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Warner Correspondence, March 11, 1886

Helen F. Warner

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Bray Grove
Narcossee

March 11th

My dear Maama

I am afraid my last letter
was over & before you got it,
I missed two mails somehow.
Thanks most awfully for all the
clothes and things you have sent,
the "toaster" as Bertha would call
it is awfully useful as we are
going to a sort of boarding house
kept by the D^r and his wife in
Orlando and I dare say they would
expect me to have a piece of mainboak,

I am awfully glad you thought of
sending me a short frock, it will
do splendidly for a pattern, I am
beginning to learn to sew at last,
I am making a dozen little thin
bodices that I can put on flannel or
white petticoats in no time when it
wants to be short coated, I don't want
to leave my sewing for the summer, the
needles all squeak and the scissors
get rusty directly there besides the
flies worry so frightfully, but just
now I am glad to have it to do. We
are going to drive to Kasaanine next
Monday week (the 22nd) and go on
next day to Orlando either by train
or buggy, I shall drive if I am not
too tired, the trains are so horrid

long cars with seats like pews and
everybody mixed together, there are
only two classes, and of course that
means black and white, ~~to~~ both
are nasty; at least of course I have
only tried the white. Bill is gone into
Missouri today and is to be out
tomorrow morning, Herbert is
here again and Capt. Stratford is gone
I am glad to say, Bill always disliked
him and he certainly was not a nice
old man; the way he left was very
unpleasant though, yesterday we
were having a makeshift lunch
at $\frac{1}{2}$ past one ~~in~~ the kitchen all four of
us and Herbert had cut the beef and
was beginning his, when all at once
the old Capt. ~~ran~~ rushed out, Bill
went to ask him what was the

matter, and he said there was not
enough bread and wouldnt come
back, of course we didnt care
what he did, and he never came
back until this morning, and then
it was for his luggage, I asked him
why he had gone and he said Bill
& Herbert were so rich they had not
asked him (the stranger) what he
would have first before they began
themselves, I explained Narcossee
was not London, but I am glad he
went, he has been here more than
a fortnight, and was an utter stranger
to Bill & myself except by a letter of
introduction. I have been awfully
well lately except for two days and
then I really couldnt say I was ill,
on top of sorts that was all, I can always
have breakfast in bed if I like, but

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I very rarely do, Bill is a fearful old
grandmother about me and insists
on my going out regularly every day
and not doing any work except pottering
about doing easy light things, it
will be all thanks to him if I have an
easy time when it happens, and I
think I shall. Mullins has been rather
disagreeable about our going to another
house, but it couldn't be helped even
if he is offended and he ought to
understand - I shall be very glad to
see Gladys' photo I expect she had
altered when it was taken from when
I left, fancy nearly a year gone
already - We have an ~~orange~~ ^{orange} tree
with about 75 blossoms on it and
nearly all the trees have some on
them, I am afraid we shall

²
have to pick it all off. I had a long
letter from Maurice last week, I sent
it on to Robin to read, he seems to
like Australia pretty well all round,
but the work seems hard. How is
Frank, I am afraid he thinks us
unfriendly not to find him
a job, but we can't do it, as it is
Herbert's out of work and we can't
afford to keep Frank on the chance
of his getting a job, it would prob'ly
mean six months or more. How is
Dotty still on the spot I suppose. Poor
little Gladys how is her face, I think
this place would scint her down to the
ground (here's a bargain) you send
her out with nurse and I'll look after
her gratis, I think I would get nurse
to mind the other one though, can't

you imagine me bathing it etc, I
expect I shall drop it once or twice
before I get used to it. With best
to all the others and many thanks
again for the trouble they have all
taken for the little thing.

Yours affectly

Helena F. Warner.

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I have taken it all off. I had a long
letter from Maurice last week, & sent
it on to John's care, he seems to
like the book's pretty well all round,
but the work seems hard - John's
frank, I've been afraid he thinks us
too much, but I don't think his
a lot, but we can't do it, it is
the book's not of work and we can't
afford to keep Frank on the chance
of his getting right, it would be
there six months or more - How is
Dolly still in the habit of appearing - For
Miss Phelps has in her face, I think
this place would suit her down to the
ground (there is a bargain) you send
her with money and I'll look after
her & that, I think I shall get
twined the other one though, I can't

Warrington
Dec 3 1881



Mr Haig
Marlow Place
St Marlow
Bucks
England —

