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1874 June - December — Cooper Harris Incoming letters — MS 1994

SIDE ONE

compt, he was ordained to the curacy of Sheriff Hales & Moreton last March Vicar is Revd. H. O'Rourke married to the Lucy Marshall of Bradley Vicarage. O. Mr Mrs Marsh - the Misses Marsh make their home here - it was this Miss M. Ernest had the offer of the curacy the day he took his degree at Cambridge - I rejoice to say he has work & decided to be Master's service. I must wait to be ordained (Christ Ordinand) next Spring - but he has much work to prepare the Bishop of his diocese (Salisbury) needs much more than most Bishops & Ernest has much practical work, there being 2 parishes the distances are great to walk. & I must tell you a secret he has long been much attached to a charming girl who will (if God gives her bodily strength) I believe make a good helpmate in the Lord's work - but Mr Sutton is an eccentric & not a very agreeable man who wont allow the engagement for longer than 3 months & as Ernest will not be so long as to marry while in a small curacy there has been a good deal of anxiety & worry this Summer - as Mr Sutton will not allow her even to come & see us -!! Alice & I were

The Belmont
November 19/74

My dear Dr Harris

I do take great shame to myself for the length of time I have delayed to write - I at first delayed till Ernest had been ordained & to do from one cause and other have procrastinated - I can only truly assure you & dear Mrs Harris that I have forgotten you - no, never can I forget that you have been to me, & deeply do I feel my debt of gratitude tho' I fear I have not shown it - I often wish I was in my power to see you - I can only beg you with all forgiving my long silence - & accept my warmest thanks for the dear welcome letter received last month - doubly welcome coming when I was preparing to part with my dear Eldest Son for 3 years! You know he has been in Cornwall, engaged in the civil engineering - Ella spent May & June with him & he brought her up in July to