

12 Downwood Square

Mrs. Kemps

Mary Lamb

G



9558

To Miss Holcroft. 1828

Mary Lamb has written her last Letter
 in this world. Do not imagine that her
 individual substance has perished, 'tis
 exant yet and sleek, but her epistolary
 part is dead before her, and has left me
writing legatee. Could not you have
 slept down for a day or two this Michaelmas
 vacation? I would have been worth while to
 have seen the difference on our Green.
 On the 28th was whelmed over with those
 pretty Birds that look like snow in summer
 and cackle like ice breaking up - the fatal
 29th arose (is that English?) and their
 place knew them no more. Here and there
 a solitary duck survives to remind one
 of the superior race which had been
 extinguish'd - swans to them -

You remember I asked a large
 party of them into our grounds, to
 meet you -

Of all that pleasant party, your
 dear self excepted, not one remains with a whole throat -

You send loves to Mrs Morgan -
who or what is she or what dream was
it that any such person is here? -
you add too that she is grown plump -
is that a reason why love should be
sent her? I understand neither the
logic, nor affection, implied in that passage -

I have nearly lost my arithmetic
since you went, but count upon renewing
it some day with you -

Enfield is dull but London
is turbulent - we have disqualified
ourselves for a town life by migrating
here, but cannot (for our cockney souls)
get up a moral taste - so we hang
suburban -

I would not bring myself
to face Mr Kenny in Brunsw. R. 19 - (time
and next occasion may take off the
terror) - I thought it would look so
like coming to be repaid for my

any little hospitalities which I might
have had in my power to shew him while
he staid at Enfield, which were no
more than one Gentleman ought to do to
another - moving, tis well if he thought 'em
so much -

and how are all the little orphans
committed to your trust? mind their morals
first. I would not give two pence for all
the Learning you can put into them - in
comparison with that. Do they lay three
in a bed? Do you see them properly lain
in bed, before you go to bed yourself of a
night - I mean, before you lie yourself
down to sleep - ? -

Mary tells me to say that Mrs
Collier knows we shall be happy to see her
any day without ceremony -

and to have you again when you
have vacation, for you were not very
troublesome - indeed, we are more
hospitable by nature than some folks
would guess from our practice - with best
loves to Mrs Kenny, twins & no-twins. Yours truly