

MARY HOLLIS Diary

1872

On Friday August 23rd, I came to 10 Ormonde Terrace, Regent Park, London, with Mr and Mrs Harland and the 2 Miss Harlands, Lucy and Ellen.

Saturday: We all went by the underground railway into the City. We went into St. Paul's Cathedral and staid (sic)[for] the Service after which we went up to the Whispering Gallery and outside the Dome where we had a wonderful sight of London - To reach the Dome we had to ascend 534 steps.

Sunday: Ellen and I accompanied Mrs Harland to the Foundling Hospital where we saw 200 boys and 200 girls who were being brought up by charity, the girls were dressed in white tippets and aprons and little mob caps. They chanted the service in the Chapel most beautifully. We afterwards saw them at their dinner and went over their school rooms and sleeping rooms beside kitchen and laundry etc.

Monday was a wet day and we did not go out.

Tuesday: Ellen and I went with Mr and Mrs Harland first to the National Gallery which was filled with beautiful paintings. This was in Trafalgar Square where is the monument to Lord Nelson. We afterwards went through the Lowther Arcade where we bought a work box - afterwards passing Charing X Hotel we walked along the Thames Embankment till we came onto Westminster Bridge from whence we had a beautiful view of the House of Parliament and St Thomas's Hospital. We heard the great clock of the House of Parliament strike twice. We then went into Westminster Abbey and the beautiful Chapter House which Mr Harland explained to and showed us the place where Kings and Queens of England have been crowned for a thousand years.

Wednesday. I walked to the top of Primrose Hill which from Ormonde Terrace looks most beautiful by gas light.

Thursday: Mrs Harland took Ellen and me to the Portland Bazaar in Regents Street just opposite the beautiful Langham Hotel.

Friday: Ellen and I walked to the Soho Bazaar which pleased us very much. We then went into the Crystal Palace Bazaar but Mrs Harland being very tired went home leaving us to walk back after we had been over the Bazaar. Unfortunately we missed our way and walked several miles in the wrong direction but reached home at last where we found Mr and Mrs Harland beginning to be quite uneasy about us and Mr Harland preparing to come in search of us.

Saturday: Mr and Mrs Harland took Ellen and me over the House of Parliament. In the House of Lords we saw the Queen's Throne upon which she sits at the opening of

Parliament with the Chairs for the Prince and Princess of Wales on each side of it also the Wool Sack on which the Lord Chancellor sits and the seats for Bishops at the right hand of the Throne. We then saw the House of Commons and were shown the Speaker's Chair and the Ladies Gallery with the grating before it – besides other grand Halls with paintings and statues – we also saw Westminster Hall where a Banquet is held at the Coronation of our Kings and Queens at which time the King's Champion rides in dressed in armour and challenges anyone who dares to dispute the King's title to take up the Gauntlet (the iron glove belonging to his armour) which he throws down. From the Hall we went down to the Crypt and saw the ancient and beautiful Chapel of St Stephen. We now proceeded to Westminster Pier and went in a steam boat down to Battersea Park and saw some very beautiful Gardens call the Sub-Tropical where there were a great variety of foreign plants from Asia and Africa growing as if they were in their own Climate – We returned in the steam boat to Pimlico Pier passing in sight of Chelsea Hospital the Home for old Soldiers – amongst other sights on the River we saw Lambeth Palace the residence of the Arch-Bishops of Canterbury for several hundred years – on getting out of the boat at Pimlico we went to our Uncle Trents in Moreton Terrace and after staying there one hour went home by the underground Railway from the Victoria Station after having had a most pleasant day.

Sunday – Ellen and I went in the afternoon to St Mark's Church close to Primrose Hill and in the evening to St Stephen the Martyr in St John's Wood.

Tuesday – I went to the St John's Wood Orphanage for 60 girls who have lost both parents to make some enquiries for Mrs Harland. I was shown over the Building which was extremely nice.

Wednesday – Ellen and I went with Mr and Mrs Harland into Cheapside intending to see the Royal Exchange, the Guildhall – the Bank, the Mansion House, London Bridge and the Monument – but just as we got into Cheapside the rain came down in torrents and after waiting in a Pastry Cooks the best part of an hour and no appearance of its ceasing we were obliged to come straight home again! However we stopped in Baker Street and went to see the Baker Street Bazaar so that our day was not quite lost.

Friday – Ellen and I went with Mr and Mrs Harland and Minnie to the Crystal Palace which surprised us more than anything we have yet seen in London – The immense size of the Buildings with the varieties of things to be seen quite bewildered one and we were very sorry when it was time to come away.

Sunday – In the afternoon I went with Lucy to Christ's Chapel Haverstock Hill at St John's Wood. I never was in so large a Church before – there is a gallery all round and a second Gallery above it, the Church was hung in black for Mr Fisk who was its former Minister and whose death occurred last week.

Tuesday – Lucy and I went with Mrs Harland first to the large Orphanage at Havestock Hill and afterwards to the Alexandra Infant Orphanage at Hornsey Rise High Gate which

was a beautiful sight, some were little Babies in Arms and many under 2 years of age, There were separate Cottages each with a bedroom and play room but all under one roof and plenty of nurses to take care of them, the little things all seemed very happy and healthy.

Wednesday – Ellen and I went to Madame Tussauds Wax Works in Baker Street. We saw all the Royal family there dressed in beautiful dresses beside many other persons of interest we went also into Chamber of horrors – which is full of people who have committed murder or other dreadful crimes.

Thursday – Lucy, Ellen and I went by a boat from Westminster Pier to Pimlico and went up to our Uncle Trents' and had tea with them returning home by the underground railway.

Friday – Lucy, Ellen and I went with Mrs Harland and the young ladies to the British Museum, where stuffed Animals of almost every sort were to be seen and interested us greatly – on our way home we went into the large shop of Shoolbeck in Tottenham Court Road where Ellen and I bought ourselves each a cloth jacket and a Bag for Jane.

Saturday: Ellen and I went to the Polytechnic. We saw there some very good dissolving views giving the history of Mr Livingstone's travels in Africa.

Sunday. Lucy and I went in the afternoon to Mr Cadman's Church Trinity. Mare Le Bone and in the evening to St Stephens.

Saturday. Ellen and I spent the evening at our Uncle Trents.

Sunday – I went in the morning and evening to St Stephen's where two Charity sermons were presented by Mr Harland.

Monday – Ellen and I went to the Zoological Gardens which was a great sight and well worth seeing and on Thursday we left London and came home after a five weeks visit of great enjoyment and which I shall long think of with great pleasure.

1876.

September 5th. I came with Mr and Mrs Harland the two Miss Harlands Lucy and Ellen on a second visit to London – to 89 St George's Square – On Wednesday Sept the 6th Lucy and Ellen went to Putney to fetch Minnie whom Mrs Harland had taken to see her mother – I went in the steamer to meet them all at Chelsea which I enjoyed very much – on Thursday, Ellen and I went to the Subtropical Gardens which are really most beautiful – we had a delightful row on the beautiful river there amongst the swans and Islands.

Friday – I have been this afternoon with Minnie to a steamer on the River Thames to London Bridge and was much surprised to see the continual traffic over it.

Saturday – Miss Amy, Lucy, I and Minnie went this morning by the boat to Charing Cross – we looked through the Lowther Arcade and at the beautiful Monuments and Fountains in Trafalgar Square – Sunday – Lucy and Ellen went in the morning to St Philip's Church in Regents Street at which Mr Harland has taken the Duty for three Sundays – In the afternoon Lucy and I went by the boat to Westminster Abbey – we heard there a most beautiful sermon but from the immense size of the Abbey we could scarcely hear the other part of the service. In the evening Ellen and I went to Holy Trinity Church. It was a most beautiful sermon from Galatian 6.2 – bear ye one another's burdens and so fulfil the law of Christ – and Choral service which we both thoroughly enjoyed.

Monday – Mr Harland, the young ladies, Lucy and I went by the boat to Charing Cross and through the beautiful National Gallery which is greatly improved and enlarged since I saw it four years ago the new part having only been opened one month – Mr Harland explained things to us which made it very interesting.

Tuesday – Lucy and I have been today with Mr and Mrs Harland and the Children to the South Kensington Museum – which is both wonderful and beautiful – we also went to see the Albert Hall and the beautiful Albert Memorial in Hyde Park which is magnificent. It is built of Marble and Bronze and surrounded by figures of Ancient Poets and Painters and good men of ages back erected by the Queen and Nation.

Wednesday – Lucy, Ellen and I walked to Victoria Station from there we went in the omnibus to Edgware Road to do some shopping.

Thursday – Ellen and I went with Mr and Mrs Harland to the Alexandra Palace by the underground railway.

Friday – Ellen went to the Bank of England.

September 17th

Sunday. Ellen and I went in the morning with Mrs Harland and the young ladies to the Military Asylum – where five hundred boys are being brought up for the Army – sermon from St Matthews VII – 21,22.

In the afternoon – Mr and Mrs Harland, the children, Lucy and I went by the Boat intending to go to St Paul's Cathedral but not being in time we went into St Mary's Church where there was a childrens service and christening.

At night Lucy and I went with Mr Harland to St Philip's Church in Regents Street where Mr Harland preached a beautiful sermon and we enjoyed the service exceedingly. Sermon from Cor.X 4 verse (sic),

Monday – Lucy is gone with Mr and Mrs Harland to Windsor Castle to see the Queen's state rooms.

Thursday. Ellen and I went with Mr and Mrs Harland and the young ladies to the Queen's Mews (stables) she has about ninety beautiful Horses eight cream coloured which she uses about once a year we also saw her Carriages and the place where the Prince of Wales's children learn to ride – Ellen and I afterwards went to St Paul's Cathedral we look over it (sic) and then stayed to the service.

Wednesday – I went with Mrs Harland to South Kensington to the School of Cookery where people go to take lessons.

Friday – Mrs Harland took Lucy, Ellen and I by the Boat to London Bridge to see a monument erected on the spot where the fire broke out two or three hundred years ago and burnt down the whole city – we went to the top of the monument which is three hundred and eleven steps from where we had a wonderful sight of London. We then went into the Church where John Newton is buried, Mr Harland read to us the inscription which he left to be written on a plain Marble Tablet after his death. We then went and saw the Banquet Hall and Library and a room where a committee meet in the Guild Hall – we then passed the Mansion House, Bank of England and walked again through St Paul's – we had a very pleasant day.

Saturday – Ellen and I called at our Uncle Trents but did not stay many minutes.

Sunday. I and Ellen went in the afternoon to St Margaret's Church close to Westminster Abbey – I enjoyed the service very much – we had the Litany, four Hymns and a most beautiful sermon on the subject of Josiah the youthful King – In the commencement of the sermon the clergyman spoke of John Newton who was a very careless man but afterward became a very good man he said that many of the Hymns they sang were written by him and amongst them (How sweet the name of Jesus sounds) which Mr Harland had told us only two days before – In the evening Ellen and I went to Holy Trinity Church – the Anthem was taken from the 119 Psalm the 9th and following verses – and the sermon was on the subject of St Michael and all Angels are they not all –tering (illegible)

1875

July 11th. I came with Mr and Mrs Harland, the young ladies, my sister Lucy, E Jackson and nine orphans to spend a fortnight at Buxton It having rained all day we did not go out after our arrival.

Thursday. Still continued to rain but in spite of the gentle rain we nearly all went out for an hour. We walked through the beautiful Pavilion and Gardens by the Crescent through Spring Gardens, etc.

Friday was a lovely day E Jackson and I and the orphans went to the Pavilion in the Evening to hear the usual performance of Music by Mr Julian Adams.

Saturday. Mr Harland returned to Colwich – Millie and I went for a ramble through the market and shopped etc.

Sunday. Lucy and E Jackson went in the morning to /St John's Church. I had quiet morning reading in the afternoon I went to St James's Church. No sermon and no singing with the exception of one hymn without the organ, The sun is sinking fast. I very thoughtlessly put Mrs Harland's letters which were very important into the pillar post which are not cleared on Sunday's which gave her the trouble of writing again and I had to take them to the post Office. In the evening E Jackson and the Orphans went to St James's Church. Full Choral Service. I went alone to St John's which was delightfully filled – Beautiful sermon from St John XX 17. Touch me not for I am not yet ascended to my Father.

Monday. I went down into Spring Gardens and onto the slopes. Mr Harland returned from Colwich – pouring wet day.

Tuesday – I took some wool work and spent a very pleasant evening in the Pavilion.

Wednesday. Mr and Mrs Harland's wedding day. I went out into Spring Gardens. In the evening Mr and Mrs Harland, the young Ladies – Lucy, E Jackson and Orphans all went to the Pavilion – I enjoyed a lovely evening alone.

Thursday – I went into Spring Gardens and by the Crescent into the Pavilion. I took my knitting and enjoyed myself exceedingly.

Friday – I went with the nine orphans into the Corbar (sic) woods. I took some work with me and a book which one of them read aloud. We sat where we had a delightful breeze and view and enjoyed ourselves exceedingly. I afterwards went down into Spring Gardens.

Saturday – E Jackson, I and the Nine Orphans took our work and spent a pleasant Evening in the Pavilion.

Sunday – I did not go out in the morning. In the afternoon I went to St John's Church, Litany and Communion and one hymn without the Organ – O God unseen yet ever near. I afterwards walked through the Pavilion Gardens round the Pool outside and up the Broad walk – In the evening I went to St James Church, Choral Service beautiful anthem from Psalm 34, 8,9,10 verses – O taste and see how gracious the Lord is: blessed is the man that trusteth in him, O fear the Lord ye that are his saint: for they that fear him lack nothing – the lions to lack and suffer hunger: but they who seek the Lord shall want no manner of things that is good. I afterwards walked through the Gardens and Pavilion.

Monday – Mr Harland returned from Colwich and we all went at 8 o'clock to the Pavilion.

Tuesday – I went to hear the Morning Band in the Pavilion Gardens which I enjoyed very much and in the afternoon Nellie and I had a pleasant walk along Duke's drive towards lovers leap and back through a lovely Wood.

Wednesday – Nellie and I took some work and sat on the slopes for a short time, then through the market and Spring Gardens shopping and in the Evening Lucy and I went to the Pavilion – music – delightful Scotch Airs.

Thursday – Lucy and I have been through the Market Spring Gardens and on the slopes the hottest day since we came.