

## Ellen Nussey – Source 1

Ellen Nussey was a life long friend of Charlotte Bronte. They met in January 1831 when they both attended Miss Wooler's School, Row Head, Mirfield. Ellen was to outlive her famous friend by 42 years, she died aged 80 on 26 November 1897.

112. *June 17 - 46*  
Mind is a complete wreck - owing to  
remorse for her conduct towards Mr  
R - (whose end it appears was hastened  
by distress of mind) - and grief for  
having lost him.  
I do not know how much to believe  
of what he says but I fear she is very  
ill - Branwell declares now that he neither  
can nor will do anything for himself -  
good situations have been offered more than  
once - for which by a fortnight's work  
he might have qualified himself - but  
he will do nothing - except drink, and  
make us all wretched -  
Do not say a word about this to any one  
Dear Ellen - I know no one but yourself to  
whom I would communicate it -  
I had a note from Ellen Taylor a week  
ago - in which she remarks that letters  
were received from New Zealand a month  
since or more and that ~~Mary~~ all was  
well - but that they were on business  
and not sent anywhere - Mary's name



### **Transcription: 17<sup>th</sup> June, 1846 – Charlotte Bronte to Ellen Nussey:**

I do not know how much to believe of what he says but I fear he is very ill. Branwell declares now that he can neither nor will do anything for himself. Good situations have been offered more than once – for which by a fortnight's work he might have qualified himself – but he will do nothing - except drink, and make us all wretched.

Do not say a word about this to anyone Dear Ellen – I know no-one but yourself to whom I would communicate it

17 June 1846, Grolier CB to EN, Grolier/E11/003  
Bronte Parsonage Museum (GB 0533)

<http://www.historytoherstory.org.uk>