

drums, bugles, or the pipes, for the bands below were forbidden to play. I retired almost immediately.

Just below and in front of where we stood were Löhlein, Mayet, Grant, Brown, Cowley, P. Farquharson, D. Stewart, Nestor,* Ross, and Paterson, whom we had brought with us—and why was my darling not near me? It was dreadfully sad.

Took a little luncheon in a room upstairs with our girls, our footmen serving us. After this we left as we came. Affie met us there, and then took leave at the station, William of Hesse joining him. It was quite fair, provokingly so, when we got to *Aboyne*. Here we parted, took leave of Vicky and Fritz, and drove back in an open carriage, reaching *Balmoral* at half-past six. Very tired; thankful it was over, but the recollection of the whole scene, of the whole journey, without my dear Albert, was dreadful! Formerly how we should have dwelt on all!

* Löhlein, the Prince Consort's valet. Mayet, the Prince Consort's second valet, then with Prince Leopold. Cowley, the Prince Consort's Jäger from 1848, pensioned in 1848, formerly in the Blues. Nestor Tirard, the Queen's hairdresser since 1846.