

Scutari, Asia. -

Thursday, Ev. Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> 1879.

My dear parents, -

Tuesdays + Thursdays are the principal days for receiving the American mail in Constantinople, + we have just been enjoying the receipt of ours. - William had papers; - + letters from Uncle Curtis, Aunt Antoinette, + the Treasurer of the A. B. C. F. M. - There was one letter from Oxford, Mother's, mailed Sep. 29<sup>th</sup>. Wasn't it pretty quick traveling to arrive on the 16<sup>th</sup> of Oct.?

We looked in the papers, + found that the Arizona sailed Sep. 30<sup>th</sup>. - So it must have come on that steamer. Father's letter (23<sup>rd</sup> Sep.) we received last Tuesday. - We have been afraid that after awhile we won't receive so many letters from home, but I told William that I knew that you would both continue to write.

- Fri. morn? Oct. 17? - Here Ellen laid down  
her pen last ev'g, knowing there isn't time  
to finish; so I will add a few words  
& send this off today. She is doing  
a little sewing for Mrs. Ripp on the latter's  
dresses - not much. Ellen keeps up &  
about admirably, considering the mean-  
ness that she might have expected  
after her journey, & quite fills people  
here with admiration. As for Carrie, she  
is having the fairest kind of times, going  
about with other young pseudo-mission-  
aries, seeing the city.

- We are to stay here this winter; I  
mean we shall not go to Samarkand now.  
That will perhaps be our destination next  
Spring. We have been very busy house-  
hunting, Ellie & I, in this place (Sen-  
tain, on the Asiatic side of C-) & at Be-  
bek; & are now waiting for word abt  
a house in Nissan, a mile from Bebek,  
& where Robert College is situated. There is

a real European-built house there, the  
property of an English gentleman who spends  
the summer there, but vacants it in win-  
ter. Of course we should rather have a  
furnisher than a native house, but there  
are stronger considerations than that, which  
will turn our decision. We shall probably  
go to Bebek or Nissan, rather than here: in  
either of the three there will be very pleas-  
ant social privileges - almost wholly among  
the missionaries, however. The only hard-  
ship that I see, of very great moment, here,  
is the isolation from our own land &  
being where the common concerns of the  
community about us are not interesting  
to us; & that isn't hard except as a wife-pro-  
spect. But in that respect we are doubtless  
destined to see immense vital changes  
here. - We were sorry we had  
not accepted your offer kind &  
brought butter with our goods, as  
we find it is sent from America  
as well as from England, & we like  
the American butter better. - Can you

send us a fiskin? - If so, please  
communicate with Mr. Charles Hatch's  
No. 1 - Somerset St. Boston, American  
Board, as to how & when to send  
it, &c. - My carrier is going  
today with a party to the end of the  
Pasphorus, about 24 miles.  
Goodbye. Love to all. Aff. Elli.