major Duncan of the  
Royal Artillery, he being now quartered  
there on a Staff appointment, and  
wishing to shew me all the wonders  
of the Arsenal, and the old records  
of the Artillery. Duncan is a  
distinguished fellow, and a great

scholar, and he is the author  
of a very fine history of the Artillery  
service. I am glad he has his  
staff appointment for 5 years, &  
so will not leave England during  
that time (he is only just home  
from India) unless there is a  
row. He means to get into Parliament  
now he is home again. I have  
a kinsman at Woolwich too,  
Captain Wolfe, so I shall see  
him also. I shall return to  
London on Friday, so if you  
will write me whether you  
really think a pic-nic conducted  
in such a limited spirit as to  
shear it of any pretence to be a  
"Lodge pic-nic", is worth an effort  
on Sir E. L.'s part to attend it I  
will try to see him on Saturday

and talk to him about it. Indeed  
I must, in any event, try to call  
at Bolton Row, because Lady S. heard  
from the Duncans' that I was  
~~to~~ coming to London, and would pay  
her a visit, and she wrote to  
me and asked me to spend the  
remainder of my time at Bolton Row.  
Let me have your letter here,  
certainly, on Friday, as I shall probably  
look in at Bolton Row to breakfast,  
and should not have the chance to  
~~catch~~ get the letter before I started because  
the <sup>delivery</sup> post is not until after 9. You  
must tell me the date of the Pic-nic  
for I do not remember it. I have a  
notion he won't care about the Pic-  
nic, and would rather attend <sup>regular</sup> Lodge  
festivals than pic-nics: so would I.  
Anent the letter I received from you  
respecting an investment: your fair

friend is very confiding, to want  
to lend her £800 on a note of  
hand: Any quantity of people  
would like to borrow it on that  
security; but I suppose she would  
like to have the security guaranteed,  
and I am sure I don't know  
who would guarantee it, or why  
they should do so. The borrower  
usually pays the cost of a mortgage,  
but if from any unusual  
circumstance, or any cause  
necessary for her safety, a  
small expense was incurred,  
she should feel content if it  
was for her good. It will be  
much better for her not to wish  
to depart from any ordinary

1935/3.69

Course.

Believe me

Sincerely yours

Richard Wood

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