

124, Eastbourne Road,
Birkdale.

April 19th 1882.

My Dear Daughter,

We have received all your letters except one we have been expecting daily in reply to a letter written to you by Cousin Ada from here on Good Friday last asking if there was anything you wish to be sent by the Troop, Mr. Bunliffe & Mr. Till who are bringing their daughters to school tomorrow. As we have not heard from you Mama thought you would like a Simnel and she went down to Musworth at Birkdale Station last night and bought you the accompanying one which we send by favour of Mr. Till. I also send Janey her Bible which she omitted to take with her last October. I often think of you when I am coming home at nights from

the office, sometimes I am too tired
to read the newspapers, so I shut
my eyes & doze thinking how soon
it will be time for your coming
home and I wonder if the mill
will be sold or let, and if so
think your Mama & I will come for
you to the school and stay
a few days in Paris though
I am afraid the time is now
getting to near for a chance of
selling in the meantime but there
will be the pleasure (all being
well) of meeting you at St.
Katherine's Dock again. -

We are all very well at present
I have been troubled with the
toothache occasionally for some
time past but am quite free
from it at present and have
been now for a few weeks. Baby has
not yet got any teeth, she is in good
health, Ralphie is quite well and is

3/

and is the best rider, when he rides in the stable on Dick's back every night he will not let anyone hold him on, he says he can ride himself. Maggie is also quite well and I think she will soon be a quick scholar as she is very fond of reading aloud out of any books she can put her hands on. Fanny attends well to her lessons also and is very regular with her music practice.

Walter is fonder of his play than his lessons, though he gets on better here, than he did at Blackburn.

Uncle Thomas & Aunt Elizabeth have been staying for a few days. Uncle Thomas left on Monday morning and Aunt Elizabeth leaves today.

We have 12 pigeons which we can now let out every day without their flying away and two of them are humblers and it is very nice to watch them kissing each other

4.

on the beach House and then
ing about to try which can run
the best. They are called Bald
pates because they have white
heads and grey and blue bodies.

We have also 2 very tame turbs
which ~~will almost~~ will almost
let you stroke them as they feed.
Tell Willie Varley we think they
all stopped now.

We have 3 chickens about 4 weeks
old also 13 eggs now sitting which
we expect to be hatched next
Tuesday.

Dick is getting a fine coat lately
and I think he looks considerably
better than when we first brought him.
He is occasionally pishy but on the
whole I think he is not so bad as
he used to be. He seems to know
us better than he did. Baby is
not at all afraid of him and would
let Dick kiss him but I am afraid
he might bite him as he likes to
nibble at ones clothes or anything
handy.

He has not been in Saddle lately, so

he will take ^{5/} a good deal of tiring
when you come home. I think
amongst you all, including Sixey
and Nenna, you may manage to
get him quite used to the Saddle.

We are having some very fine
weather now and the 5 days
holidays we had for Easter were
quite Summer days. We went twice
to the Botanic Gardens and once
to the Zoological Gardens & had
a very nice sail in a boat on
the Lake. Ada, Fanny, Maggie,
Ralphie and I and all enjoyed
it except F. who was quite nervous
all the time until I told her if
she didn't quiet I would upset
the boat, when she quietened down.

We also went through the Museum
and the Conservatory also the
cock ferry which is very pretty
and in running about Ralphie
got into a small lake with one
foot & had to go home with one
stocking off and one stocking on.

Walter and Maggie were both sick

with swinging ⁶ at the Psychological
gardens but Fanny stood it very well.

The children had some fun with
the goats and the monkeys but
Maggie getting too near the Monkey
Cage, one of the rascals made a
grab at her rather Hubbard
bonnet and tore the Ribbon
off it and I had to borrow a
stick to thrash him before I
could get it from him. We are
now becoming very busy for the
May rent days. Tomorrow I go to
Blithew to hold the Court Seat
at Waddington and next week Johnny
+ I will have to ^{attend} two ground rent
audits. The week after I shall have
two more to attend and then on the
20th of next month finish up by
going to the Slaidburn rent audit.

And now I must ask how you are
getting on with your short-hand.
I have not heard from you lately
about it except once, and should like
each to send me a letter written
in short-hand so that I can see

how you are ^{7.} progressing.

I should like you to be able to teach Walter and the other children when they are old enough to learn.

I find that it is necessary to have a knowledge of shorthand for young clerks to get good situations and this will be more so in the future & it is therefore very necessary that all of you should be well up in it to keep ahead in future.

Tell Willie Varley I am sorry that Walter has not replied to his letter. He started to write the letter in reply & addressed the envelope at once. (five minutes after he had received Willie's letter). He then went out to play & the letter is unfinished.

yet. I think ^{8/} he will have
to get Willie to write it
for him when he next comes
to Southport. With love to all
I remain

Your affectionate Papa

R. L. Rylance,

Miss Rylance,