

1 the girls, took in the situation, and blushed vehemently. Mrs. Van and I walked around the
2 outside of the great dome, and the girls clambered up to the lantern, but did not go up into the
3 bell. Went up in the clock tower, and while Mrs. Van stood directly under the great bell. ~~T~~, the
4 clock struck. The clock keeps good time, but Mrs. Van made better time getting out from under
5 that bell. After taking a lunch, hired a two horse carriage, a fine spanking team of greys, and
6 drove around Hyde Park. All the Nababs of the city were out for a drive, and we passed them in
7 review. Saw princesses, duchesses, and many other asses, much to the edification of our girls,
8 who are crazy after Gimcrackery, and did them good to see a living specimen of Royalty.

9 20th. Mrs. Van and the girls went out shopping to day, and I did a large amount of
10 perambulating.

11 Sunday 21st. Made this a day of rest emphatically. Didn't leave the house.

12 22nd. Did the Zoological Gardens and Regents Park, both unexceptional in their way. Visited
13 Mr. P. Wright and lunched with his family in a very fashionable quarter of the city. Enjoyed the
14 visit very much. Mr. Wright presented me with a card of introduction to the Royal Botanic
15 Gardens, Mr. Wright being one of the Fellows of the society, and without a fellows card of
16 introduction, you can't come in. In the afternoon in company with Mrs. Bruce, visited the
17 Albert Memorial Hall and International Gardens. The hall is a magnificent circular building used
18 for concerts and operas. The gardens & halls surrounding them are very beautiful and used as
19 exposition places for works of art, of which there was great profusion. Took another drive
20 through Hyde Park and noticed particularly the Albert Monument, a work of art almost equal to
21 Walter Scotts Monument, but spoiled with gold leaf ornamentation.

22 23rd. Visited the Tower of London. The guides are found in a small antae room at the gate.
23 They are dilapidated soldiers who have distinguished themselves in battle and are dressed in a
24 flaming red uniform hashed & striped with black. Of course they know every crook & cranny in
25 this intensely interesting old building. Julius Caesar is believed to be the originator of it, though
26 some believe it to have been built in the 11th century. Covers about 12 acres of ground. We
27 were shown first the Traitors Gate, opening from the river; then the Bloody Tower, where
28 Richard 111rd murdered his nephews; another tower where the Duke of Clarence was drown in
29 a pipe of wine; the tower in which Lady Jane Grey was imprisoned; the prison of Anne Boleyn –
30 and many other distinguished persons. The armory is very interesting. The block was shown us
31 on which Lord Lovatt laid his neck and the very axe which went crashing through his windpipe
32 and vertebrae and left an ugly and suggestive mark in the block.

33 It was very interesting for us but not so funny for poor Lovatt. We were shown a very
34 interesting chapel in the White Tower of Norman architecture. Also the spot in the courtyard
35 where the state execution took place. Here Lady Jane Grey saw her husband beheaded and
36 then laid her own head upon the block. Ann Boleyn, Sir Walter Raleigh, and hosts of others
37 were served in like manner. In the Jewell room we were shown the Crown Jewells, among