

Fareham Oct. 2nd 1871

My dear little girl.

We were all very glad to get your nice letter, & it made me very happy to know from your own pen that you are comfortably placed & that your friends are kind to you & you are quite contented with your new home.

I showed your letter to Mr Smith & he praised it very much & shamed Roger because he could not write as good. You must write to Mr Smith Emmy & tell him about your school & the church. He will be so pleased.

I sent your letter to Mrs Greig & she quite cried for joy to hear such good news from you. Mrs Reynolds was very glad too. They have not heard from your brother since you left but no doubt he is well only the ship has been moved on.

How nice it is to know you go to school dear & how very kind your Canadian friends must be to send you. I need not tell you to be a good little girl to deserve such kind treatment for I am sure you will.

I find from a letter received from Miss Rye lately that you are adopted & E. Lewis too & not bound as most of the others are. Tell me when you write again if there are any children where you live & tell me about Ellen Lewis too, as she is not able to write herself you know. Poor little granny! We often talk of her & hope she is happy & good. I suppose she has heard by this time from Adolphus. He sailed 7th Sepr for Belleville, Ontario, with six more boys in the care of Miss Macpherson. These are those who went A. Lewis, C. Lee, W. Parsons, G. Goddard, W. Churcher, A. Cooper, & A. Baker.

We have heard from all the girls who can write now, and we know where those are who cannot. A. Cousens is adopted & Mary Churcher & Emma Lee who wrote a very nice letter to her grandmother saying how happy she is. Indeed, you all appear to be very comfortable in your new homes & that is a great comfort to me & your other friends. We often talk of you dear Emmy & the empty long room looks very desolate at night

The opening of a letter written to Emily Boys soon after her emigration to Canada. The signature page has not survived but the letter would appear to have been written by a matron of the Fareham Union Workhouse. Published by permission of the High family.