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much from it owing chiefly to the way you took it. So I say: dance holes in your stockings, sweet child, & thank God for the chance to do so in such correct favorable circs & good circles owing to your position & personlity.

I note with dismay what you say about not having heard from me how I have always been scupulously exact about A'S junk & never have I failed to let you kow how & when I forwarded it to him & how he always wrote to thank me by letter, not c.p. So either you forget things or else you do not read my letters attentively. After my recent tea at Pracci's about a month ago I wrote saying I had caught cold there & also that I had handed him in person the things that I had kept at his request & which were, I fancy, the things that Sigra Danesi-Tolnai had sent me in two goes, because she was tired when my messenger called & had not yet opened all her 30 traps - you even remarked later that she had become a salutista. Her child, by the way, is very charming & well dressed, & uncommon type. Deep blue eyes. So glad to have this recent snapshot of S.P. She is developing wonderfully & changing too, pretty quickly. It took mrs Munzi to unravel the mystery of the garment she has on - a grown-up's garment reaching to the ground & too long sleeves. The half-moonshaped object lying across the chair is unexplained, also the shining one on on left-hand póst of the chair-back. Mrs M. swears the lips have been lipsticked & that the open mouth is to show off this fact.

I note the cook's intermittent services & the untimely cold & fatigue entailed by it for you. A.H.'s colds I understand are always severe & trying so I do trust he got over this one well & quickly. It must be an immense relief for him to tell you of his personal worries at the Mus. Be sure you tell me all about the entertainment at Tarrytown & which hat you wore. Very satisfactory that S.P. is getting more attentive to her poor Father. I'm sure it must amuse him considerably. I hope she keeps it up. I am very glad indeed to hear that she is fond of dancing - altho' I do not see how anyone can dance without a sense of rhythm or time. For the present the chief thing is that she enjoys it so frantically.

Things go quickly over there. I can well imagine Alfred's fatigue at having to prepare this Mex. EXh. in so very short a time & consider it most unreasonable. Fancy you two shouldering with live Mexicans & chattering to them in Spanish. Theirs is sure to be pretty corrupt, or shall we say - modified. But since you chatted for hours with a peasant along the road (near Hungerburg) who spoke voluble tyrolese dialect while your German at the time was nothing to boast of - I daresay you can cope with the Mexicans with an equal chance of success. Glad you got the Psem. Shall I go on sending it at same intervals? Does Pusso take medicine too? Fond love to each & a fondle to Pusso. I note what you say about the mail & had anticipated your wish, for you will soon get an air-letter all about S.P. from Assagioli & returning your letter on same subject - love's labour lost as things have fortunately turned out. All the same I should act on the idea of the giardino D'infanzie, or better Montessori, Remember how delighted you were to go to a real school instead of tuition at home. Shall write again soon, so tata for this time

(Over)

As ever fondly Your Mary.

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P. S.

By the time you get this I shall D. V. be comfortable installed in:

Pensione Onatsky
Corso d'Italia 6
Rome

This is where I once had arranged to go & you objected. The O's are great friends of the Girardets who have recommended me warmly. The Aureli's cart will take me & some of my junk. Most of my packing is done. Altho I was well off here, the position of No 6 is so near the Villa & no hills to climb. All flat. This place closes on June 1 or thereabouts. Tariff the same as here

My Room overlooks the Pineta!

Nigra Onatsky is simpatic. Cissina Ukrainian about youragé, distinguished, handsome

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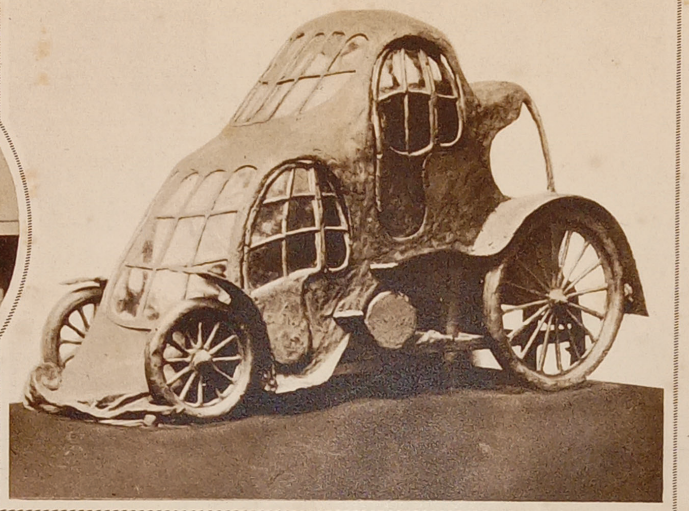
LONDON NEWS Oct. 17, 1936

for Alfred

ORIES EVOKED BY THE MOTOR SHOW.



TRACTOR
T MOTOR

THE STREAMLINE EFFECT IN AN EARLY MANIFESTATION : A VEHICLE CALLED THE "CATAPULT" SHOWN BY M. PIERRE SELMERSHEIM AT A FRENCH MEETING IN 1897, ORGANISED TO "GIVE ÆSTHETIC FORM TO HORSELESS CARRIAGES."



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4 Corvisieri

June 25 Friday evening

[Ca.1936?]

You Darling Thing,

You can't imagine how glad I was to get your p.c. of June 6 as I had been fighting down anxiety for many days, owing to your longer-than-usual silence. Then came a paper saying that Mr Rockefeller had bequeathed &c. to the Modern Museum of N.York & that workmen had already begun clearing away part of his N.Y. Mansion, after which I started imagining how that would affect you and A.H.. seeing there are the new premises well on the way to completion (n by this... Insomma! Then I seemed to get fixed on what has turned out to be the true fact that is that you were getting ready for the summer & buying things for the Greensb. House. A mighty job this, Childie, even in normal conditions. It's a big blessing too, that you are feeling so well and strong, personally I consider you've been going a bit too strong, but I suppose you didn't see your way to do otherwise. I am unspeakably thank-ful to be able to think of you now in restful, hygienic conditions & trust Miss Alice Rice will take good care of you and frown on any too bold undertakings. As for the sun, I dare say you are aware that I think you overdo the thing and that hygienists here now say that the shade of trees, not too dense is far better than direct sun, above all on the head.

Nothing new here except that I am expected to have cleared out at the latest by July 15. I am such a cowardly wretch that anything in the way of a fixed date or hour frightens me to death. I know exactly how to manage and have noted all methodically and everything fits perfectly and still the thought of it makes me feel hot and tense - against all reason. I am endeavouring now to get up a mentalità di partenza. Camilla has with the aid of addresses from a Tuscan lady she met last year in (Cingoli Marche), unearthed a seemingly desirable Hotel at Bibbiena (in the first years of Badia we always took car from B.) so you see how little by little I am gravitating towards Badia. There are of course all the excursions that you know only all easier, more hygienic, quicker & more nume=

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rous, by torpedoni or autobusses. Aren't you glad ? Tassa di soggiorno L. IO. al mese, Servizio 7%, Retta giornaliera L. I5. So I have consented to go and Camilla is so wide-awake and practical that I feel sure I shall be spared all flurry and tenseness, an absurd feeling in all cases. I forgot to say there is a rebate of 50% on railway tickets, so even the journey is not a consideration. You fancy me in the caffetierina from Arezzo...! Wot larx ! You bet it will be Badia next time with your priceless self! Think of it...My apprehensions about food-insufficiency are completely allayed by description in hotel letter. I shall beg or buy a pot of Miss G.'s incomparable jam for the first breakfast at which there is only plain bread and butter. Shall bring things for afternoon tea...perhaps

On Wednesday 23/6 we all went to the first concert of the season at the Basilica di Massenzio. with poor Molinari Excepting the Pastorale the programma was so-so. But alas, fireworks started in the middle of the Past. so we cleared out as soon as it (the Pastorale) was over, walked about the Colosseum in the full moonlight, and I enjoyed the whole outing immensely. We had too a social gathering on the terrazza of which I spoke in my last . I hear the Sissons are in Rome for the summer and are at the Flora. Hope to go see them. Among my pre-start activities looms large and formidable an interview with the direction of Czapolinski's Pesione ~~Giglises~~ Gigliese in Via di Porta Pinciana No 6. I stopped here at IO.30 to go have my hair done up by appointment On returning here at I, I found your darling letter from Virg. Beach with enclosed photo. I was glad. The p.c. got last night must have been badly delayed somewhere. Thanks for 2 fresh batches of mags. with D. Merrill's Coronation pictures also: advice to an expectant father on another. Very good. All you say about coat is O.K. for me as I am overrun with coats. Czapo's catastr. is now at an end. It was some carpenters that set up a series of electric saws close to her house so that she had to remove to a hotel in Viterbo. I heard last night that Sigra Veroni will rent ~~house~~ Villino at S. Martino immediately above the Franza villa, provided she can find a sufficient number of guests-to-be, and that Czapo has promised to be one. Meanwhile I have promised Camilla to go to Bibbiena with her, but could wriggle out of it if I wished, but I don't, as Bib, appeals more to me owing to excursions and new ground and vicinity of Camaldoli and Badia.

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Dr Fass, my tenant pays 675 lire in all. This sum comprises 50 for telephone and 25 for use of linen. I wrote you this already at least once. Am glad you approve of my sending Psem, for just as I had done so, you wrote that the need for all such had ceased. So glad you were wise enough to divide acquisitions for Greensb. in 2 halves and are getting a rest in between, besides shortening stay in Gr. by stay with A. Rice and possibly another at K.day's or at Princeton with the Panowski's, or both. I shall be sure to take golfs and one warm coat to Bibb. All you guessed about political outlook of HSS is exact. Rabid is the right word. Had a letter from Arpalice this morn saying O.K. about a claim of hers for a back month. She admits she had calculated wrong and apologises. As ever, I let her down more than easy as I pity her immensely. She is now bedridden for over a year in a convent on Lake Como. I phoned Dr Fass this morning to ask if he knew anything more about his possibility or likelihood of staying on, for there is an ads in Messaggero that mught suit me. He says something will be decided within a week. Meantime I think I shall get in touch with the ads, per ogni buon fine. Of course I should very much prefer to keep Fass. He is such a dear. Both Contaldi and Aureli liked him, and thought him perfectly overboard and honest. Although Piera was very guarded when mentioning Massimo's new position, I could see clearly that it was a very good thing financially with a fine pension later, possibly paralysing all other initiative. She has since said that he cannot get at all he has to do and is worrying about this point. He is so goodnatured and courteous that he wastes time with everybody and cannot refuse to do a good turn to all that appeal to him. They all know this and bother him, just as I do, about their affairs great and small. He will, I foresee, have to change his hand and become invisible. But will he be able? I expect Piera will have to do all the sending away. I forgot to say that owing to indecision of the company for which Fass works, I had offered Fass to get pressure put on from above and so with F's consent brought about an interview w. Massimo in which F. begged him to take no steps, as he felt it would injure instead of helping. The company is a state affair and directly controlled by IT. Ahem....

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Can't think of anything more to say except that I think your figure wonderful for 6 months. The last months are a weighty af= fair and you should now refrain from stooping, or rather bending to tie shoes and such, but that is easier said than done. I must say I think expectant mo= thers have a far easier time here, owing to facilities about service, and the affectionate nature of nearly all maids. Also their many-sided-ness , which my HSS are never done comparing very favourably with British maids, dressmakers, porters and so on. It is a well-known fact that one's figure is immensely im= proved by having a kid. So will yours, though not until after the little one is weaned. This in case you nurse it yourself, of course. Piera's has improved incredibly, but she says she is not yet back at the normal, as Adriano is still unweaned. He is a very good child and so well= trained. Lies awake in cradle crooning and quite happy, whereas most kids yell to be taken up and entertained. I simply LOVE Alice Rice for giving you such a hap= py quiet time. Beware of too much direct sun. I never heard until this last letter that you, of all people were anemic.....

God Bless my darling Childie in every way

Dear love to A.H. when you write him

as ever fondly your only

(P.S. Very kind regards to Prof. Panowsky when you see him) Mav.

I shall surely see Dr Lupi before leaving.
You are quite right about Catarrh being my only drawback.

I seem to feel you don't read my epistles through. Now you'll get this in all the bustle after getting back to N. York, glance at it, and leave it behind when you start for Greensb.....

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124

Compagnia Italiana dei Cavi Telegrafici Sottomarini

Telegramma via Italcable

1936 MAY 10 PM 5 58

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LETTER MATIGNON LOVE - MAV

CABLOGRAMMI PER TUTTO IL MONDO via Italcable TELEGRAMMI LAMPO FRA LE PRINCIPALI CITTÀ D'ITALIA E FRA QUESTE E LA CITTÀ DEL VATICANO

Stab. L. Salomone - Roma

for which all the youth have worked assiduously at creating cotillon favours that were really very pretty, in good taste & very become, consisting of hats sunshades scacciamosche & printed complimenti (numbered questions for the girls same numbers with answers for the men.) The thing was well directed none but desirable confusion & perfect good humour. Everyone danced the modern dances right well. The orchester was right good. All in a locale on the lines of the little theatre in Tickets only but much less pretty. Many came from all surrounding paesi much entrian great fun, No excess beyond perhaps noise. Tickets L.I. No undesirables. Nearly all the elderlies here went, I among the number & had much fun, firing comete filanti at the youngsters below. For we were in a raised gallery. About one I made it known discreetly that the first group to leave wd. count me among them. So I walked home with Giorgio's father & the Directress who by the way is only paid person, the owner is one Clemente who owns quite a lot of ground & houses here. So I was in bed, toilet comprised by two. All went to the II.30 mass this morning except myself but next Sunday I shall bespeak company & go too - looking beyond sects & ceremonies.

val di Fiemme place.

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Posted Su nday Evg. Sept I Posted Monday 2/9

For perusal at full leisure, being only that.

Casa del Giardino - Genazzano (prov di Roma)

Begun Friday Evg, 27/ 8/ 35.

Dearest & most lovable of Precious Darlings,
This epistle will take the form of a daily bulletin until the time comes round for posting to N.Y. or even Paris.

I only got into my rightful room yesterday about 6 p.m. by which time I had exhaustively slept, walked, read borrowed papers, slept again, this time rolled up most comfortably in bed-cover, as the afternoon had turned chill & I was not warmly dressed, & so was right glad to get hold of my possessions once more. For the nonce, the air is like this: dress very coolly in the morning till round five p.m. Then as you like, only with a warm wrap. Food & cookery satisfactory & more than sufficient for me, even at my best, tho' lamented by some as a bit scarce. Everything is so very clean & well kept . Rooms flitted every day as a matter of course by the maids & that without exceptiom. The air is lovely, so pure, dustless, brezzy, & balmy & bracing . The company most aimiable , yet not in the very least oppressive, so that I can & do go off on my own without question or control, whenever I think fit. A lady lent me her intelligent but quaint & very intelligent & witty son of about II as a cicerone to see things, buy p.c. ill. Marceria & cioccolattini. These women are really very goodnatured tho' perhaps more indulgent to me as a foreigner than they would feel towards a compatriot. I'm ever so happy to be here & most grateful to you especially, of course, but also to our capricious friend Jacopo for recommending & for motoring me here. I carded him at once next day, tho, as I never needed his address in Rome, I had to ask his co-inquilino for it. A lady here, whose husband is a native, says wonders of the number of cars & villeggianti in Olevano, the walks views, air, & beauties of that place, so that I shall inquire further & take written notes of same for a future occasion. For I suspect we just didn't know the right place to go to. She also said what a number had built villinis there, so perhaps all the Germans go to friends for sojourns there. Tanks ever so much for scribbles on letters & p.c.'s. They tell me here that news of poor Queen Astrid's sudden demise only appeared on last evening's Giorn. d'Italia. Frigh tfully sad affair & most painful; I believe those two really loved each other. The same thing happened to friends of the Duchessa di Cassano - the Chigi's. He married again after some years & I met his second wife while in Fiuggi with that family. Sunday Evg 3 p.m. Weather hot, light dazzling , but air breezy and bracing & doing me a world of good already. Have just come up to my quarters after more than two hours of jokes & uproarious mirth & Jollification the chief promoters being 5 men of whom 2 married with grown-up children I fiancé & my cicerone Giorgio & 2 free lances Nearly all the guests took part. They infected one another & it might have been in Ireland. Last evening took place a "Ball" for which all the yuth have worked assiduously at creating cotillon favours that were really very pretty, in good taste & very become, consisting of hats sunshades scacciamosche & printed complimenti (numbered questions for the girls same numbers with answers for the men.) The thing was well directed none but desirable confusion & perfect good humour. Everyone danced the modern dances right well. The orchester was right good. All in a locale on the lines of the little theatre in Tivoli only but much less pretty. Many came from all surrounding paesi much entrian great fun, No excess beyond perhaps noise. Tickets L.I. No undesirables. Nearly all the elderlies here went, I among the number & had much fun, firing comete filanti at the yougsters below. For we were in a raised gallery. About one I made it known discreetly that the first group to leave wd. count me among them . So I walked home with Giorgio's father & the Directress who by the way is only paid person, the owner is one Clemente who owns quite a lot of ground & houses here. So I was in bed, toilet comprised by two. All went to the II.30 mass this morning except myself but next Sunday I shall bespeak company & go too - looking beyond sects & ceremonies .

Tivoli Fiemme place.

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Now for your ex uisite thought in writing such truly welcome scribbles & so legibly too, on all my mail which act, together with two wires made me feel & know you were still hovering near & over me & that I was being well looked after and that was very good. Next your phone-call last evening at 6.30, with all the inquiries & excellent practical advice re maid , but which I seem to have cut short through my stupid nervousness about time & certainly without one single word to tell you of the perfect Glow of affection gratitude & approval of you ø love wisdom & forethought all rolled into one delight - which literally over flowed & flooded my whole being as I walked home. This morning, besides all this, brought me your truly grand & quite unexpected long letter . Now how to word my thoughtts & feelings, my pride over your truly exceptional & totally grandiose nature & attitude towards me - who have been but a pretty insufficient mother thought through no fault of mine. Just in the critical years when a chummy mother can be so much to a girl - you had to suffice to yourself - or chum without siders. In this respect I wish here to reassure you as to my attitude & feelings about ErminiaI freely admit that I was, I still consider most naturally - apprehensive about her possible bad influence over you at so very susceptible an age. But long be fore you left for Am. I recognised that my fears were unfunded, felt much relieved at this & longed to make the fact known to you both. But my overtures were not welcomed, or were not suitably expressed , or else you both had taen up a parti pris, fatto sta that she remained hostile in spite of all I tried to do for her & the child . She accepted my offers working in our flat for many Americans & Ted, tolerated my playing with the boy & admiring his antics. Took away her many belongings little by little when she had got hold of the room she wanted & when I noted that she stopped coming & looked around, th ey were all gone, but she had not said a word of goodbye. In the new room I gave her several things to do which she spoiled, worked unsatisfactorily for others whom I sent her, sent back a trifle of 25 lire I had sent her with an affectionate line. So I was forced to the conclusion that she would have none of me & desisted. Then at the time of the boy's last illness, I went again & again & met the Father & was as friendly to him as I knew how & even liked him ...when the child died I never knew of it until after the funeral, went to see her, & found her quite buttoned up & refusing to mention him. She once came then after some time asking me to go with her to the lover's superior to denounce or take some unwise steps & was so exalted that I feared for her reason & exhorted her to have patience & that as soon as he was free he would certainly marry her , but that I felt that what she wanted me to do was most unwise. In a word I did all in my power to conciliate her but in vain. She had taken that attitude towards me as soon as she entered the house. I did not intend to say all this when I started but now it is written & I don't know how much of it you knew before. Since her matters were always a closed book between you & me. But I do wish to say that I feel most grateful to her for all she was to you at a time when you seemed to feel you could not confide in me & needed, really needed a younger soul than myself & one that had not and had never had authority over you. This is a case that happens very frequently & was mentioned, I thought, pointedly, to me at the time by - of all persons - Gladys Verschoyle. She said quite at random as she so often does still . "Don't of a ll things be surprised if your daughters fall in love with the cook & make a confidant of her to your entire exclusion . It's a most frequent & totally normal phenomenon. But unfortunately for both mothers & daughters, the mothers cannot or willnot admit this. All they need do is to wait & have patience & all will come right. but no. They will run rund & interfere & make a lot of mischief." I thought tomyself that poorGlad was telling her own sad experience .Listened & held my own tongue. But I felt how true she spoke & how precious a girl like Erminia would have been to poor Auntie Katy when your Grandma & her sister were so needlessly cruel & uncomprehending in their attitude to her at Tournore, when after a month's visit at I6 or I7 to a richish cousin she got a few letters from young friends of that family on her return home.

Therefore I wish you to know that I feel nothing but gratitude towards Erminia, regret for her aversion to myself & pity for her very sad & pitiable fate & life altogether. Most of her sorrows I consider were due to her most unfortunate temperament, but also to the irregularity about her birth. Which the lover knew of. And said to Aureli that this was his only motive for delaying their union. Until he had left theservice.

To return to present matters. While I deeply regret & deplo
re

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deplore both for Alfred &for you this fresh upset, I mean his dear parents' ill=
health, & cordially wish them a speedy & compl te recovery, Still I don't see A.
H. taking an active part in household matters as you seem to, but rather see him
living - possibly with fewer comforts than you would wish him, but still onthe o
outside edge of all things - so to say & probably much invited by old family fri
ends for all or most meals & possibly games rowing, walks o excursins, of which fri
ends they must have a host, acquired in so many years. These good people whom you
may reasonably dislike may enjoy A.H.'s sympathy & goodwill & must know both him
& his elders & must guess or know or comprehend their vagaries, necessities, likes
& dislikes: so you may rest assured that Alfred's share of inconvenience from the
paental ill health & presence of brother s child is reduced to a minimum - not for a
ny other reason than that he is a) man - And his being as he is .Whom I pity in t
his upset is your dear too-willing, too-active self - for as I know you ,you a
re more likely than not to start out to set matters straight for all concerned
and thus find yourself swimming or trying to - against that current of bad servi=
ce, habits or ways they have fallen into unwittingly, & crankiness innate to all
invalids. So, as you can't do any good in IO days, I implore you to clear out as
soon as ever you can - going to friends to spend any stray extra days you may h
have before Alfred's fatal date for resuming activity in museum.While thus stayin
g in friendly houses you too may & hoffentlich will succeed in picking up a de=
sirable maid - such as I wish you with all my heart - just as you do to me.
How I love you my own Darling Childie - I bless you And Alfred with the richest
blessings - I think of you ceaselessly - am in fact Daisy-conscious - and as eve
r but more closely and fondly than ever before your very own Mav.

P.S. Am risking sending this to Paris- you can read it on boat.Am so very
glad & relieved that you resolved to give up Milan & have enjoyed instead two
pleasantish days in Rome instead, before the long pull of the crossing, followed
by shopping in N.Y. & furnishing & other joys in Greensb.I have not yet thanked
you for the loving thought expressed in what I fancy must be a rather special
golf - from your mention of it & the name of the firm. Perhaps you didn't
know I have one of your violet ones here which I had kept at hand when stowing
the others woollen things. Am wondering whether you & John left together , per=
forming together solemnly intended rite re house keys followed by post-key.

I wish you to know that I feel sincerely grateful for & completely approve
your too mild note re smoke habit for me.So to-day Sept. Ist I started on those
lines & have (at I. IO past midnight smoked only one cigarette(in various whiff
s,quenching at once)which I only began at 4 p.m. I went with a large party from
here to a circo equestro here ,sat near the merriest of our group & laughed with
the best.In spite of circus ball & much laughter - I am feeling pretty queer at
the prospect of nearly a year all alone without you & with a strange maid to
break in, by way of comfort.BY stages of 3 & 3 days in the eliminating process I
expect to have got down to O cigarette by the IOth of this present month. For I
too am & was for some time fully alive to the necessity of stringent measures in
this regard. A horrid note on this orning's pap
per bids fair(or rather very foul) to reduce, if carried through, to reduceMr
Smith's world -be conquest to the value of a sucked egg or if you prefer a squee
zed lemon. The Brit. Gov. having sent anote to the Negus disappoving & advising
cancellationof contract, there may be complications unforeseen ahead. It was la=
tely borne in to my consciousness that The Negus will probably quit and run if
and when or even before things get unpleasant over there - just as did William
& Alphonso - carrying off as much wealth as he can, ra
ther than face a choice of possible woes. This
sudden & unexpect turn in events may even
avert a real war if wisely handled. I feel cer
tain I shall wear your new golf with keen
delight & great effect. Appetite improving
at every meal, will soon be normal again

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for cooking is fair & food simple but excellent & fruit a-1. Yesterday 1 family offered a pizza di Pasqua ~~for~~ to us all, to-day there were beignets con Crema, quite good. Another family offered choice plums from Rome. wonderfully made up.

Shall speak to servants & Direttrice about maid to morrow. I had intended limiting B^ti to certain hours. He is aiming high & I was glad to help, this last year exceptionally much.

Monday 2/9

Owing to mistaken posting hour this letter will not reach you in time for boat. And in N.Y. you will never find time to read it Worse luck

As ever Max.

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Elle sait nombre de plats doux.

6-II-35 Chérie Bienaimée, Ma béatitude persiste, car outre tout le reste elle a bon charactère et est ma= ternelle et dorlottante. J'en souffre par le meilleur élément de mon moi, et ne cesse de me-rappeler ton pé= trin et de te souhaiter un "ange" semblable. Hier au soir Piera et sa soeur Phipps sont venues au thé, pui s au dîner, Jacopo, qui a beaucoup goûté les mets bien préparés et soignés. Les prix commencent tout doucement à monter. Mais sont très surveillés. Ces dames ont ex= hôté à l'économie, surtout à cause de l'incertitude de la durée des sanctions. J'ai dîné chez Aureli et Nicol ai. Dimanche seule avec un livre à Villa Celimontana. J'ai vendu l'esc-alier tournant en fonte. N'oublie pa s que je préfère "Living Age" à "Harper". Même vieux d e 2 mois. J'ai été voir S. Temple dans le petit colon= el. Tout le film m'a enchantée surtout une mélodie d'Ir lande que je connaissais. Je m'occupe du p.g. Ne t'en fais pas pour moi, tout ira bien. Puis tout le monde est pleins d'attentions pour moi et me donnerait des tuyaux et des secours au besoin. Faudra envisager la possibilité que tu ne puisses pas traverser l'été pro= chain. Bti devrait venir aujourd'hui, sa mère a téléphoné qu'il est au lit avec l'influenza. Je suis invité tantôt au thé par Mme

Dear Zack: Ella Rebate a me or Carlotta. Thing Highwayle Lafayette Vicent Guido Fine Hotel mars. Cocktail mes Rudini, Lunch mes Bourg Hotel Continental

Dear Zack, Ella Rebate a me or Carlotta. Thing Highwayle Lafayette Vicent Guido Fine Hotel mars. Cocktail mes Rudini, Lunch mes Bourg Hotel Continental

Dear Zack:

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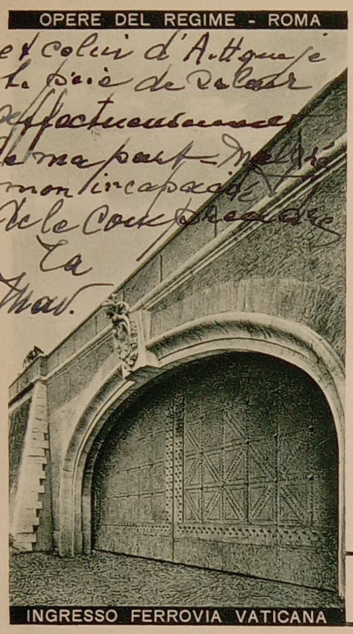

CARTOLINA POSTALE
CARTE POSTALE
S.U.A.

ROMA 22-23 6 XI 35-XIV FERROVIA

PRESTITO NAZIONALE RENDITA

POSTE ITALIANE 75

MRS A.H. BARR
No.2 Beekman Place
NEW YORK CITY.
U.S.A.

et celui d'Attaque je te prie de saluer affectueusement de ma part — Malgré mon incapacité de le comprendre
Ta
Mav.

Mrs Barr:
of Nov. 4
Came duly
in sending your
have answered
may be he wd
react & I could tell you result of new
proposal. Well, he didn't. At least not
in this quarter. True it is that instead
of addressing to S. Quint. etc, I wrote a S
usual to "Il P....." Gerb. T..... (E.)"
by mistake of course. I believe I might
even have answered you at once but
that I am virtually out all day, sitting in
sunny places of which many are caffés here
close by. This radiant spell began about
Oct 20 & is still lasting. In the evening I am
sleepy & disinclined to write. Spite of all
this talk, the news of $70 was certainly
amazing & most welcome, for between
Dentist & a New Boiler for Termosifone at
63,

continued from page 6 scarfs especially even red, not excluded, but hardly or

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Continued from page 6 Nearly as badly as I feared, when I saw you Sunday, but extremely tired & exhausted by the excitement & confusion of various rides. The notice in the Herald, with its exaggerations & confusion of various rides. The notice in the Herald, with its exaggerations & confusion of various rides. The notice in the Herald, with its exaggerations

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2) I shall have a little extra outlay. So it will be quite welcome. I don't yet know how much my share of the Boiler will be, but expect the announcement hourly. So, Evviva Technicolor & Hip Hip.... &c &c for the investors. I seem to be always tired these days & disinclined to do things, so I've written to Lupi to say so. We shall see what he says. I've also written to "Unity" on same subject & would you mind sending them: "as a love-offering" $2., addressing as usual, but adding in lower left hand corner: Dept. Silent Unity

You are a brick renewing my priceless "Digest" & settling these sums at "Unity." The literature which ~~the~~ your last recent payment there was to cover came duly to hand. Many many thanks, you sweet thing!

Maria Nap. has sent the Centerbe & the sweetest Cap which I showed to Miss Sharp in the drawing-room & wh. provoked general admiration. I have spoken of the 3 small bottles, but have not yet shown them to the lady.

You never told me of a plan to get hold of your stuff. She may not like to call & leave it personally at your house.... I shall propose to her to leave it at Amer. Express, & shall leave this letter open to add a note on this very important point, posting to-morrow morning, instead of to-night as intended.

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3/ An hour later same date.

I have shown the package well made up of the 3 bottles of Centerbe & explained how that up to the documented value of $100., goods ~~may~~ are admitted duty free to U.S. She knew ~~that~~ this & assures me that this trifle of Lit. 45 (as by the accompanying bill from Buton's) will make no difference to her (only $2 & a few cents!) So now, the only point left in doubt is about (space in baggage) room. The lady in question is a sculptress named Miss Sharp

Sails from Naples on Nov. 26 on Conte di Savoia.

She agrees to leave your stuff at the American Express office in New York City. Per ogni buon conto I am giving her your name (of course) & address.

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4/ besides the label on package.
There ~~will~~ is no hitch as far, as Miss Sharp is concerned, about the Cuffietta Sarda for she agreed d'emblée to take it, days ago. I expect I shall have to make it up separately, tho' perhaps that might be left to Miss S. to do, in case she shd not wish to declare it & camouflage it

I hope you had a good time at the tea-party & dinner on Thanksgiving Day as you wrote. [I need longish white forcelline invisibile, not too weak.]

My Noristenants are settling down & are well pleased with the flat, its position, its full sunniness, its priceless beds, all of which items they more than once remarked on, enthusing. They feel chilly in the evening of course & are naturally impatient for the heating to begin. It is promised for the 21st Nov., delay being due to installing New Boiler. I am paying for some items "che non mi spetterebbero, pour les amadouer" in the hope of their staying for some time. They are old, & their daughter is always ailing. (stomach & intestinal trouble)

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5/ The coat Piera admired is the one I had all this summer, (black & white checked) that I'm so fond of & that had just returned from Cleaner. Mme Fouquet wrote again 2 days ago, but's gave no titles of films. When answering I shall say what a boon her last hints have been.... Yes, I am keeping Florence well to the front for a spring outing & feel with you that I never had such a brilliant, varied, successful summer in my life.

Soglad S.P. looks Nordic. Difatti both Pap & his family looked Northern. Pap himself was declared absurdly like Edward VII by all the English in this Colony.

I'm hoping you find your nurse Co-operative in the matter of training S.P. It will take a long time unless she too insists on same items. Teething however is apt to interfere with sound principles, for it mostly induces loss of appetite, fractiousness, & looseness in intestines. I agree with you that your daughter is hitherto like no one of the 2 families that I know of. After the metamorphoses I have witnessed in you & others, I should not bother about the Child's present defects, or rather shall we say, less good points like broad base of nose, large teeth &c &c. It is truly a

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6/ matter for congratulation & delight that she is so lively, so sprightly, so intelligent & has such a happy temperament. Long may she keep these heavenly qualities. Also that she has such real charm & seems to react so quickly. I'm glad she is chameleon-like. So was I, up to a certain age. It is a great charm & interests people immensely. The French have a bad name for it & don't appear to appreciate it. They say: "elle est si journalière" in a rather disparaging tone. At least that is my experience of them, but then I never was intimate with refined French women. Neither did I ever read in books or novels of their appreciating it = changeful appearance.

I had hoped for a line from A. del Castagno, saying how B.B. stands with regard to possession of real estate. He is so cute, he will surely have taken steps about the Settig house.

About my clothes. I could do with a warm velvet blouse to wear with dark blue skirts. I should like a certain smoky shade of darkish orange but imagine it unfindable ready made. Next to it a dark scotch plaid would do, if you approve. But I really don't care & so leave colour entirely to you. So why not dark blue. No shoes please. Some white hair nets not too big — and please, cap shape. Also coloured & white

see: (edge of p. 1)

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Sunday 8/4/34

Dearest Beauty,

Just a line in addition to mine posted this morning to thank for your very quick letter via "Rex" & to beg you not to worry your sweet life out for Helen Franc who really has a talent for getting into tight places & spreading her troubles all over the show. As for Pan, he is full fledged & has by this bad time to turn round, so to day &, with the help of friends & admirers, such as you & dear A.H., ought to have got on his feet again in a year's time. When a man is so richly endoed as he, a crisis cannot last very long. The maid has just returned from her Sunday outing with no less than two bright items of news: the boy has been to-day pronounced by Lucherini ~~to be~~ out of danger & well on the road to complete recovery. Then, she herself, as I said in my last , her Doctor saw her to-day & found her quite satisfactory & fit for work as heretofore. It was this man who elicited the happy verdict from Luccherini. So Yola is walking on air & happy as a rat. Meantime until the boy is able to change his position alone there must be someone at hand at night to turn him & help him feed, as he is always hungry. You need not worry about my new teeth, they are improving daily & this trouble has always recurred more or less every time I had to have a new plate, even in Minestrini's time. I can now eat as usual & have done with pappetti. Aureli's address once for all is decidedly No 60. They were quite cock-a-hoop about your recent letter. Sweeney is or was one of the very lowest down names & people long ago in Ireland, but there, the list is now a long one of the impossible Irish names I have come across over there of emigrants with awful names that have made good. More power to them poor things. ~~Shows~~ Shows what Ireland would have become if properly understood & ruled. How happy I am that Prof. Rowley & you danced marvellously & that he now seems quite well again. It must have been fun for you. I do wish you had more dancing it would be such a real joy & in every way so very wholesome for you. You need not worry about the new blue skirt either, for it has been widened by no less than four or five centimeters & I have no trouble whatever getting in & out of trams & 'buses. How sorry I am about your unfindable Spring Coat & do trust you may yet be successful Surely there

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2 are still a few shops you have overlooked in your search & that may have just the thing you dream of, lying or rather hanging waiting for you. I was so thrilled by this enclosure tht I felt I must send on. Tear up if you know it already, as is most probable. Historical part too is nice. I believe I know about the Italian lady who left a card & who was to be revealed to me by Jacopo. Mr Smith's former Egeria - and thought to be very talented on more ways than one. Don't worry either about the transforming of the Electric titoli, the "Centrali" are equally safe & this is only anticipating by a few weeks the fate of all Italian Titoli that were hitherto above 5%. As I said in last, the purchasing power of the lira is increasing rapidly, besides which, as I also said, I intend to capitalise all these premi & advantages, so as to compensate for decrease in interest. In fact I conjure you if you love me not to allow yourself to worry or fret about anything whatsoever as ever fondly with dear love to your mysterious A.H.

as ever you only

MAV.

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I have heaps money for months to come. & heaps shooting in Hebrides. Mad.

Sunday I/4/34

Dearest Childie,

Though my constant thought is ever with you, I seem to have interverted my scale of values these last times & allowed myself to ~~have~~ get caught up in petti=fogging matters to the utter neglect of my correspondence - among other things neat=er to my heart. Every day I swore I would write you a decent Easter letter - & lo) I have only achieved a miserable cable message this morning which they tell me will have reached your dear hands at the same hour in which I sent it - I2.30 noon. For=give me & accept for the value the fervent hope that this will not occur again. (I dare no longer call it an intention).

The Cousins left on Friday & not having on the whole seen much of them I resolved to give them a pleasant send-off. It turned out a brilliant one, for from a simple performance at the Opera to which I had invited them last week it turned out a Gala with the King & Queen of Siam, Mr Smith, Inno Reale, Giovinezza, The Sia=mese National Anthem, Illuminazione a giorno, prescribed evening togs, AND an ideally fine balmy evening. I dined with them at the Victoria & then proceeded in taxi to the Costanzi where we arrived at 8.45. All went off brilliantly, the opera was Rigoletto with Lauri-Volpi, Toti dal Volpe & other excellencies and best of all the Cousins who had bought a programme in four languages with sketches of the artists careers & were highly appreciative & we parted for ~~the present~~ this time on Pa. del Cinquecento where I took the auto-bus home. They had to wait for the Circolare which I saw come before I started. They phoned next morning to repeat their satisfaction & say goodbye again. They are invited to America next Year, so I gave them your address, but I have no idea at pre=sent in what season they will be there. They are really very nice & quite up-to date whereas Dear Elsie had told me that Olive was delicate in the extreme & always die=away & Violet the eldest, socially ambitious. I saw no trace of either propensity. I should say that all things considered, the evening cost me rather less than if they had been staying with me for a month as we intended. They are staying at a pension in Florence of which I requested details in view of your not liking the usual one.

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2°

Bonaiuti's course finished the week before Easter, but there is an off chance of a shorter one if numbers justify the plan. There have been however swarms of others some of which I attended among which one at the Italo-American where an Indian Prof. in snowwy white silk harangued us for an hour in fairly good English. There is in view at present an invite from Lady Drummond the new British ambasadress (he is a fervent R.C. & I believe a "vert") so of all places to send such a man to represent the British Defender of the Faith you would think Rome was the least appropriate) The present reception is to "meet the Right Reverend Lord Bishop of Gibraltár"- which also seems rather irrelevant. I intend to go & try to approach some one like Mrs Holwell who knows the hang of things in the Colony better than I do. ~~My~~ She is sure to be there,

All you say about finances is quite all right & you must do exactly as best suits your convenience & opinion. I refrained from consulting bankers about your recent query but Puglisi, who came lately to talk over his fresh start & new ~~publicat~~ magazine for which he wants my help as for the former (now extinct) says that there had been a short moment in which apprehension had been felt, (about status of lira) but that there ~~were~~ are two outstanding symptoms of stability: the conversion & the lowered tariff of the Consolidato and the gradual replacement of paper-money in this country, its moral position owing to the the Leader being now the Champion par excellence of Peaceful relations with so many of his neighbours. (The Teuton cloud is sure to blow off smoothly)I believe I mentioned in a former that P. was for a time in a Banking establishment & is in touch with & au courant with all financial matters. The Grassi women always consult him & say he is both safe, disinterested & highly sagacious. Signa G. is now much better but must refrain from using her eyes for some time still. I have not resumed my exchange lessons with them & shall not either, for they live too far off. But they both LOVE me most intensely & are always clamouring for my company.

Miss Eva Barrett has lately turned up with an invite to a concert in her studio in aid of the British Academy here which is in danger of dying out for want of funds. I hope to go if for nothing but to meet her at last. Also in case I should (with your approval, of course) resume my plan of living in a pension, as, thanks to your loving minitrations, my health seems to have improved so very remarkably. You must admit that living as I do costs a frightful amount & that I should have ten times the

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Sunday Evg. I9th Nov. '33

Dearest Beauty,

Your merry ,bright Letter of Nov 3 inside , with postmark of Nov.6th, wsa in some ways a great delight & uplift as you seemed in great spirits and found such keen satisfaction in fixing up your new nest for the winter. On the other hand the idea of you binding & laying carpets is not what I sh-ould consider proper occupation - nor desi-

3°

less to look after & thus less material fatigue than here. For instance this pres-sent predicament would have been avoided, I mean all about the maid & her brother, had I been living in a pension. The boy is steadily improving tho' slowly just yet, but is not yet pronounced out of danger. There is some talk of stopping the night watching, but I am not sanguin about it as the boy is not yet able to turn or change his position without valid assistance. Appetite excellent Sleeps quite enough very little pain now, fever much abated.

Strange to say there came last week the Spring No. of The Yale Review, which I was mean enough to retain for a very few days & shall send on without fail to-morrow morning first thing. I opened it without looking at the address, thinking it was Harper's, tearing too right though the stamps, so could not send on as it was without re-wrapping.

To-day I lunched with the poor Aureli's who are wonderfully kind and secourable & thoughtful, so I gave Yola a free day altogether from I0 a.m. on. She returned at I. a.m. after a very pleasant time with relations and partly at the hospital. I had gone last even. to bring them my good wishes & they then insisted to know how I was to fare to-day. It ended by their inviting me insistently. So when I got home I ordered (a) d fine Saint Honoré for 8, for which liberty I duly apologised, but which was highly appreciated in spite of many deprecations. I brought the kids no presents this time. Fancy, altho' I phoned the Pastrycook at I0 p.m. they took the order as usual & were quite punctual. I speak of course of the wondrous Ruschena. I am keeping on the ½ servizio who is excellent, for another week as there is still

o knew ... persuaded of his absolute in... & straightness on this point. in everything. All the same he suffered intensely.

But nobody ever dreamt of confusing him with S.G.'S little dirtinesses.

I drank in eagerly all you said about stuffs trinkets & green silk. for which latter I shall forthwith institute a more thorough search. The trinkets are now lying before me, as I have just taken them out to count: Three

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40

work for her.Du reste, after the first week I limited her to 2 hours a day which is not a breaking business at the rate of 2 lire per hour & a little bit of dinner. I have told Yolà that I would eventually deduct this extra outlay from her wages, but n not just now, as she has had various calls on her means owing to this illness. She he rself has been quite well for the pastten days & had no return of the appendicular co= lics that co-incided with the week in which the Boy was sent to hospital. It was well= however that she took the thing in good time & had such good advice.

I do trust A.H. will forgive me for delaying his Magazine & accept my very dear love & congratulations for the diminished Million, all of which cuttings I perused with in= tense interest. You have no idea how delightful your new tailleur looks. It has been invaluable & I now wear it constantly. The hats too are just the right thing, the silk one is trimmed with white & dark blue ribbon, The all blue toque (finesso in forma r) I use in the afternoon only. Both suit me right well. To-day I wore that stiped shirt blouse with gray-blue masculine tie under the said new tailleur, tho I should have loved to wear a silk blouse, but feared a chill as th Aureli's place is pretty cold and the blouse I wanted has short elbow sleeves.

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5-0

All you may please to tell me about your wondrous doings will be keenly appreciated by the undersigned, as you well know . I seem to triumph in your successes which Dear Auntie K. foretold & forewished longingly for you & I seem to feel less bad about my own & dear Elsie's twilight existences, since you have begun to shine. However more than ever before I recognise that letter-writing takes time & needs a certain state of mind & not being over-fagged &c, &c. So for the present I must beg you to refrain from any such effort & confine yourself to postcards exclusively until times are very decidedly easier & less dense with social events, for you must require & take the rest needful to keep up your good looks on which so very much depends. I too seem to need a large amount of rest, much more than I should wish to spend on it. They all say how very well I look & the evg. of the Gala, my hair was just perfect - even after I got back home in the 'bus. All love & wishes for ever fresh social & other successes to you two Darlings - as ever your fondest & only Mother

MAV.

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6°

The absurd idea that the boy had fallen ill thro' overwork during his 3 day's work at the Grocer's Shop is long since an exploded one. About a month or less before he took ill, he had a slight sore throat, was given hot milk going to bed & no more was said or thought of it until the Dr insisted that he must have had a sore throat not long before. So with some effort I, & I re-collected this slight but how important a matter.

of things, for after all, they, having given him a long holiday, suppose they have the right to make their own mistakes, or rather make him ~~do~~ make them. When I remember how Pap was, through belonging to the Firm, associated with S.g.'s dishonesties, or what Pap & every rightminded man would consider such, - the case seems to me rather worse than a breach of taste, especially when everbody knows what exquisiteness ,sensibility & real knowledge of his branches have always distinguished A.H.'s manifestations and writings. Thus Poor Pap's greatest consolation was just that, I.E. that all who knew him were fully persuaded of his absolute integrity & straightness in everything. All the same he suffered intensely ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ on this point. But nobody ever dreamt of confusing him with S.G.'S little dirtinesses.

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2

Pendants, 2 Chains, one silver and one gold, then one small enamelled brooch in the shape of a knot with three small pearls in the center. I always keep them locked up & was rather shocked & dismayed to find on my return home that you were deprived of them at starting. Still, you saw where I then kept the key, so might have taken them out if you had thought of it. Indeed you will probably miss them when you begin to go out again. You remind me of shoes & cheque both of which I have already acknowledged in previous separate letters & I cable. Referring to the stuffs for chairs, I would point out that there on hand here 2 varieties of yellow stuffs, both damask. One is real silk or really vieil or, the other is that of the dining-room tablecloth. You know how much there is of the former so I need not expatiate. Of the second which was Elsie's, there are, besides the tablecloth, Two wellmade, lined curtins with good rings attached which I refrained hitherto from cutting up seeing they are in excellent condition & ready for use as they are. These were probably portieres as they would certainly not reach to our present ceilings & are fairly wide about two metres each. Next comes the middle-green silk damask that used to form the hangings of my bedroom here & elsewhere. Of this you make no mention, and as you recommend dark reseda, I consider that this latter would answer the purpose & respond to your description. I fully share your views about the grey blue. As for the violet you seem to favour, I was reminded at Haas's that the colours of the epoch to which such real original antique damask stuffs belong were quite limited in number & did not comprise gris-perle, which was one sort that I had asked to see. Also that any grisperle damask I might find in commerce constitutes an anachronism that any a/firly well-informed person would spot at once. This I seem to feel would also apply to violet. But,- there - I know so little, whereas you are at the fountainhead of knowledge as far at least as our family is concerned. I am therefore pretty well decided to go ahead with this middle green of which I believe there is enough for the four armchairs & two smaller in my present den. Se non chè, there will then be two greens &

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two yellows in this same small den.However there would be other solutions For instance: Cover the six chairs with Elsie's yellow stuff by cutting up the tablecloth & one curtain & put the other curtain on my door & use the present vieil or portiere as a tablecloth.(either that or my present diva n-cover which is beginning to wear away(in one spot only & not a big one). Latter plan would of course leave me minus a divan-cover, but I know I can (buy) find stuff (to buy) to match the present tablecover, i.e. Elsie's damask.After all, the middle green of the first solution would not exactly clash with the great green armchair you gave me two years ago, sine it is mire and dull, whereas the green silk I propose is shiny or luminous. By this time your head will be swimming as mine is . Chief drawback of second solution is that the tablecloth is faded from the sun & this would be apt to show beside the perfectly fresh stuff of the curtain.To-day I went & had tea with the Grassi ladies who gave me a right good welcome. A few days ago I had tea with Mrs Holwell at her house. I was the only guest.The day before I went with Sofia Aureli went to see an English Yellow play at the Quirino on my initiative, strange to say . As it was rainig she paid for the taxi going, we returned on foot, I taking her home. On separating at her door she insisted on my phoning her of my safe arrival here. She was in a good moment that day, but has many ups & downs with her health since this summer.They all inquired for you & send love. Seeing that the grey winter Coat with caracul fits me perfectly and only needed lengthening, I considered this such an easy matter that I gave it to Yolanda's girl and chose myself & bought with Sofia's help at an excellent shop a strip of precisely the same type of caracul, got it mounted & sent it to her. I may however have to re-line the whole coat as I fear there is,or will turn out to be,a shortage at the tail where the added fur takes place. The added strip is exactly the same width as the strip down the front .I had the collar detached to carry about so as to match.I never thought of De Sanctis whose exact address I haven't got,but could easily find on the phone book. If, as I feel pretty sure, I shall have to re-line I shall choose the same colour as present. The yellow play was a great success & both Sofia & myself were highly satisfied & considerably wound up.It is called :"Dalle 5 alle 6" by John Bradley.
I am still reading "Sons & Lovers" which I think right good. Wondering at the length of time I am at it, I looked at the number of the pages at the end

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& find they are well over 500, which surprised me, as the book looks so small & innocent. I find the whole family were most unfair to the old miner-father & that Paul is an insufferable prig & what you would term a "skunk", whereas the author seems to find him so interesting that he describes each and every shade of whim & temper that comes over him & that he yields to invariably without even a struggle. Sunday evg. has now become my bath-hour so, as I write, I have just emerged from the waves pure and free Comme émergeant des flots. I have seen nothing further of Pia Selvatico, but shall ring her up to-morrow. I think her still very beautiful & incredibly sweet & winning in manner to me. Mša embrassée comme du bon pain. To-day I missed a self-arranged appointment with C. Moretti, as I overslept this afternoon & found there was only time for the second appointment at Grassi's. Altho' I read that the Am. papers quoted Mr Smith's last memorable speech lengthily, I ventured to forward it to you, thinking you might like to see it in extenso, but I expect you will both be so busy that you will not even look at it. I thought it most fascinating from beginning to end & by long odds the most complete thing he has yet uttered. Did you know that "whiskey" comes from the Celtic "uisge". This I derived from a July copy of the N.Y. Herald that passed thro' your owh lovely hands & chanced on this item by the merest chance. Weather has turned fine again & quite mild & delightful. Health conditions more & more satisfactory. In a day or two I hope to get back to tea, wine & vinegar, as my pellets are nearly finished. My appetite and humour are excellent. Please please don't overwork in this absurd way. Things will shake themselves into shape just as surely if you take them easy & not exhaust yourself & get old & ugly through wanting to fix them a week or two sooner. There are limits to human possibilities & strength. Rome was not built in a day.

As ever withsmothering hugs & entreaties about the preceding

your fondest MAV.

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I

Wednesday I5th Nov. I933

My own Childie,

Your most welcome package containing the most perfect pair of lovely shoes you have yet achieved for your astonishingly springly lively Mater. The fact of their having already rubber heels is in itself a most decided step forward which, with the whole façon, has made them a perfect creation. I trust I shall soon have a really good opportunity of showing them off - to-day I missed no less than three such, for the article I had undertaken for Puglisi was unduly delayed by various trifling things and I had promised to post it by to-day. Within the shoes I found: I pair of earrings which I at once handed to Yolà, Two novel and most effective hat-pins And two Clasps: the bunchy pearl one I wore this afternoon on a little round I had to take to the Central Post-Office to post my article & to Piazza di Spagna. This I did on foot with extreme gusto as the weather has lately turned so thundery & showery that one should live in outdoor things & just scuttle out to get some exercise between the violent downpours - often with hail & altre manifestazioni Dopolavoristiche. There was one particular page of this blessed article that simply stuck. As I had to do it with Carbon copy beneath, I spoilt no less than I2 (dico twelve) sheets which I fear I shall feel obliged to work off on my poor and only Daughter's correspondence (Every time I use this word I have to look it up for fear of confounding it with the French "correspondance") Well - not a woman old or young that didn't crane & spy and admire that clasp which is novel in the extreme here, altho' 'made in Cekoslovakia! Erica's uncle has a factory for turning out ornamental things of this kind but I expect he lives somewhere in Austria. While I think of it - did you hear from her since she left? I did not but Sig. Calise to whom I spoke over the phone without wanting to, just because he answered instead of Bologna, told me he had often heard from her & that she was very busy. Jiacopo

When Quite Convenient say your say about gilt wherewith to cover Chalits it.

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I venture to presume that the discussions will be found more interesting as revealing a few characteristics of the present-day cultural circles, that might easily pass unheeded.

The Rome Congress was attended by German, English French, Dutch, Slav and of course, many Italian Delegates. The Chairman was Professor Giovanni Gentile, a Senator of the Kingdom and former Minister of the Public Instruction. In virtue of his ability and competence he beyond all doubt the person most appropriate to preside at a Hegelian Congress. Incidentally, it should be borne in mind at this point that the school of philosophy founded by him in Italy descends directly from Hegel and is an ulterior development of the same. Gentile's popularity, especially among the younger generation, has led to the all but total forgetfulness of Benedetto Croce who had preceded him on the same path, and had laboured with him for the spread of Hegelism in Italy. On the occasion of this Congress therefore, a number of the ablest Hegel scholars, foreign and Italian, foregathered in Rome. The opening speech was delivered by the Chairman, Giovanni Gentile who pointed out how much modern thought owes to Hegel. However the greater number of the delegates confined themselves matters of of rather technical nature and thus almost exclusively accessible to students of Hegel. Among the best, I wish to name Prof. Kroner of Kiel who treated with singular competence the problem of the dialectics of the time. Prof. Rome, Forster of

Iola is overjoyed about the earrings & sends you profuse tho' respectful thanks. They really are very pretty & suit her right well!

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tells me he heard from you & seemed very cock-a-hoop about the fact. You never told me what begging the question means (with an example s.V.P.) WOULD YOU HAVE GUESSED THAT (large print quite unintentional) the word "galligaskins" come direct from the Latin"Caligae Vasconum" =Gascon hose or even perhaps Gallogascoins because such very loose trowsers were first worn by the"Gallic Gascons!" Further it appears that Caligula while fighting in Gaul took a fancy to this fashion and loved to appear with his nether limbs thus camouflaged, hence his name which began as a nick= name and stuck. All this wisdom comes from an abridged sketch of Wash. Irving's Rip van Winkle that I have been stumbling through with Jacopo. Still "Busingot" is my very own unaided discovery for the kind of fish= erman's hat that the Breton trwalers wear . Fie! you greedy little busin= got! was a frequent reproach in my childhood. I thought later it sounded mo more like French than Irish, looked it up and sure enough there it was. But why "Greedy"? Because these Johnnies were sometimes driven ashore on the S. coast of Ireland and having had a bad time during the gale started to devour all they could lay hands on. Well, as you may guess by the general tone of this epistle, I am feeling as well as even you could wish-which is saying a lot. Please ask A.H. whether this word "substi= tute"is properly used in the following:"that Hegel aimed at the demoli= tion of Romanism so as to substitute it by Germanism" Webster says you substitute one thing <u>for</u> another,not <u>by</u> another.These translations teach one quite a lot of English,for instance I had to look up before deciding whether Gentile presided a congress or <u>at</u> a congress. Dense,isn't it? But there you are- so long on the Continent among foreign tongues. A propos of which in a line from Mrs Frankovich got to-day she writes: "I think with envy of the sunshine in Rome & of the sunny faces(even if they have black hearts!) of the inhabitants thereof." Now fancy that after three years in Rome. She forgets how the johnny in Fiuggi tinkered at her funny tumble-down motor car for hours altho' he was not a mechanic

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at all & just happened to be present when she asked for one, and when the wretched thing was set going again, refused all payment. Mr Estabrook just loved the people here & said his people across the Ocean had not the faintest notion of what the It. really are. So much for their black-hear=tedness. It would be a fine thing for Am. & Engl. too, if they had they each had one of these rascals to fix up matters for them just now.

Good night my dearest Beauty, I had better shut up, for I fear I am getting prosy & tiresome.

Give my dear love to A.H. and take a fair amount for your Darling self as ever your fondest

Mav.

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The Rome Congress was attended by German, English, French, Dutch, Slav and of course many Italian Delegates. The Chairman was Professor Giovanni Gentile, a Senator of the Kingdom and former Minister of Public Instruction. In virtue of his ability and competence he was beyond all doubt the person most appropriate to preside at a Hegelian Congress. Incidentally, I may mention at this point that the school of philosophy founded by him in Italy descends directly from Hegel and is an ulterior development of the same. Gentile's popularity, especially among the younger generation, has led to the all but total forgetful=ness of Benedetto Croce who had preceded him on the same road, and had laboured with him for the diffusion of Hegelism in Italy. On the occa=sion of this Congress therefore, a number of the Hegel scolars, foreign and Italian, foregathered

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II/II/33

Saturday Evg.

Dearest ~~Beauty~~, Beauty,

I feel quite horrid ~~at~~ for having let so many days slip by without telling you what I did with your recent cheque for 25 526 lire & 48 centimes. I went as you directed to Carmignato at the Credito & may safely de= clare that your favourable account of his manners fell even short of the truth. He sends you his respectful regards & seems to have retained a very pleasant remembrance of my wonderful Daisy-Child.

Well, we decided that it was a shame and a pity and quite unnecessary to keep so large a sum in conto corrente on which he can only give 2 (two) % interest yearly. So he advised a number of industrial concerns, all garanteed by the State and finally showed a preference for Elettricità Romana at 6% yearly. So I decided there & then to keep L. 5526.48 on the conto corrente for possible emergencies & to buy the above mentioned Obbligazioni with the remaining L.2o ooo .
Altho after deciding, it turned out that these Obbl. are just now slightly above par & consequently cost about L200 more than I had directed to be spent, & also tha the interest will only be due on April Ist, still in spite of these two drawbacks I consider this was a move in the right direction. Also because he assured me that he can sell these Obbl. at a moment's notice, or even a telephone call from me will be enough & he will send the proceeds to the house here. Says too that he would sell for the same price as I paid for them.

I earnestly hope & trust you may see your way to approve, or at least not to disapprove too, quite too severely, of my action in this matter.

I have had prof. Puglisi here to lunch and next day the two Grassi la= dies to tea. They all liked everything very much & all three requested the address of your pastrycook in Via dei Prefetti. Mrs Holwell put off her invite to tea ow= ing to Mr H. being in bed with fever. Nothing serious however. The Grassi's want me to tea on Wednesday. Just after I had accepted conditionally on the state of the weather which has been steadily wet for the last three days, Miss Verschoyle

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phoned proposing for me to go her on the same day one hour later - if I can I sh all go or come late & said so. The I2 year-old is still an inmate of this abode- sings the Carmen saeculari (by Horace, is it?) and la Canzone del Piave which I st ill admire. I seem to have scraped through with my belated passport & am glad. It will be ready in a day or two.

HEALTH BULLETIN : Couldn't be better. Catarrh less. Excellent appetite. I miss my tea & diminutive quantum of wine of course, but am keeping steadily to the re= gime which is really not a very great privation, if we consider the notable results hitherto achieved.

I was overjoyed to read that you had accepted that private concert-in= vite & hope you enjoyed it. Anyhow the very thought that you had got out of all that miserable drudgery for a couple of hours did me real good. Now I am awaitin g with bated breath a favourable account of the Norwegian's capabilities & do so hope & trust she may prove satisfactory in all respects - besides turning out to be a right good cook. Give my love to A.H. and say I'm sorry he has to work like that against time - it uses up vital energy & leaves one a rag. Iacopo considers he is now ripe for matrimony, but hasn't enough money to commit it in the conditions he would like. So he takes an exceedingly gloomy view of things in ge neral & life in particular.

I do hope & trust A.H.'s improved health conditions persist in spite of the hard time & that you have stopped overworking at last & are able to afford yours self some pleasantnesses.

Please don't scold me about the Obbl.

As ever with dearest love to Both

your OCEANICAL

MAV.

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21/10/33 Saturday Evg.

Dearest Beauty,

Your letter announcing new address came to-day and as you justly remark, you certainly do not owe me a letter, anzi, I only wonder how on earth you found time for the many lines all most interesting, you managed to send me in this troublous time you are going through. But as you don't quail before typing a bright chatty letter after the novocaine sitting, I can only conclude that you have unlimited possibilities open to you that are beyond the reach of the ordinary mortal. Of this I am glad, but all the same I pass you a very warm vote of thanks for the effort it must certainly have cost you, you darling devoted lovely thing. Now I shall keep clamouring for a plan of the new flat, such as you gave me of the old one in E. 52nd street, I simply can't do without it. All you say of the new abode sounds right good and tho' you say you are still pining for the lost flat, I shouldn't pine too hard for this seems to me more airy roomy & hygienic with something of a view over the East River. I have located your new place printed quite large across three streets. Exactly what constitutes it as a "Place" seems problematic to our European notions, but no matter, you two are there by this & that makes it a very real & desirable "Place" to me. Yolanda was enthusiastic that you went in on Friday the 13th she is in some ways wonderfully evoluted. Nothing seems omitted on my Map but a "rose des vent, I suppose I should call it" a diagram showing the cardinal points" which sounds roundabout, but I suppose the fact of East River seemed sufficient. Quite near you on the S. lies Prospect Place, also across three streets & crossed by a railway line, probably underground, as it then crosses the E. River North of you there is a thing called Queensboro Bridge leading to Welfare Island with Penitentiaries & things, & West St Patrick's Cathedral & apparently built in to it The Ambassador Hotel. The Gladstone Hotel, however, which must be right there, is not on my Map. You will be able to control the doings of the natives on Long Island & I think Manhattan. Never shall succeed in making out

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all the islands & pieces of water there are about N.Y. Quite a long run I se from where the French lines landed you to your part of the city. Your qualms about the way things are being run by R. are shared by many on this side, but that doesn't mean anything. I do hope & trust his wisdom is equal to his godwill & that things may very soon return to normality with you. So glad you are again in touch with poor brave Mrs Riefstahl. Your account of the two children sounds pretty awful & will certainly add to her troubles. As for him, his jealousy will not get him much farther up the ladder so he might as well stow it & content himself with a pay proportioned to his attainments & above all not whine. Shocking tendency that. So boring to others.

I seem to be reborn since my visit to Gagliardi, II days ago & have phoned him this evening to ask if I mightn't return to tea & coffee. He was so glad & said I might, only very gradually. So I shall exhaust what there is of Kneipp & cocoa & then start clear next week. I go for long walks in the sun every day, sometimes twice & sleep & eat à plaisir. I feel I must apologise for my last vile scrawl acknowledging your cheque for 680 lire which I am sincerely grateful for & am still wondering why you did not keep to our agreement not TO SEND ME THE to send me the Oct. interest this time in consideration of all the sums great & small you laid out so lavishly for & on me this year. I was amused & slightly shocked to read the way you ranked those Highlanders we laughed at so heartily here some time ago for the way they flourished their trumpets before beginning to play. (Again this Typewriter has torn my neat sheet, I was so proud of it, too) However I grant you they looked grandly picturesque all right. The translation was not by Colasanti himself but be a Palma somebody or other whom he evidently protects, it was haircurling, no, not that, I meant tail-twisting & no mistake. Pia Selvatico -Kellner phoned me for your address, I gave her the Museum one as the other had not yet come. Said she was leaving very soon for Paris where her husband has been appointed Military Attaché. She Seemed quite elated about it and said she would like to see me, so we shall fix something by phone this coming week. Hope to see you in P. when you come. So hurry up & come quick!

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X I am told that only certain colours & ~~patters~~ designs are correct for the style of chairs. I have found exact vieil or of our old damask silk & pretty much the same design. They say pearl gray doesn't exist & was not in vogue at that time. The translation was on G. Serpotta So Neapolitan Baroque. Domenichino an Le Sueur came into it. Also his, Serpotta's, swarms of putti round columns & over ceilings. I thought of you two & Philip Johnson. Has he succeeded in staying at 49th Str? Or, what? Hope he's at least near you two.

I want you to help me out of the following quandary. I have begun stripping the four armchairs qith the twisted dark nut legs & arms. The walls of the drawing-room are very pale blue. The ground of the Sofa & two chairs that match it is light pearl-grey - what colour ought I cover them with, X? I shall wait for your answer to this query as the job of unnailing the former stuff is slow & I only do a little each day. I intend covering them myself as it is a change from reading & walking. See I have not a great many resources in myself. I have tried to see people but they were absent or had operai in casa & begged me to wait. So beyond Maria Napolitano & her mother, I have hitherto seen nobody except the Grassi ladies who left shortly after for Germany. They are now back & we are to meet quanto prima. Maria came to bring me the 200 lire you mentioned, so that too adds to my abundance. The Aureli's too have just come back Sofia, altho' much better, is not yet well. Father & all the children have been operated for enlarged tonsils -at home - & simultaneously. This he imparted to me over the phone. So imagine if I am wanted there to bother them. This missive is partly meant to bridge over the silent time you very naturally announce & which I fully expected & quite understand. Pity A.H. can't see his way to having even short spells of fun in between times. So delighted to know that he is really better & trust he won't overwork or have to overwork rather. Puglisi, I hear from the Grassi lady has been ill with fever & in bed When I phoned him no one answered, looks as tho' he has no resident maid.

Oceans & seas to my Darling Beauty & don't overwork her please, please please please please. Think of your pink & white & the rest; I want you to stay as young as you looked this last year

for my sake

As ever with dear love to A.H.

your fond

Can hear of no good films

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II/IO/33 Wednesday Evg.

Dearest Beauty, Just a line to say I wrote you a longish letter on Monday & to report on the visit to Gagliardi. He said that evidently the radio-active emanations from the soil & air of Fiuggi were most benefi cial to some and harmful to others according to their various constitution a reflection that anyone might utter. With regard to the Radiographs which he considered carefully he pointed out that all the "picture" was greatly enlarged for clarity & consequently the three famous pebbles which he cou ld no longer undertake to deny. What he did refute most emphatically was instead Bottaliga's concluding diagnosis,i.e. the presence of calcolosi epatica. Again declaring that the trouble I had had when he saw me at Fiugg was most certainly not Colica epatica but indigestion, inquired about simi larity between the attack on Jan 2 & that of Fiug.Said that there was nothi ing new in my condition & that the tummy trouble was nothing serious & that the stuff he was giving me would do away with it in a day or two & had noth ing whatever to do with the liver which he found perfectly normal. He also echoed a reflection I had settled pretty well in my own mind after the firs st few days of surprise at the discovery of the pebbles,namely that

A. H. teaches Marga that Push.

rus at 49th said in a for se resulting Agencies why at offer the liture. By confi ning oneself to the strictly necessary,things do not bear one out half so much...provided you don't fret all the time. (Wish I knew some dodg e for avoiding the above disaster to my besttyped sheets!)

I am hoping that the news on inclosed cutting will begin to re store confidence in the general situation over there & that capital will quickly begin to re-cross the Atlantic.What you say about the

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they had probably been there for untold years & had never given any trouble, so why bother? Today I walked from home to Via Nazionale to a point well beyond the Esposizione , then to bus station by the tunnel, took bus to Spanish steps went to pharmacy (omoeopathic) on foot of course & from that to Olivieri's and home on foot. It was very warm & I was too warmly got up, otherwise I had intended to do the whole trip on foot. Clasanti has turned up with the announced translation after all, only it was not his prose but that of a Palma Bucarelli and frightfully intricate, in contrast to Cola's which is flowing & very easy to manage. I shall of course charge in consequence if only to prevent a recidive. Fortunately it was not very long & I am now typing it. Weather is warm & sunny again after the one rainy night only. Wonderful. Maid quite as satisfactory as hitherto only distressed that I eat so little since the tummy rebegan a week ago. To-day & yesterday were almost exempt from trouble. Perhaps ½ an hour in all. The doctor's visit took me 4½ hours I got there about five & was home with medicine included which I got without delay, at 9½. There were six or seven persons before me. I shall avoid him on Tuesday in future

as ever fondly with dear love to Both

dear & own particular Max.

A. H. teaches Marga that Push.

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A. H. teaches Marga that Push.

-10-33 Evening.

postcards will do me until quieter times.

...anty,

.../28/9 came yester-

...n to reassure you

again ... my health. I ca-

bled lately "All well" on receipt

of a previous S.O.S. & now repeat

details given in a former indeed

in several former letters of

mine, one of which was directed

wrong I fear, & same day I followed

up with a line saying as much

I had addressed omitting the

word "West" Also perhaps I

wrote 52nd Str. instead of 53rd

but of latter I am not quite sure.

I fancied you might be able to re-

cover the letter by applying to

General Post Office with my

second (Corrective) line to jus-

tify your Claim.

(10/10 - 10 a.m. Rain came on again last night

...e 2Ist to hand this

...d cabling thinking

...; as none came all

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1°

9-10-33 Evening.

postcards will do me until quieter times.

Dearest Beauty,

Your letter of 28/9 came yesterday & I hasten to reassure you again about my health. I cabled lately "All well" on receipt of a previous S.O.S. & now repeat details given in a former indeed in several former letters of mine, one of which was directed wrong I fear, & same day I followed up with a line saying as much I had addressed omitting the word "West" Also perhaps I wrote 52nd Str. instead of 53rd but of latter I am not quite sure. I fancied you might be able to recover the letter by applying to General Post Office with my second (Corrective) line to justify your Claim.

(10/10 – 10 a.m. Rain came on again last night so I didn't sally forth. today is radiantly sunny again Love [illegible]

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I am hoping that the news on inclosed cutting will begin to restore confidence in the general situation over there & that capital will quickly begin to re-cross the Atlantic. What you say about the

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2°/ I was sorry that letter sh^d go astray as it was a pretty long one with enclosures & gave full details on all points. i.e. how my tummy got all right as soon as I set foot in Rome. It remained perfect with excellent appetite all through Sept. Since the beginning of Oct. in spite of perfect weather conditions & daily outings in sunny hours, it has behaved less well, so I tried your plan of eating foods in categories, without any result to speak of. But the discomfort is very irregular. Yesterday & the day before I had no trouble. To-day, no trouble whatever until 1½ hours after tea-time. Said trouble only amounts to a sensation of heaviness in the tummy ~~[illegible]~~ & rarely amounts pain & then only for a short time. Other digestive functions are perfectly regular & satisfactory. Here I interrupted to filch out radiographs for Gagliardi whom I purpose to go see to morrow. In the fat letter that seems to have gone definitely astray, I gave full health & other details namely that besides papering the end room I wanted (& have got) the kitchen lined with white tiling — antecucine, cucina & 2 w.c's whitewashed & repainted doors ~~[illegible]~~ 1' wainscotting included; a square of white tiling let into wall of both w.c.'s bathing wash-basin & taps. Also three dining-room door repainted inside — the whole for something less than 1 thou. lire. Jacopo T. calculated all at first & later got a big reduction on tiles. I have in various letters expatiated on the immense comfort & satisfaction of all this, now that it is well over, altho' at the time it was unpleasant in the extreme. Further, as it seemed pitiful to start again hanging kitchen pans on the wall, I got a lovely blue enamelled

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3° Cupboard in two sections, with separate doors into which all kitchen appartus + brooms fit comfortably, so that beyond one ladder the cucina too is quite clear of all encumbrance. The top-room is tidy + has been endowed with the old kitchen cupboard + longer ladder which (latter) was inserted by winding stair.+ Altho' I was longing to answer your letter yesterday aft. I stowed it + rested + took laborious steps to find out where to find tickets for a Concorso pirotecnico = alias fireworks display at the galoppatoio in V. Umberto. Well, I found it, went home to Cena + sallied forth again this time by the Circolare + witnessed the whole affair - wh. lasted 1½ hour, came away just before the second bouquet which I saw from near the Porta Pinciana + came home in Circolare landing here at 10.35 I want to at least 3 Cinemas which I enjoyed muchly - also the fireworks which

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4°/ had several new things - Very good indeed. During my afternoon exploration & quest for tickets, I had spied a stand with seating accomodation & naturally fancied that this was the place for the dearest tickets of which I bought one. Not at all: when I arrived at 8.55 (the thing began 9 sharp.) I found the said stand was strictly reserved for "La Giuria". So everybody stood about in the pista, ankle-deep in sand. I came away before the end a) to avoid jostling & b) get a tram without delay which ends I achieved successfully. I had phoned Mse Antinori at 10 a.m. but found she had other engagements. I thought much of Jon & how Jon would have liked the "Fuochi". I have climbed up on the Pincio many times lately (avoiding only the crooked stairway) and arrive on top minus fatigue or short breath.

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5°/ To-day I phoned Sig^ra Martone, twice she was out each time. To-morrow I shall try again - as I want to get in touch with the few people that are back. Mrs Holwell writes that she will return of the 15th. I miss Sig^ra Frankovich, but she is taking a long holiday & won't be back before N. Year. I phoned Sig^ra Novelli to-day, but she was out I shall do so again to-morrow & hand over the photos in case, as I hope, we can arrange to meet. This eg we had a heavy downpour with roughing wind. Now all is over & I am about to sally forth at 10.10 to post this line - no longer addressing from memory. I can't say how continually I have you & your incredible number of worries in my mind & feel relieved that you have taken refuge in a hotel. at least that - It is regrettable that Dott. should have to work and write almost simultaneously so to say & can't say how I long for the end of this hideous experience & a happy solution through finding quickly a suitable flat with necessary quiet surroundings Has Philip remained in the house in 49th?

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If so, how did he manage? One thing is clear: we can only meet our troubles one by one. I fear you see & realise & try to cope with them all in one bunch which makes them loom & burn so much more formidably than they other wise would, that is, if considered singly and with calm deliberation, mapping out just things first, day by day & not undertaking too much at a time. Men are much cooler & wiser than women in this respect & don't take it out of themselves in the ghastly insane way that women do. I can only hope that when the worst is over you at least will try to get away & rest in some place you like - better still if you both succeed in doing so. Good night & good luck to you Darlings both, & God bless you as ever lovingly, with dearest Max.

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7/ P.S. Many many thanks for the 'vogue' enclosure which I took at first sight for a bad photo of you. It is really wonderfully like you & great fun. I am reading carefully through have nearly finished it. "La Vague Hitler" & think it right good value. It is well for the French to get such a good description of German affairs & of the temperament & possibilities of the people. I have also read Bard. on present state of Ital. architecture & consider him exaggeratedly hasty. Such things don't come about in a hurry. I also read Far wandering Men & Maid in waiting. Good thing for the French if they too would set about reforming their Govt & Administrations + Banking System. Jacopo was due this eg, but told me on Saturd. he wd have to miss this time owing to a trip to Perugia. I still have a vast amount of reading among the books you left here

Don't take any notice of this request. Which will do any time in the year. or not at all. Love M.

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8/ 2nd P.S.

In case the aforementioned fat letter (that was addressed wrong) should by any chance reach you — please, please, pay no attention to what I wrote in Alfred's section about Puglisi. In answer to A's Paid line from Greensboro, said letter to [illegible] contained an enclosed line for him thanking & asking him to mention Puglisi's desire to write articles for certain Periodicals & asking for a possible introduction

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A comprehensive talisman:

I now let Divine power act in & through me, harmonizing and adjusting all that concerns me.

Repeat morning & evening with as much concentration & sincerity as you just throw dispose of. Recall it, even in fragments, through the day.

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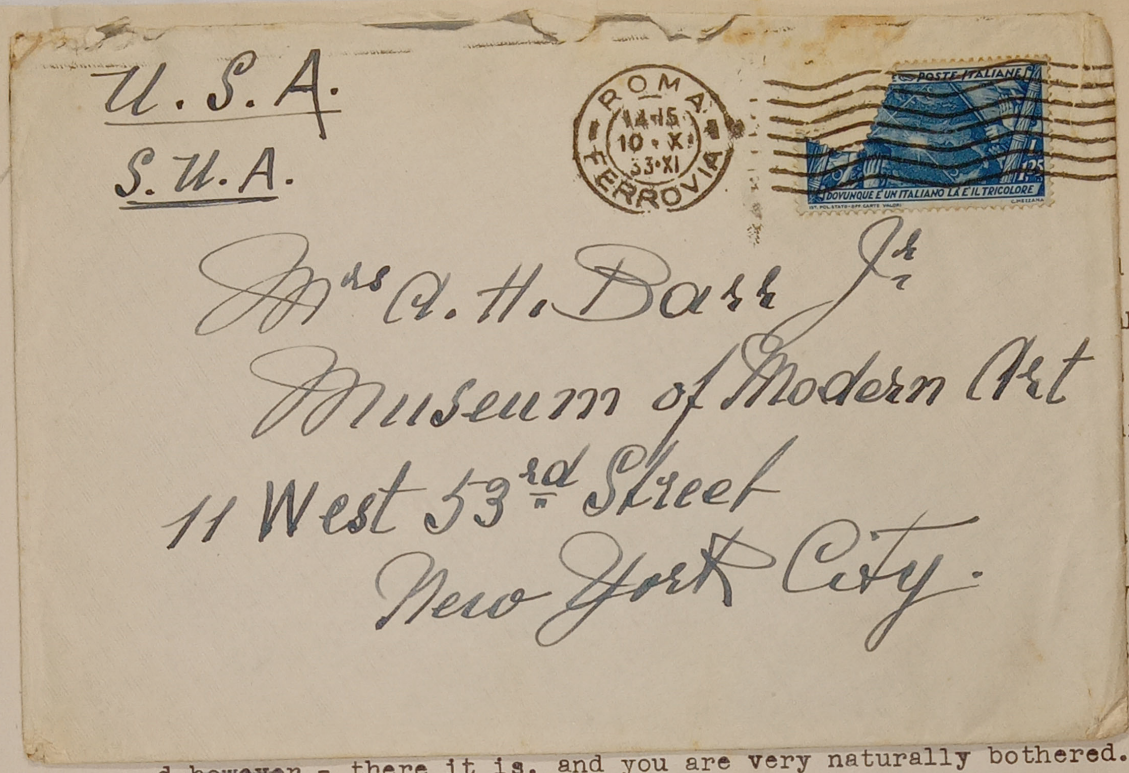

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Also you may find without too much trouble an even more desirable
flat, as in the case of your 1st flat. I didn't much like the notion of your having no Cerberus at 49th
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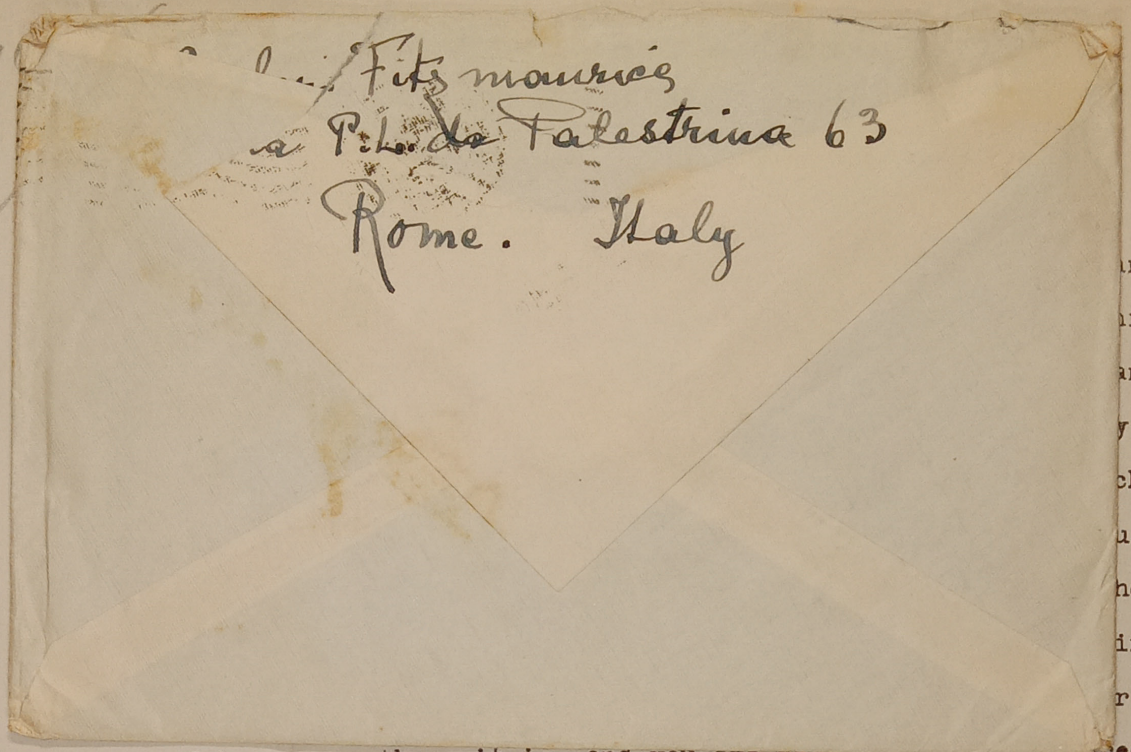

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1°

2/10/33

Monday Evg.

Dearest Beauty,

Your very thoughtful line of the 21st to hand this afternoon was a truly welcome one. I had delayed cabling thinking that I would probably get a line to that effect; as none came all Sunday forenoon, I sent you a very short cable just to allay anxiety. Now all is well between you & me, since we are again in touch, but.... this is small matter compared with the worry about your house. Not knowing details of course it is hard for me to even imagine how anything so important could even begin to get bungled, that is, judging from the formal contracts in vogue here. However it happened, however it occurred however - there it is, and you are very naturally bothered. And dismayed at the prospect of beginning all over again when you ought to be s settling down & getting quiet enough to attend to head work. Some wiseacre said however that things are never so bad as we anticipate. So I live in hope that at the last moment things will right themselves. Also you may find without too much trouble an even more desirable flat, as in the case of your 1st flat. I didn't much like the notion of your having no Cerberus at 49th ... so perhaps all will yet prove to be for the best. As I said in a former, I dread your formidable fits of energy and the collapse resulting therefrom. When there are so many efficient & convenient Agencies why not let them do the househunting & only go see the places that offer the required conditions. Same thing applies to removing furniture. By confining oneself to the strictly necessary, things do not wear one out half so much... provided you don't fret all the time. (Wish I knew some dodge for avoiding the above disaster to my besttyped sheets!)

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2°

Italian leader is abundantly true & there is no mistake about his knowing what he is about. At the same time Your Headman has given abundant unmistakeable proofs of his goodwill & untiring activity & serious examination of the situation which is far more complex...he must be given time and fair play. Let us trust that his mistaken experiment may not involve you or your friends & that things will soon begin to look up once more. In this connection I was hoping you might tell me something about the Prof. you met in Paris & his prospects. I do hope & trust the trip to Chicago may be a success & that things will turn out so that you may not worry & can go there with a free mind & be able to enjoy all you see, thoroughly. According to the Italian pres the Italian Section shows vast numbers of visitors I much regret not having gone to see certain things they put on show here before sending over there. But, there you have my incorrigible inertia again. Mrs Frankovich has left for Paris as I said in a former - she was incredibly kind & attentive while here. Since she left I want & had tea once at the Golden & went twice to see movies, alone. Am going to get in touch this week with Sigra Martone. Also the Doctor (Gagliard just to show him the radio pictures of my inside apparatus.) As I wrote in full detail in a former, I have had no trouble of any description since I left Fiuggi & can eat everything with relish. Words are inadequate to express my satisfaction over the housecleaning in wh. Bologna did his part . It is too warm yet to put down the big carpet after which event he is to polish the diningroom furniture. To-day a carpenter took the squeak out of my wardrobe & two others similarly affected. Also rigged the seats of honour in the two W.C's. The spashes & spatterings of paint & whitewash are now nearly all eliminated on doors, windows & electric bells, lamps ETC. It was really quite a big undertaking & we were fairly uncomfortable for a while. As I said, Jacopo was most assiduous in keeping the men up to the mark. The

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The white majolica tiling all round the kitchen is truly imposing & clean in the extreme. The new blue enamelled kitchen cupboard now contains all utensils, the walls are perfectly bare & we trust they may so remain. Jol. is loud in her eulogies, in spite of the extra work the enterprise has meant for her. Jacopo has promised a marble slab for kitchen table, date of which event is however rather uncertain. Your records were the high lights in that ghastly ten days, they are truly matchless in beauty. As for Mariù, I expect Jol. plays it while I am out, as it is much more worn than any of the other new ones. It is a sweet thing. I read on a recent paper that Pope Leo XIII was so in love with a popular song of the kind that he used to get Cardinal Hohenlohe to play & sing it to him as often as feasible. Of all things, I say, save us from foreign renderings of Italian pop. ditties. So I consider myself fortunate to have that record & can afford to pity His Holness. One of the films I went to see, was off that day & I saw "Troika," instead & enjoyed muchly. As I went in quite svogliata & disappointed, I did not mind who the producer was, but it was right well done. Coming out, I was in a hurry as it had got late. To return to the glories of the house, I shall conclude by passing you an enthusiastic & fervent vote of thanks for enabling me to get so many wonders done, for it was & is all due to your liberality, you wondrous Childie. Now the place is pretty much as I would have wished it to be for your and dear A.H.'s stay last autumn. It even seems a shame that I should be all alone to enjoy all this improvement & that you can't see it all while it is fresh & new. Jac. is quite keen on his lessons still, but does no home work as yet. Colasanti never sent the translation he announced, says his son is at Fregene with th Principe Borghese "col quale è tanto amico". A former pupil stopped me on Piazza del Popolo to ask me to help her to rent or sell that lovely Villa Stuart on Monte Mario to an American or Englishman. The owner died last year & bequeathed it to her, his niece. I told her to tell the Agenzia Anderson, not me, as I had no way of helping her. What an undesirable legacy for almost anybody nowadays. She had better make a gift of it to the City of Rome. Forgive the untidy pencilled scrawl I sent you yesterday & which this is to substitute

As ever fondly & with dear love to you

MAV.

A.H.

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Una mostra futurista a Roma

per commemorare il quarto di secolo di vita del futurismo

MILANO, 17. — Ieri sera ha chiuso i suoi lavori il Congresso futurista il quale fra l'altro ha approvato una proposta di Enrico Prampolini che a commemorare il quarto di secolo di vita del Futurismo che si compie l'anno venturo, sia attuata a Roma una grande Mostra futuristi del mondo, dal Giappone all'Argentina, dall'Inghilterra alla Russia, cioè oltre agli italiani tutti gli artisti esteri di avanguardia influenzati e derivati dal Futurismo italiano. All'uopo sarà creata nella capitale la Città Futura, cioè alcuni grandi fabbricati non effimeri ma da far vivere per raccogliere non meno di diecimila opere ed organizzarvi una serie di manifestazioni musicali, letterarie, plastiche, cinematografiche e teatrali. Il Congresso si è chiuso con un evviva al Duce.

Alla sera, nei locali della Galleria Pesaro ha avuto luogo il grande raduno in onore della «Plastica mangiabile» ovvero «gastronomia futurista» al quale hanno presenziato tutte le autorità cittadine e che si è chiuso con alate parole di F. T. Marinetti il quale ha anche recitato il suo «Assedio di Adrianopoli» fra grandi acclamazioni.

Saturday 30-9-33
Evg.

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it keenly, knows quite a lot but in a desul-
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how upset I am about my letters not rea-
ching you & your being anxious. My 1st to N.Y.
was written the day you sailed — Tuesday 13th
Shall wire to morrow after 2nd post comes, in case
it may bring a line from you saying my mail
has begun to reach you.
You have no idea how improved the
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but it will soon be as I wished
& wanted it to be this last
for for you & Alfred
I think of grey
velvet for the
raggy arm
chairs

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Saturday 30-9-33
Evg.

Dearest Beauty Your p.c. bewailing my silence came this eg late or rather I got it so, coming home at 9 from the Cinema. It came quick, posted on 20th. I wrote three times, & posted, besides, some cuttings. ~~without a~~ My longest, I fear, I addressed wrong & wrote & posted again that same evening (having realised the fact) in the hope that you might be able to recover the letter in N.Y. before it was returned to me. I am well & only wring in bed to copy you & because elastic stocking squeezed one side of left foot. The workmen finished their job quite satisfactorily. Jacopo watched them closely & was most attentive & helpful. He began his English on Monday last & takes it keenly, knows quite a lot but in a desul-tory hap hazard way. — You can't imagine how upset I am about my letters not reaching you & your being anxious. My 1st to N.Y. was written the day you sailed — Tuesday 13th. Shall wire to morrow after 2nd post comes, in case it may bring a line from you saying my mail has begun to reach you. You have no idea how improved the flat is. All is not quite fixed yet but it will soon be as I wished & wanted it to be this last winter for you & Alfred. I think of grey velvet for the 4 raggy arm chairs

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to suit the sofa in drawing-room. Erika's bed has been moved to Jolanda's room & her branda taken up stairs, also the former kitchen cupboard. All the kitchen utensils dishcloths, sweeping brushes, dusters, plumeaux, shoe-polishing box, are now engulfed in a sky-blue enameled cupboard with three separate compartments & doors & the walls of kitchen are perfectly bare. New cupb. stands in same niche as former. Jacopo has promised a marble slap for the table in kitchen. New seats in both W.C.'s. Pink ones would have cost £.80. These new ones cost 22 & are "in legno compensato" all in one piece with covers. Flies hate blue things & will never light on them. I read this new cupb. cost only £.250. Jolanda is enthusiastic & swears the end of hanging up kitchen things on the wall. Won't hear of a single nail & indeed it would be a pity as the walls are nice. In this coming week I hope to cover the above-said chairs, replace velvet cover on my writing-table & strip of silk in hall. Colasanti phoned to announce a translation & say his son "re-wants" English lessons. If Ing. Fiorio turns up as he said on Oct 1st I shall have many hours taken up I also hope to report to Gagliardi & show him radiograph

same colour as old ones,

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I am ever so happy & satisfied over the flat. You've no idea what a relief it is to have this job over & to have been able to do it. All your liberality my sweet Childie! Today Sunday at 2 p.m. I am setting out for Central post to wire you & shorten your suspense. I was a DUFFER to have addressed wrong, — possibly more than once — certainly once. Forgive me & continue to love me along with D.H. to whom I send dear love & good wishes for a good start to the Museum-year

As ever fondly

May.

Your new records — your good-bye gift, are & have been a constant joy ever renewed. They are beyond all praise & altogether lovely. We have been through 12 days of acute discomfort & 5 of cleaning & shifting & rearranging. Weather warm & lovely. — as ever

M.

with Bologna

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Tuesday 29/8/33 {Finzi – Alb. Silva / Fonte}

(2 o'cl p.m.)

Dearest Darling Beauty,

At last this vile tension being over & put an end to by your last wire, I can think of you fairly underweigh &, as I trust, not unduly tense or otherwise uncomfortable. Had I guessed how great the tension was to prove Re passport, I sh^d unhesitatingly have taken the 1st conveyance to Rome & handed it to you myself. Whereas ~~I may~~ greatest anxiety came on only after your phone call, this morning, you were possibly tense all yesterday & night.... You think of everything so thanks for confirming ~~the~~ your Paris address which is the one I ~~would~~ have used anyhow. Thanks too ~~for~~ in advance for stick & and warm Coat. as the weather tho' not wet has turned Cooler. I shall be glad to dispense with golfs outside the precincts of my room & environs. I have seen Mrs Phipps again & have settled to take a walk with her. Happily this will not occur often as her Cure takes place morning & afternoon, so she will be only an afterdinner incident, as, being the only

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single lady at her hôtel she feels out in the Cold & is known in that Caravansary as "the American lady." It seems to be a very slipshod place. Mrs P. slept the 1st night in a bathroom. I did not seek the madding Crowd yesterday but had a solitary stroll along the stony road which at last have ascertained to be the road to Acuto. The Company you had so nicely prepared for me will not amount to much, I fancy, now that you are gone, but I intend to do my share & not discourage them. My appetite is returning by degrees but I still eat very moderately avoiding prescribed things except a very few Cigarettes.

My next will bring an account of Jolanda & Co's visit — this is only meant for a little "bonjour" on arriving in Paris.

I walked down to the Vonte N.Q. & back this morning in the full sun & enjoyed it. What a good idea to wire instead of telephoning arrival of package! All the same I went there at 12 tho' certain that the 2nd wire had taken its place as 12 o'clock was terribly close to the hour of departure from Rome i.e. 1 o'clock. Sun only came out from 10 to 12 Cloudy before & after, tho not Cold or windy. Have succeeded in doing my hair really well

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yesterday & to-day, so in that respect at least I am not disgracing my people. When quiet on board, read enclosed cutting - not before. Shall try to send you Balbo's 2nd ~~letter~~ article when it appears. All joy, painless well-being & success in all you undertake; harmony & delight in all that concerns you!

as ever fondly

Mav.

P.S. The 2nd wire called me Mavy. Is the y due to you, or to a postal vagary? I wish I could reasonably send my love & all good wishes to Prof. Panowsky - I feel as if I knew him quite quite well

M.

So glad stick turned up safe. & trust Iolanda to bring it to me here.

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"I Sigh, Oxford Accent a Lot of Bally Tosh?" "Well, Rawtha," Replies London Speech Expert

(Special to The Herald.)

LONDON, Thursday.—Is the Oxford accent merely a misuse of the mouth? H. St. John Rumsey, instructor for speech defects at Guy's Hospital, declares boldly, in this month's issue of "New Health," that it is nothing better than that.

He refuses even to call it an accent, and asserts that it is not the result of pronouncing syllables differently, but of "the basic vocal tone, which gives an impression of weary boredom with life in general and the immediate audience in particular.

"This weary tone," he continues, regardless of the feelings of two universities and "the artistic set in London," "is due to faulty technique in voice production." Instead of relaxing the muscles of their throats properly, in the healthy way demanded by nature, these weary young men apparently keep them tense, with appalling consequences.

Connoisseurs of the pronunciation of English, and Oxford English at that, gave varying welcomes to this drastic theory of university speech.

Lady Keeble (Miss Lillah McCarthy), speaking from Boar's Hill, Oxford, said she agreed thoroughly with the misuse of the mouth theory. "I am afraid they get it from their lecturers," she said. "I have just come back from South America, and after Spanish and Portuguese at once you realize how bad is this lazy, tired voice.

"It is at its worst among academic people, because they have to do so much speaking, and students and public school boys copy it from them, thinking it rather soft and pleasant, when really it is vile. The only cure is exposure to the outer world, and then it is shed quickly enough. Only academic people keep it after graduating."

Professor Daniel Jones, however, who is professor of phonetics in University College, London, and adviser to the B.B.C. on pronunciation, denies Mr. Rumsey's theory.

"The Oxford accent is a real accent, and has nothing to do with voice-production," he said. "People with good voice production talk it as well as people with bad.

"It is a dialect, with special ways of pronouncing 'o' and 'ay' and other vowels, just as Cockney has a special, but rather different way of pronouncing them. Whether it is a good dialect I will not say, any dialect and any sound is good or bad according to the fashion."

Professor Gilbert Murray, poet and Regius professor of Greek at Oxford, refused to venture an opinion. "Mr. Rumsey knows much more than I do about it," he confessed, "but I think they speak English at Oxford rather nicely."

Dubouché & Co COGNAC COGNA

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[Mar]

Vendredi 1 Sept Finggi

Querida Chica,

All things proceed here satisfactorily.
Weather after 3 cold days is again sunny & balmy.
I am happy to say I did not catch cold & go
for daily walks with or without Mrs
Phipps whose only company I appear to be, as the
people at her hotel are all couples or made up groups
& families. She comes to Silva every ev. after dinner.
I have been twice to the theatre, once with Leo di Brio-
la couple & once with Mrs P. whom I had to com-
pensate for having paid tea & entry to Fte Nva for me
through my having left portfolio in room, as I had hoped
for a longish walk along stony road to Aento.
That day when we met the program changed & there I
was without money. As for my conditions they are
highly satisfactory, for in spite of fruit at every meal,
I went to pharmacy & explained, whereupon the may pro-
duced a drug (vegetable) called Keolaxin which he said
would suit me in every respect. It does.
To-day a young couple with a car of their own have
asked me to drive with them to Subiaco, & altho' I
see no no way of returning the compliment, I have ac-
cepted - they are so pressing & have a lovely boy on the lines
of Bobby Rietstahl but a year younger, who is not to be of

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The party by good luck & will remain here with his nurse a balia a secco from these parts.
Yesterday I paid my bill £.368 - All comprised. i.e tassa di soggiorno & 3 dinners which were only £.36, so there again you have exceeded. You wonderful thoughtful open-handed Delightful Being!
I had a Card from our porter saying bill came for August gas so I sent him a vaglia for 200, for it and Electricity which always come about the same date.
Need I repeat all the nice things people say about you & their regrets at your departure - You see they really miss you as a general & most delightful entertaining element with so many experiences that seemed novel daring & astounding to them.
Sig.ra Loto is laureata, her father was a doctor (M.D.)
Iolanda & her Group have not yet turned up, so I shall make an excuse of this to get out of Subiaco, which would possibly have proved a pleasant variety. Pity they did come yesterday. I have asked for an interview with proprietor, but hitherto in vain. Henceforward porter offers £.35 instead of 40. saying that my room was never let at less.
I believe this is the pleasantest villegiatura I have ever had & altho' I feel unspeakably grateful for having had you so much & so often this last year - I cannot but say that is very different since you left.
Mrs Francovich carded saying she saw you off in the train looking "fine & handsome" I was so glad to hear this & seem to feel that the wrench of separation was less hard on you than on former occasions.
I don't know her address, so can't thank her. I forsee that I shall return to Rome on the 5th or thereabouts.

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the talking - newly come to me-you will say,as when together it is you who hold forht most et pour cause,so here goes: Well I have been quite gay this week-not to say frivolous. On Tuesday Triv. called for me in his lovely new Balilla & took me to the Barberini to see a very interesting film - "Cavalcata",scene laid in England follows up the doings of a family as does the Forsyte Saga,picking out the telling episodes within the last 33 years & thus making it partly recent history & partly quite up-to-date - also socially with nouveaux riches &c.What gallops is time - not the characters.Quite a new donnée - no not quite tha

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ARTICLE MAGNIFICENT LEAVING M GREENSBORO FIFTEENTH CHICAGO

LATER HOPE COMING GREENSBORO END AUGUST SUGGEST BADGASTEIN

CABLOGRAMMI PER TUTTO IL MONDO " via Italcable „ TELEGRAMMI LAMPO FRA LE PRINCIPALI CITTÀ D'ITALIA

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Telegramma *via Italcable*



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1009 CP 142 NEWYORK 24 30

SEND JEWELL ITALIAN LETTER MILAN ARCHITECTURE PAINTING CHIRICO
MAIL BROWNCASE SPECTACLES GREENSBORO IF DISCOVERABLE LOVE MAV
ADONATION ALL SERENE =

CABLOGRAMMI PER TUTTO IL MONDO "*via Italcable*„ TELEGRAMMI LAMPO FRA LE PRINCIPALI CITTÀ D'ITALIA

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Sunday Evg. 29/IO/33

What of Panowsky? Did he get that post? I suppose so, since Riefst. is jealous, but you never mentioned it.

Dearest and wondrous Cildie,

Your p.c. of the I9th to hand this morning. How you manage to get to writing even those few lines is a marvel, so - many thanks - how many you can't even guess. It was delightful to get even so slight a glimpse of your doings in those troublous days you are both going through - Alfred in the throes of composing his gedankenreiche pre faces or articles, that cost him such strenuous sffort, & you tussling with window hangings, curtains, mats, carpets, electicians & other artisans & household problems. I do devoutly hope & trust the food question does not count among your cares & that for the present & until you have suc= ceeded in getting a maid, you will continue so to do, i.e. go out for meals. It will even be a much-needed rest for both, to rush out for an hour & snatch a meal at noon - sooner than try to have even ever so simple a snack at home.

Well, I devoutly hope & trust all this worry & extra work may very speedily come to a satisfactory end & that you can turn your mind to more genial & congenial matters, soon.

If I write rather too often & too breezily just in these times, you must 't mind, it's just a way of bridging over this present time when I can't hear much from you, darling, so as you can't, it is up to me to do all the talking - newly come to me-you will say, as, when together, it is you who hold forth most, et pour cause, so here goes: Well I have been quite gay this week-not to say frivolous. On Tuesday Triv. called for me in his lovely new Balilla & took me to the Barberini to see a very inte= resting film - "Cavalcata", scene laid in England follows up the doings of a family as does the Forsyte Saga, picking out the telling episodes within the last 33 years & thus making it partly recent history & part ly quite up-to-date - also socially with nouveaux riches &c. What gallo ps is time - not the characters. Quite a new donnée - no not quite tha

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but a new way of slithering over the years. Thus the war years are just one characteristic scene for each with the date say 1914 projected huge over the canvas while beyond the mustering of troops all marching, all singing &c 1915 -only French & English & Italian, & all trench scenes'16 with Italian cavalry charges and so on, nothing tedious or long-drawn out. Then Friday Sofia Aureli came with me to look for the strip of fur I need & was most cordial & helpful, for altho' they hadn't what I needed, I ascertained the right price to pay when I do find the right thing. In fact I had already found it but considered it too dear & the event proves that I was quite right- they were asking exactly double the right sum. Then to-day at 5, I went to the Quirino by appointment with Valentina Gatti & saw a thing called Svolta Pericoloso. She seemed very much put about because the places were not those she had thought-as I wished it was a friend that had taken the tickets for her, instead, the seats were very good & I shall perhaps go there or elsewhere on Sunday afternoons, that is unless I decide in a day ot two to take a season-ticket for S. Cecilia. The play was by an English author named Priestley & laid in England. There was not exactly a mystery, but a problem as to who killed someone. All talk, no action whatever. Although we were pretty far off I was able to follow as well as Gatti, & heard almost all the talk. It was really quite entertaining. As we had had no tea, we ate sweets all the time.

In the Oct. Harper there is a thing called Sentiment & social problems which I found rather arresting & wonder, since the thing is quite an old matter whether "Mr Smith" didn't have a peep into this Traité de Sociologie Générale therein analysed. I am now beginning "Sons and Lovers" by your friend Lawrence & am interested in the preface by one Macy. From what you said I had got the impression that L. was American, whereas in spite of all temptations to belong to other nations, he is an Englishman. I scored one over Grassi & her mother, a German, by saying over the phone that her recent p,c. from Heidelberg had reminded me of a lyric I much admir

X Supposed to be a really U, I believe, intellectually bright ed

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long ago, saying I thought it was in a thing by Scheffel & mentioning the chief actor - a Tom-cat called Hiddigeigei, that everyone knows, or used to know as well as Dick Whittington's feline. The daughter turned frome the phone to ask the mother by whom this very fine short lyric was, for she also knew it & recited the first lines. The mother said the author was anonymous & that it certainly was not im the "Trompeter von Säkkingen". Well I, filched out the book at once & ran into it first thing. Needless to say my research took place after the phone talk was over & done. Although Pia Selvatico had said that we must arrange to meet before she left for Paris, I have heard nothing more from her & shall call up to-morrow & try to see her. C. Moretti has only just returned & I was to go see her but refrained at the last moment, as I remembered her bleak tea-arrangements & how she baulked out of things last winter & sent me home starving. As it now is settled, she is to come & see me here as soon as her house is fixed. Her health seems now quite re-established & she goes everywhere. Mrs Hollwell & Miss Verchoyle continue to be absent & I am quite in the dark as to the result of the Irish Hospital Lottery which was to be drawn on the 24th. Last time Mrs H. sent me the list to go over & I daresay she will send it along. The Italians have arranged a Tripoli Lottery on the same lines, but with wretched small & few prizes, so although last times the local papers here gave many details of the Irish one, they have not mentioned it at all this time - perhaps lest it might draw money away from their show. Thanks for mention & trouble about shoes, No hurry, as I am still right well for foot wear. Assagili, I am told, held a much applauded speech at a congress of something or other at the Capitol this week. An old gentleman who acts as his secretary came to see me by appointment yesterdayafternoon, & promised to send me the text which Ass. promised him. Returning to the strip of fur, Sofia is to go to certain other shops to-morrow & see if

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they have what I need. She has to go there on her own account & says she will inquire for my stuff. So by Tuesday I may possibly have succeeded in getting hold of the thing. Meantime the sarta has the coat & it will be very quickly fixed & ready for wear, although the weather, though fresher than when last I wrote~~XXXXXXXX~~, does not call for anything at all so warm. This afternoon, for instance, I wore my own brown coat, but it was too much & the short black one would have been more than enough. Gatti is disconsolate, no, not that, I mean inconsolable at having missed seeing you as she was quite near Fiuggi when we were there & went there several times. She still worships you, you see.

HEALTH BULLETIN: Couldn't be better, as far as tummy, digestion & so on go, but as I have hitherto taken cough powders all the winter through & shall soon begin to need somthing of the kind, I am returning to Gagliardi on Wednesday D.V. to ask him to prescribe for my usual catarrh & cough. Appetite amazing, strength returned so that I take long walks without any fatigue whatever & can read for hours at a stretch without falling asleep as I did all the summer, no matter how interesting the thing I was trying to read. So Hurrah for Homeopathy as far as I am concerned. Now if I could only lay hold on a good practical Manual as every one has, I could do without any further visits to Gagl. In Gohlau they went for years & years without seeing a doctor. I started reading "The Concave Mirror" (Maxwell) but find it pretty heavy & rather morbid, though of course such sensitive people exist, but I miss the charm of "When Winter Comes" where there is a similarity of character. Sometime soon I intend getting fresh teeth, as those I have, though all right, cause the jaws to close too tight, deform the face & tire the muscles. I do hope I may be lucky in my choice, but I shall scarcely find a 2nd Minestrini.

Bless you two Darling over-busy people, Think of me in between times & love me always

as ever your fondest

MAV.

Do you happen to have taken away that length of plain green antique taffetas. I miss, but don't need it.

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Friday Evg. 3/II/33

Dearest Beauty,

Just a line as usual to keep touch & bridge over your involuntary silence.

You will, I know, be glad to hear that I saw Gagliardi this evg. & that the visit was most satisfactory in all respects. As I said in my preceding, I only went to get him to do something about the usual winter bronchial conditions which he found better than this summer & congratulated me on this point as on all the rest. I had brought, by way of enlightening him, Serena's diagnosis of the chest-radiograph taken in '31. Also two analisi delle ur. to compare, the most recent of which dated fr this very morning. These he thought highly satisfactory, noting too that the amount of acido urico was in both & particularly in the last far below the normal. As for Serena's document he says the small bronchial tubes are now quite free & that the catarrh is confined to the large ones which he says is a great improvement. He suggested that I now return to coffee instead of Kneipp which he thinks is not quite the right thing for me. Sine I last saw him three weeks ago, I phoned him about 10 days after that visit to say how miraculously it had worked & asking if I might return to all normal diet. He said I might, though by degrees. So I did, including of course coffee & said so, this evening reminding him of his consent. He has prescribed new stuff called Cadmion which makes me feel quite Theban.

A propos of your new ring with the funny name, I stumbled on a thing in Webster while looking up "Stylobate" or Aeneas, I believe it was: "Aeschynite, (So named by Berzelius, from Greek αἰσχύνη, shame, on account of the inability of chemical science, at that time, to distinguish between titanic acid and zirconia.) (Min.) A black or brownish-yellow ore, from the Ural Mountains, containing titanium, zirconium and cerium." (Dana.) Funny how hitherto unknown things spring up into interest when only a month ago I had never even heard the word zircon.

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Now that normality may be at last hoped for after these great doings in public, I have hopes of getting round to seeing people as Pia Kellner-Selvatico phoned to arrange a meeting, also I am to see Clausen about the piano & Esther Novelli on Monday & am invited to tea at Mrs Holwell's on Tuesday Iacopo broye du noir & has awful fits of depression, says he is so old & yet young enough to feel in touch with the young also that he is so very different from other Italians whose ways he dispises. Quite bright & attentive & interested in the lessons however., although he never pre= pares anything. Says other men at his age have secured a position while he earns only starvation wages &c. &c. I chaff him & succeed in making him laugh at himself. All the same I pity him.

The small boy is still an inmate of this show, but ~~gives~~ is no trouble or expense & is to go up to Umbria in a day or two with Yolanda's sweet heart for a fortnight, by which time the people that have undertaken to place him in an Institute will have done the guntrick, so it is hoped. If not, as he is an orphan of both parents ~~I~~ Yolà, intends to apply to some Fascist organisation.

I am having my passport renewed à tout hasard, tho' if you continue to be as fidgetty about my health as you were this summ er, there is not likely to be much use for it. Am wondering if I can sc rape through without beginning all over again, as it ought to have been renewed in June. or at latest a month later. Speriamo bene.

I had got tickets for the Irish lottery but ~~neither~~ neither Mrs H. nor I won the smallest thing. Glad the IO shillings go~~es~~ for so good a purpose as the Irish Hospital Fund.

Fond love to my Dearest Heart's Delight. Remember me af fectionately to A.H. who is much in my thought during his writing period & worry about the same, as for you, I see you squirming round with your arms full of curtain & other material, trying to do things yourself to save money that would be rights & in any other country go into the pock ets of some worthy ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ upolsterer or carpenter - Dreadful thing to have too so much energy.

As ever fondly, tho' cosmically Mav.

I highly approved of your present easily remembered address & am glad you begin to feel reconciled to it. Don't bother to write letters for quite a while yet. P.C's will do. Forgive this empty missive - empty but for the Health Bulletin. Enclose rough copy of translations wh. will interesting.

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THE PLAGIARISM OF A GREAT ARTIST.

In a brief essay on Giacomo Serpotta lately re-published Corrado Ricci writes: "In the Martyrdom of Saint Lawrence Serpota evidently followed the representation of the Martyrdom of Saint Andrew, frescoed by Domenichino in the Chapel beside Saint Gregory's Church on the Coelian. The lofty stylobate dividing the scene in two planes, the well-chosen and excellent architectural reconstruction, beneath, the half-recumbent attitude of both saints,- the one upon the gridiron, the other upon the bench, as also the action of the torturers and the counterscene of the spectators correspond undeniably". And on the strength of these common traits Ricci goes on to deduce finally an irrefutable proof of Serpotta's having been in Rome, a fact hinted at by others, but hitherto never proved.

There is indeed no doubt that between the fresco by Domenichino and the great stucco composition adorning the Oratory of San Lorenzo by the church of San Francesco d'Assisi in Palermo there are some points of similarity. But such resemblance is only a very general one, limited chiefly to the division of the scene into two planes by the the back wall and to the posture of the saints, half-lying rather than completely extended on gridiron and wooden bench, as Ricci points out. But I can perceive no correspondence between the action of the executioners and the counterscene of the spectators. Various points of resemblance therefore, and all merely accidental, such as it would be easy to point out in many another scene of martyrdom.

But the source on which Serpotta drew instead for his admirable stucco proves instead to be a very different one.

It is to be sought in the painting by Eustache Lesueur representing the Martyrdom of Saint Lawrence, owned by the Duke of Buccleuch and now hanging in the Nat. Gallery in London.

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DISCOVERY OF A PICTURE BY GIORGIONE.

The distinguished art critic, Giorgio Sangiorgi, examining the pictures of the Donà delle Rose Collection in Venice has succeeded in identifying a famous work by Giorgione da Castelfranco, hitherto condidered lost.

The painting in question measures about 71 centimetres by 90 and represents the meeting of Aeneas with Anchises in the Elysian Fields, as described by Virgil in the Aeneid. The work is matchless beauty and great artistic importance.

This picture was found together with many others in the Villa Garzone at Ponte Casale and belonged, as the villa itself, since the year 1594 to the noble Venitian family Michiel. The villa having passed into the hands of the Donà delle Rose whose collections are at present owned by a group of creditors, the painting in question, was found in a garret in a state of agelong neglect and has been recently restored.

As a result of careful research, Sangiorgi was able to ascertain that this picture is one of the very few mentioned by Marcontonio Michiel in his book of notes, the text-book for the works of Giorgione and to which in fact is due the identification of "La Tempesta".

Of the painting now come to light there exists an engraving thought to be by Campagnola, who is known to have been the engraver of Giorgione's works.

The State having succeeded in securing for Italy Tiepolo's famous canvas of the admirable "Deposition" by Giovanni Bellini, has been able to interfere in time to prevent this present work, now recognised as authentic, from exportation abroad. It is ardently hoped by all art worshippers that this picture may soon go to enrich the Royal Academy in Venice.

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Friday Evg. I/I2/33

Dearest Darling Childie, package first arrived Dec 12 pretty stove in. Not opened yet

I feel so bad for not having answered your long de=tailed & most interesting letter of the I5th that came three days ago & was so very welcome! Since then I saw the two Selvatico's and had quite a long chat with them, Sylvia I thought very reticent. They showed me a lot of pho=tos of the wedding & its tour -Rhodes, Athens Cyprus, too I think - also of the wedding party & guests. It was quite a grand affair. Her mother is coming down shortly & then she Pia is going to Padua for ten days. This will be at least the third or even fourth time she went home since the marriage which I don't see at all in the lugubrious light you seemed to. He has a bath when he comes home about six, then dinner after which he feels a giant renewed & wants to go out every evening to see friends, theatre, cinema or what not to wind up the day comfortably. She says his friends are a host & all very nice indeed. I tried hard to have them along for some or any meal but she was adamantine: too much to do with packing & seeing friends. This evening I thought I wan=te d very badly to see "L'Amaro Tè del Generale Yen" here at the Adriano & kept watching the time carefully until 6.45 intending to leave at 6.55 - so as to be in time for Jacopo's lesson at 7. - BUT - The blessed thing got so absorbing that when I came to, I found it wanted 5 min. of 8 ! Of course we settled up th matter over the phone but all the same it was pretty youthful a reason to have to give him. Tit for tat however - he kept me in a few days ago & only left a line at 7.30, to say he was rushing to catch a train. In=tanto I had to be & was at home waiting & keeping free for that lesson. So my present remorse is somewhat attenuated. While I think of it - you never said whether you got Pia's confetti which I sent you registered months ago. I was petrified - no less, by what you say in your last about not having yet got a cable acknowledging that big cheque. I cabled at once only one word: "Received", addressing to Margaret Barr Modernart, as you had instructed.

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I venture to suppose that the discussions will be found more interesting as revealing a few characteristics of the present-day cultural circles, that might easily pass unheeded.

The Rome Congress was attended by German, English, French, Dutch, Slav and, of course, many Italian Delegates. The Chairman was Professor Giovanni Gentile, a Senator of the Kingdom and ex-Minister of the Public Instruction. In virtue of his ability and competence he was undoubtedly the person most appropriate to preside at a Hegelian Congress. Incidentally, it should be borne in mind at this point that the school of philosophy founded by him in Italy descends directly from Hegel and is an ulterior development of it. Gentile's

At the Central Post here whither I immediately went in hot haste & pretty indignant inside, they were most courteaous & showed me my original wire minus a kind of notoce which they were bound to get at once from N.Y. IF AND ONLY IN CASE THE CABLE HAD NOT BEEN DELIVERED. It looks as though the museum people had overlooked the address. You might inquire & make themlook better in future cases. Man handed me the enclosed paper in case you wish to inquire over there. No, you most certainly have not been at all remiss in your correspondence with me although you seemed to think you would be too busy. I inquired here in sport shops about chamois-leather jacket. They have such but for skying only very thick covered over with pockets & thick & stiff & lumbering things intended to sborsare above the waist Horrid. would never do under a mantle. Indeed I see no use for them in my case at all, for on really bad or very cold days I stay at home. The black velvet hat is quite becoming bur I don't consider it entrancing, the Grey mantleis wonderful & the difficulty about the short lining has been quite satisfactorily been overcome. I looks most imposing & suits me immensely. I herewith tender you a most cordial tho' belated vote of thanks for this very ~~most~~ valuable item.

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& arrives at her castle in the country for the dîner de françailles with the child's maid & baby &c. Follow a number of incredibly funny scenes. I think, but am not quite sure, that the child's maid is Helen Twelvetrees, very young, fresh & quite lovely. The day before I had been alone to see L'amaro Tè &c at the Adriano & enjoy it immensely. Soon we are to have "King Kong" with antediluvian Monsters I felt bad at sending off that letter on Sat. without a due account of the effect of your many gifts & all so appropriate & graditi. The hat is a masterpiece. Nothing could be quite so becoming. The BOY fell so badly in love with a knitted cap for Yolà that she had to scold him to get it back. Then the Motocycle veil! Dear me if you knew what she looked like in it & how in love she went with herself in the Glass! Alfredo has given up riding in it for the winter owing to the cold, so she has started longing for the Spring to be able to wear it. My new shoes I wore for the first time on the visit to the Selvatico's & kept hoping they would remark on them. they are a perfect fit & many sizes smaller than the very first pair in which I wear two pair of solette & they would need a third. Your P.C. saying you had got my letter relating to the large cheque was a relief, but I am still indignant about the strayed cablogram. The two violet Golfs are just the right thing, or will be when the ribbing has been shifted the the waist-line, as otherwise too bulky. I am getting fat again but but nothing alarming as yet & hope to keep within proper bounds.

I saw Carmignato lately & he tells me those Obbl. are mounting still & are an excellent Spec. I went there bringing all the many papers the Bank had sent me sine I bought. He went over them one by one, Got the name corrected on one or two, explaining each carefully to me. So relieved that you & A.H. approve of how I disposed of cheque. Amazed to hear you have started reviewing books with the house still in the air. Had to snap at the chance I expect. To-morrow at 3 comes that new Boy. a student, nephew to a Radio-Genius to whom I gave lessons about three years ago. Cast thy Bread upon the Waters &c. Expect he will be wanting early-afternnon hours

wherein I usually take a nap. Worse luck!

No news as you see since last epistle. With love & neverending thanksfrom Yolà & Self, as ever your sole & only MAV.

Note: Manica= sleeve. Tingere=to dye, P.P. dyed

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Box is hung carefully laid by as a suitcase for the Boy when he leaves. It is absolutely intact.

I 4/I2/33

Monday E vg,

Dearest Childie, I was wrong about its being slovenly. It was only the wrapping-paper that looked so, as I scribbled last thing before posting my last on Sat. morning (2nd/I2), the Faerie Package came with gifts for all round. È successo una scena di demenza. It had come about I0.30, just as the maid had gone out with the XXXX brother, for marketing, so as I had to go out it remained intact until after lunch. I have before me no less than I3 slips of paper detached from the various items. Everything is wonderful & gave satisfaction & delight all round. The boy was so carried away that he started to dress himself in his sister's clothes, long stockings and all, this is how I left him occupied when all was over & I was retiring for a rest about three. The maid's blue suit is A.I & requires very little altering. There was a sleeveless blouse without a ticket or a vague one, so as she started saying that the frock only needed a pettina, I gave it to her. Also some other minor items like the yellow hat-knobs & so on. The grey housedress was étrennée next day in honour of Sigra Jane Sangiorgi who honoured me with a visit at 4.30 & so we had high tea with pastry from your non mai abbastanza lodata Ruschena for whom I am securing customers by the mile. I never saw the maid looking so trim & clean, she fell in love with the collar & cuffs & really looked quite probable & well-fed. Wie du es uber's Herz gebracht has to separate from your wonderful Black heavy Crêpe de chine frock is a mystery & seems to me quite PELICAN-LIKE & altruistic in the extreme. I wore it to-day at the conference & threw oil. As for the black felt hat, I have never had anything so becoming & have worn nothing else since Sat. That evg. I invited Sofia Aureli to the Barberini where they were giving "Papà cerca moglie" with Maurice Chevalier. Grazie & I laughed ourselves sick but S. tho' she said she enjoyed it, did not laugh audibly. A viveur finds a baby of I0 months in his auto & falls in love with it. He is engaged to be married

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The package you mention & items mentioned in which I have carefully noted, has not yet turned up. I was pretty appalled at what you say about having to pay duty on the trifles I have sent you from time to time. That IS a fly in the ointment and no mistake. I had imagined that campioni senza valore racc. were exempt. And so you, poor Child, have been patiently paying over & over the value of those trifles that were not of your own choice & were most certainly not necessary items! This is really too bad & deplorable bad management on my part & must be put a stop to. Pity I have not kept more in touch with the Embassy people, or at least with Mathews. He would have told me of people crossing, tho' at this season there are not many directly bound for N.Y. It is very GOOD of you to keep sending things along like this. The maid was delighted to hear you had remembered your promise about the blue frock on which she certainly seemed to be counting, she had already spoken of it to me. So I thank in advance & bless my little daughter for her constant loving thoughts for this Parient Bird. I tried to get Sangiorgi on the phone this evg. in vain, but shall keep this open & try again to-morrow. I congratulate you on this mysterious new system of getting new & superior clothes at lwer rates than even before, & wonder how this is achieved. The list ot your new things sounds very good indeed, I should love to see you in that long Black velvet cloak. I read with burning interest all you say about the Rowleys & hope all has gone well. I had no idea she had such serious trouble with her eyes. What you say of Panofsky's very short employ is, of course regrettable. Still the fact of his being at the N.Y.U. instead of Columbia may possibly make the latter jealous & anxious to get hold of him. That article in this month's Harper about deflating the Schools sounds pretty awful & will take some time to reinstate n/ things properly when all is in running order again - not to speak of the gap in the education of the youngsters - not that I/ share altogether Harper's opinion about that point, for real talent or genius will out in spite of indifferent instruction. all the

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I venture to presume that the discussions will be found more interesting as revealing a few characteristics of the present-day cultural circles, that might easily pass unheeded.

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H/

same it seems ashame to shut up so many scools & have the youngsters running wild, for so long. today i had one of mary pearson Ellis's usual dry, chippy letters in answer to one of mine previous to A. Elsie's birthday. She speaks well of another film called The GoodCompanions by Priestly, she encloses too a portrait newspaper-cutting of a lovely little girl a grandchild of hers, but doesn't say by what parent/s. Pia tells me she wrote to you giving good account of my health which is really most satisfactory for some time back. The figaro or jacket I mentioned has not yet been found, but I have good hopes in two places & shall most certainly get it done by sarta in "ontebello whom you mnetioned lately. Too lazy to look up her name just now. Goodnight, sweet Childie

as ever your own & only

Mav

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P.S.

Although Jane said she only overheard scraps over the phone, it appears the retroscene concerning matter of my recent translation transmitted is pretty disgusting & that the G—e is now in Vienna, bought at big figure. Finder phoned me he had Gen on list for sending illustration. Was offered (& refused) a large sum not to publish & keep quiet, but an English Illustrated wired "Too Late". Big Guns are furiously jealous, the biggest in that Dept has not seen it. No one attempts to put the discovery in doubt. Finder has nothing but bother & no credit whatever hitherto.

go out morning & afternoon, saying they can stand the Cold better out than in their rooms. These have all caught Colds & have started imparting the ailment to many of the Stay-at-homes. Only Hady, my table neighbour had the good taste to sit at a table apart after the few days in bed; thanks to this measure, I have escaped

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Four ladies sit down to a game of cards:
Signora Mussolini led off with a deuce. = Duce (pronounced as in English. A two-spot card is a deuce, from the French deux.)
Mrs Lindberg played her ace.
The Duchess of Windsor put down a King.
Mrs Roosefelt however was a spoil-sport and called for a New Deal.

Having note for us all in this house from some days before Xmas — is the Cold. The valiant ones go out morning & afternoon, saying they can stand the Cold better out than in their rooms. These have all caught colds & have started imparting the ailment to many of the stay-at-homes. Only 1 lady, my table neighbour had the good taste to sit at a table apart after the few days in bed; thanks to this measure, I have escaped

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Have found in library here and captured 2 Wodehouse [illegible] Girardot &c

2/ Chamberlain at Munich saying good bye to H. H. asks for a souvenir of of the event & says: "Now I suggest you give me that nice umbrella"

Chamberlain alarmed: "Oh, no no! Can't give away that! You see it's mine!

C. never appears in public without an umbrella which has come to be his attribute. Is always caricatured with it.

3/ In Rome: — At the tomb (of the [illegible] s[illegible] nel day & [illegible] there are two) At [illegible] youth sees a g[illegible] the tomb & fl[illegible] his corporal & [illegible] Corporal goes [illegible] Tomb the follow[illegible] the same result [illegible] with like result (up [illegible] to the genera[illegible] applies to [illegible] says: "What [illegible] I'll go to-nig[illegible] That night whe[illegible] up as usu[illegible] into him: Wh[illegible] mean, Carry-

days before Xmas — is the Cold. The [illegible] go out morning & afternoon, saying they can stand the Cold better out than in their rooms. These have all caught colds & have started imparting the ailment to many of the stay at-homes. Only 1 lady, my table neighbour had the good taste to sit at a table apart after the few days in bed; thanks to this measure, I have escaped

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Girardot &c

...laine at Munich
...od bye to H.
...ra Souvenir of
...nt & says: "Now
...you give me
...e umbrella"
...ain alarmed:
...o! Can't give
...that! You
...mine!
...in public without
...la which has come
...ttribute. Is always
...with it.

3/ In Rome:— At the tomb (of the Unknown Warrior) stands a sentinel day & night. (In reality there are two.) At midnight this youth sees a ghost rising fr. the tomb & flies in terror to his corporal & tells his story. The corporal goes on sentry at the tomb the following night with the same result. This goes on with like results (up, up) until they get to the general. The general applies to Mr Smith who says: "What nonsense! I'll go to-night!" That night when the ghost rose up as usual Mr S. pitched into him: What did he mean, carrying on like

go out morning & afternoon staying [illegible]
The Cold better out than in their rooms. These have all caught colds & have started imparting the ailment to many of the stay-at-homes. Only 1 lady, my table-neighbour had the good taste to sit at a table apart after the few days in bed; thanks to this measure, I have escaped

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Girardot &c

This, "Frightening all my good people out of their wits?"

"The Ghost: "Oh it's you! The very man I wanted!

Mrs.: Well?

Ghost: "You See, I'm a Jew & I want to know whether I can stay on."

H. This sounds impious, but is not in essence.

H. à la porte du Paradis, se présente à S. Pierre qui le laisse entrer et lui indique la direction de la salle de réception. Au bout d'un moment le vieil qui revient au galop "Peu & pas entrer là — il y a un juif!"

Et S. Pierre: "Ch-h-h C'est le fils du Patron!"

Year [illegible] (letter [illegible] days a[illegible] Dressed [illegible] room [illegible] Cover [illegible] days [illegible] a repetit[illegible] that the [illegible] in last, [illegible] hot, almo[illegible] Twore [illegible] with a [illegible] weak [illegible] up that [illegible] Shut. How [illegible] best of a[illegible] & silver, [illegible] & mad[illegible] I know [illegible] arrived [illegible] on quite [illegible] does so [illegible] opportu[illegible] Hating [illegible] days before Xmas — is the Cold. The [illegible] go out morning & afternoon, saying they can stand the Cold better out than in their rooms. These have all caught colds & have started imparting the ailment to many of the Stay-at-homes. Only 1 lady, my table neighbour had the good taste to sit at a table apart after the few days in bed; thanks to this measure, I have escaped

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have found in library here and captured 2 woodhouse books, but alas what shape I got Inge to read them?

Dearest Beauty, Your last 2 missives (letter + scrap v. snapshots (3rd Series) came many days ago, but somehow betw. getting up & intimate bed

[illegible] Paradox de

[illegible] Paradox de la

[illegible] Paradox de la

[illegible] Paradox de la

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Have found i
and captures
books, but ala
get time to

5/

Gentleman dying.
Clergyman calls: says:
"Any I can do for you?
"Nothing doing, thanks!
"Meet you at the
funeral."

Dear ... as
(letter + ... many
days ag ... to be
Dressed ... the
room ... at
Cover b ... the
days ... ay was
a repetit ... difference
that the ... escribed
in last, proved ... as burn
hot, almost at once, and our eyes poppy & tired.
I wore the violet moiré flock with your 2 gold clasps
with a little silver lace & cicaro. My hair however was a
weak point, for I had counted on having it done
up that day - 'Stead of which all the hairdressers were
shut. However Mrs Barr tells me that people said I looked
best of all the ladies. They were nearly all in black
& silver, so I expect my note of colour was a relief
& made them say that. I only tell you because
I know you like me to look well. Mrs Barr
arrived a week ago to-morrow & we seem to get
on quite smoothly. She has quite a lot to tell me &
does so very well, so I mostly listen & have no
opportunity or wish to comment. But the domi-
nating note for us all in this house beginning from some
days before Xmas — is the Cold. The valiant ones
go out morning & afternoon, saying they can stand
the Cold better out than in their rooms. These have all
caught colds & have started imparting the ailment
to many of the stay at-homes. Only 1 lady, my table neigh-
bour had the good taste to sit at a table apart after the
few days in bed; thanks to this measure, I have escaped

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Girardot &c

Dearest Beauty, Your last 2 missives (letter + scrap w. snapshots (3rd Series) came many days ago, but somehow betw. getting up only in time to be dressed & out by 12, this under pretext of having the room warmer than at 8.30 when I ought to break cover but do not, mostly out of pure laze, the days have slipped by incredibly. New Years Day was a repetition of the Xmas dinner & after, with this difference that the low-down flames of the little candles described in last, proved unpleasant very, for they made our faces burn hot, almost at once, and our eyes poppy & tired. I wore the violet moiré frock with your 2 gold clasps with a little silver lace & figaro. My hair however was a weak point, for I had counted on having it done up that day - 'Stead of which all the hairdressers were shut. However Mrs Barr tells me that people said I looked best of all the ladies. They were nearly all in black & silver, so I expect my note of colour was a relief & made them say that. I only tell you because I know you like me to look well. Mrs Barr arrived a week ago to-morrow & we seem to get on quite smoothly. She has quite a lot to tell me & does so very well, so I mostly listen & have no opportunity or wish to comment. But the dominating note for us all in this house beginning from some days before Xmas — is the Cold. The valiant ones go out morning & afternoon, saying they can stand the cold better out than in their rooms. These have all caught colds & have started imparting the ailment to many of the stay-at-homes. Only 1 lady, my table neighbour had the good taste to sit at a table apart after the few days in bed; thanks to this measure, I have escaped

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2 Contagion hitherto. Others however after the lapse of a day or two, came & sat at table looking very seedy & took their usual places. Mrs Barr's latest neighbour is one of these inconsiderate persons so she, poor lady is in bed to-day with only a cold, & not only one degree temperature this evening, so I am not preoccupied. She had a nasty room, so as she had had an offer of a very good double room with lots of sun, I persuaded her to come down & occupy it this afternoon, and she is, I think, well pleased at the change. The maids brought down all her things and Lizzie Munzi & I had everything ship-shape in less than 10 minutes. My last glass proved a boon for the sun was dazzling, owing to the position of the bed. She & I had tea in her room & I sat for a while doing some stitching while she chatted about the various places she had lived in, especially Detroit & Baltimore. This lordly room costs L4l + 10% f. service which is very cheap for Am. ideas & conditions, compared to the figures Mrs D. Masterton. On account of the cold I've only been going out between or rather from 12-1 & only once in the afternoon. That was on the Sunday last by urgent request from Camilla to meet the less nice mother of a nice girl we met at Bibbiena. I came away at 6 & seem to have eaten no tea. After about 10 days interval, I have resumed my injections & shall see Lupi one of these days just to keep you quiet. You are right about the last snapshots, they are not too far capable, but afford a view of very good legs, which is most satisfactory. I'm sorry you are looking for a job, but delighted to hear good mails are giving satisfaction & that you are care-free at last.

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3/ Also & not less so that you have had a little fun & have recovered figure & good looks. I repeat, I shouldn't worry for the present about the bestowal of Victoria during your stay in Europe. ~~Funny~~ Funny to think how cock-sure you seem about being able to rent your flat while away. I hope you won't do so unless obliged, for besides the risk of damage to furniture, there is a lot of hard work entailed before & after.

I wonder why you say you "know I am bitter" about the bestowal of Victoria. I do ~~[illegible]~~ regret not being able to be of use to you but even if robust enough & unfair enough w. Am. Conditions to run the houses in N.Y. & Greensboro, I question my competence in the management of a baby, for ideas & methods have moved on considerably since your babyhood especially in Am.

Mrs Barr showed me some interesting photos of Andrew & his family, also of A.H's father of whom I had only seen tiny photos in a garden & of wh. I had no recollection whatever. All things considered; her up-bringing & surroundings all her life. I consider she is being pretty brave, for a woman of her temperament, which is emotional, highly imaginative & very "liebebedürftig". I think too that she had a hard struggle to give up A.H. to you, or at least to yield

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4) you the first place in his life, which place she believes she held till then, but to which she says you have a perfect right, and richly deserve. She seems very glad that A.H. is now becoming more sociable. And so grateful to you for your unremitting care of & devotion to him. Is very proud of you all round & I fancy very desirous to stand well with you. Is very much aware of the contradictions in Presbyterian ~~ideas~~ & contrasts former Presbyt. ways & rules with present ones when all ~~young sters~~ youngsters dance & read what they choose on Sundays & weekdays. As I have been through all that sort of thing, I know how our elders felt about it & find it amazing that in one generation only, a woman of her bringing-up should be not only tolerant, but approving of most modern conditions and admitting & approving change & progress in people, the world & things in general. This writing is fearful because done in bed, after injection & toilet as usual.

To-morrow the sartina comes, I trust, as promised, with the violet frock & blue blouse wh. both required slight alterations. I am sorry it is not a more presentable epistle, but it was this or nothing for room gets too cold to sit up ½ dressed & type or write. I shall however have to mend my ways & change my hours, for I have accepted 2 transl. besides B^ti's and my lesson for Kansas City. Can't say how happy it makes me to know you have good maids! As ever with love to A.H. & Victoria, fondly & more so, your only MAX.

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Monday Morning 27/I2/37

Dearest and Best Beloved Childie,

I wrote this last evening, but between postscripts and marginal scribbles it had got quite unintelligible, so I put it aside and went to bed.

What to say of the wondrous things, and the wealth of them, that Maria Nap. brought me her very self and, not having phoned, of course., did not find me in, as the weather, tho' very cold, has been radiantly sunny for the past week. I phoned her at once, of course to acknowledge and thank, but we spoke only quite hurriedly for a few secs, as she was rushing off to Aquila as you wrote. So I heard virtually nothing, except that you were well and that Victoria was flourishing and very lively. Said she would tell me lots on her return, and very soon. I enclose list of the lovely things she left, there are one or two missing which she says will be sent on her return. All these beautiful things will prove most useful, and will set me up fine, as they change more here than at Corvisieri. The frock and coatee are beyond words. So are all the rest, for that matter, so I shall not take them one by one, except to say that I wore those truly bewitching clasps twice already; they were immensely admired & I was conplimented on your good taste. So was your Mother. One lady, the great 'fou-rire' laugher, said I looked a very "princessa"(sic). Another that they had all agreed about my looking a very duchess. Most of these charming women don't know a word of Italian. Two zealous souls, however know quite a lot , but have a fearful accent and won't speak anything but Ital. One of these, a Mrs Dwight, knows the elder Barr's ever since their stay in Detroit and was in Greensboro this last summer to see Mrs Dr. Barr and there met and liked you. So I am in high hopes that this good lady will make an exception and help to entertain Mrs Dr Barr when she comes on Thursday. I wore the coatee

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shall do so again this evening.

once only at dinner on the 25th. It is just the right thing, was admired, and so very warm that I had to slip it off at a given moment. And what lining!! All this wealth came on the afternoon of the 24th. and the subscription to the invaluable "Digest" on the 24th. This magic little review keeps me so well posted that I even succeed in giving points to the ladies around me at table, and is besides so fascinating in itself. Imagine how I devour the "Patter" and the "How else would you say it" sections. Tho' I know you don't want me to thank you for all the riches you continue to shower over me, I do nevertheless thank and bless you every time I take up that review, or don almost all my clothes and I thank God every day that dawns for having such a treasure of a daughter. Also I try to imagine what I should be, or what would have become of me, but for your sweet self.

Now for my Christmas goings on. I got up pretty early (for me) & went at II to the Am. Church on the V. Naz. where I rather liked the service and the clergym. I then by sure and slow degrees moved on to Aureli's where I was invited for Io'clock. (Wisend) by former numerous experiences, I had a snack on the way, for there is always a long wait for food in that establishment (last time an hour and three quarters) Di fatti, we sat down about 2.IO. This time there was a reason for the delay and anyone but Piera would have phoned to say: don't come. The evening before there was a dinner of I2 guesta. The cook was removing the pesciera containing a large spigola and an idem dentice from the fire to dish them, when she slipped over the refuse of fresh vegetables with which the flor was bestrewn, came flop forward and got the scalding water all over face, neck & hands. She started screaming of course and the other maid rushed to the telephone and phoned the barber where she knew, or guessed that Massimo was to call, stating the state of affairs. He and Piera were out together and he left

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hen 1/3 an an hour before the dinner-hour to get shaved. The barber received him with razor & shavingbrush on high; !"Sig. Comm. Corra a casa;si è bruciata la cuoca". So he rushed to find Piera doctoring the cook, and the guests, for whom she improvised a cena, had to wait for something like two hours in their streets wraps for the house is so badly built that altho' one cannot touch the radiators for heat, the whole place is arctic. I walked part of the way home to warm my feet and got here around 4. A fortnight ago we all got a kind of program of Christmas day;Lunch as usual.Tea at 4.30. TRee at 5. Dinner at 8. A certain number of the guests had got up a subscr. to offer present to the 5 HSS. So tea started well with excellent cheer,BUT the fluid bluish and barely tepid,absolutely fearful.Then came the TREE, a great success. All the guests got the same present from the HSS: a "spo=rta" linen, printed in middle brown hand and useful for the country.I kept wishing for one this summer, for Erica's is badly planned. Then from 7-8 we listened to a concert transmitted from the Vatican, directed by Perosi. I rested the first ½hour and heard the last ½ which sounded vague and very tame indeed. I expect the apparatus is a bad one, or else it didn't like the change of air from the Directresses bedroom where it lives. . There is no common official one in this P. for the taxes are incredibly high on radios in hotels which however are obliged by law to keep one. I wish I could give you an idea of the utter besuty of that dinner-table.The leitmotiv was a single row of little red 3-branched canelabra running down the middle, candles with flame d/ stick e/ about 30 centimetrs high. The little candles too were of red wax.These were made by a common tornitore here in Rome on the model of a single one unpainted brought from Switzerland as a little present to one of the HSS. She ordered about I50 of these from the tornitore and got her sons to paint them in red enamel

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and got her aunt to paint them in red enamel with a little palmbranch up the middle of each branch that any fool could do. The table, immensely long, had 100 of these and the side-tables about 50 in all. Of course you guess that the elec. light was turned off. Then there were a certain number of long-necked glass vases with a few flowers well arranged in each and on the cloth sprigs of a kind of berry with a difficult name. Fun and laughter reigned throughout and at the champagne all sang about six songs with great gusto beginning with "For he'a a jolly good fellow" and winding up with "Ladies, Good-night", this latter started and well sung by a lady of 81 whom I hesitate to call old. She is an ex-professor of History at, I think, Wellesley College, has lived many years in China since her retirement, is immensely intelligent and à la page, name: Miss Kendall. Besides the subscription presents, I gave Signa Girardet, my table neighbour, a trifle on the 25th . 10 days previous I had given her personally/15 L. for her charity sale. Then, to Sigra Munzi, the Factotum lady, I gave Bti's box of Venchi sweets which seemed right well chosen for a churchman, or perhaps for that very reason, also a pretty scarf, a pair of real chamois gloves imported from France before the autarchia came on, and a glove-stretcher that you sent me with last years package/For the Aureli childr. These 2 good souls had been attentive while I was seedy last month. I have settled with Piera to give theirs on the 6th as she does. I am giving them the remnant of those you last sent me for them plus a few other trifles.

I have of course phoned for the Sarta to come and fix up the violet frock which is hard to get into, besides too narrow in parts for me. She promised to come this week early. I gave L.25 to the maid that does my room and a tip to the porter here because of my post.

The repairs to the big carpet are paid for also L. 50. to the ex

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pert who values it at L.4000, but says I might aceept L. 3500.; these figures cost him noth ng to spifferare, of course, but I am not a bit too sanguine about Giorgio S. sharing his views and above all about his being inclined to shell out even the lower figure.

I cabled you on the 25th, much a shamed not to have managed it in proper time, but this carpet business took up quite a lot of my time just pat in the last days .(I sent Sigra Marconi (top-room deity) I chilo of ricciarelli di Siena). You too phoned me on same day / There was a note saying: le ore indicate sono quelle del paese di at 5.40 A.M./ circonstance celle-ci qui m'a fait rêver. So I fancied origine.
you were returning from some lively social function and pulled up to cable me, in spite of cold, fatigue and probable sleepiness. So I got it on the afternoon of the 26th while I was having high tea by special invite at Corvisieri with just my 2 ex-HSS. They were most cordial and full of inquiries about you, so I relaxed to the point of showing them Victoria's 6 snaps. which trait delighted them highly Then I even produced my Loupe with which they duly scrutinized and commented, of course favourably, otherwise there might have been trouble. They acted wisely in this.

I do trust my violet moiré will be ready for the evening of the 3Ist - and überhaupt for extra dinner occasions . Jacopo came for the first time in a year and detained me for over an hour and a half He has had an offer of L.5000 a month to go to Ethiopia,, of the hardships of which his elder brother, who has been there for some time, has given him uninviting details. He hasn't the stuff of an Empire-founder, much less of a pioneer. So altho' he says he is considering the matter , I feel certain he will never go there. I've taken some trouble, in vain, to find a place au pair for a highly qualified niece of Emily Ferrari's. Mario is still at home and is "writing" she told me during a visit on the only day I had high fever last month. She forced her way in to my room while the maid was announcing her. Save us from our friends, I thought & listened as best I could, but did not talk. Goodnight, for this time, your Sweet Darling. With dear love to A.H. & a hug to Victoria, as ever fondly your own Max.

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There is nothing really in all this letter, so you must read it only when you have nothing better to do Mav.

Dec. 16 7 p.m.

Dearest Darling Childie, #

Your letter posted on 7/12 (came at 1 today) made me immensely happy. Confirming my guess that you had got a little quieter in your household matters. Tho' the Scotch are dour & unaimiable, they are steadfast, as a rule & trustworthy. Later you'll find Victoria picking up some of her inflections &c. No matter. Your defect and, alas, my own, about maids is that we spoil them in our personal contacts manner &c. I see that both here & at Corvisieri, they are kept up to the mark in service but get more outings than in Italian families. And mancanze are quietly but firmly pointed out. Tho' certain that you don't need this chapter of (in my case) belated wisdom. I leave it; it just slipped from the pen as a deflection.

Thanks for the snapshots which, as you say, are pretty bad, whereas the first series were excellent. I study them almost daily with Pap's magnifying glass (which looks like a medal) and have even shown them by special request to a chosen & select few. I intended to show them to

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2°

Piera Aureli & forgot to put Shera in my hand bag. To my surprise Adriano, her youngest, walks about very boldly, quickly, but so unsteadily that the second-last, Sandra, hovers over him lest he should bang his head against things. He is now 14 months old. Legs not too straight just yet & inclined to be bow-ey. Is very animated & Comical, talks a lot, but quite inarticulately, laughs and screams a lot and is clever with his hands. The second-last: Sandra who had an immensely Comical vein for the 1st 2 years, so much so that I predicted that she wd be quite a Character & a new manifestation in that very morigerata family. Stead of which she wilted at 3, of her own accord & is now a quiet studious, ugly, mousey little girl, not an atom of originality left. Am most terribly thrilled over the lovely things Maria is bringing me from you & I know they will come in most appropriate and useful. As for the violet frock you have generously thrown in, it will be a glad relief, as the people all change for dinner & I have only two frocks really fit. the violet moiré (sleeveless) I shall get fixed for the Xmas-tree here at Girardet, as by enclosed invite. Did I say in yesterday's letter that we guests are going to offer presents to the 5 Girardet ladies? I paid in 10 lire, as I found out that was the prevailing quota. I shall besides give 2 private little presents to Sig^ra Munzi (factotum)

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3° (former landscape painter, white hair) were both

and a Sig^na Clotilde Girardet who ~~was~~
most attentive during my bronchial attack
lately which at first was thought to be "Flu"
and wasn't. I was very well taken care of then
and with less fuss than at Corvisieri. Lupi
sent a little chit of an infermiera for the first
10 injections, after which I sacked her and
did them myself. Now I hope Lupi will let me
stop them, as I have had 20 in all. I am up
and out every day except in bad rain which
has been frequent. To-day was sunny from
11 to 2. I went out from 12 to 1 and found it
too cold to be pleasant. At 3 the wind chan-
ged & it has rained ever since. The Tiber is
pauroso, they say, and many places outside
Rome are flooded. X Mindful of your injunc-
tion about Pap's family, I never mention you
to Arpalice in my brief (very) but friendly lines
~~to Arpalice~~ every month, altho' she constant-
ly inquires about you. Unless you express desire
for me to mention Victoria's arrival, I shall
continue as hitherto. X I am invited to Durel's
for lunch on X mas-day but have settled with
Piera to let it depend on the weather and on
how I feel that day. So you see I am being
as careful as even you could wish, as I
don't enjoy being confined to bed. X
So overjoyed to hear that Victoria is so
healthy and strong and merry & lively.

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4

Pity the child's maid is apt to forget things and to be flustered or fussy. I had imagined that she & the Child with Mrs Dr Barr would adjourn to the Greensboro abode where you would or Mrs Barr would instal everything & body before you start for Europe. As you do not mention this alternative, I conclude that Vermont is too Cold in April for that plan and exodus, as perhaps there are no heating arrangements there.

I feel truly relieved to hear that Maria Nap has subsided & am amused to hear about her table-manners. Beyond hands on, or off the table, I see no difference here or at Corvisieri where we often discussed the point. The only Italian at my (Central) table is a Jewish Commendatore very Compito & talkative, but who plays with & turns up (clean) knife or fork in intervals. We were pounced on if knife or fork were lifted beyond edge of plate. The 3 art students (girls) are still here and they scream when they laugh like a hen after laying a egg. It echoes all over the large room and dominates all the hum. It is much commented on but very good-naturedly. They are from the Mid West. Opposite me now sits a Miss Roberts, for many years librarian at Wellesley College. She and her friend Miss Dwight only appear at mealtimes.

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5

Both are keen on learning & speaking Italian at table. Neither seem attractive. One speaks much better than the other which other, Miss D., did her thesis in Italian & got high marks. She doesn't seem to know a single word.

I have written variously lately tho' none of my missives could be called an exclusively, decisively Christmas letter for the simple reason that both now and always, all my epistles are just laden, trickling, alive, permeated, thrilling and brimming over with ardent hopes, wishes, longings, yearnings for good things to be heaped ~~to~~ overflowing on you

3 Darlings

as ever fondly

Your only

Mav.

P.S.
In yr place I shouldn't worry for the present about what to do about Victoria & A. H. Things mostly turn out different from what we expect. Don't send Mags till Jan. 15th Love M.

What is this about Massage? Is it for you? & why? Please answer.

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Girardet &c.

I5/I2/37

Dearest and Best Beloved,

Seeing and believing profoundly that for the moment you are too beset to do and almost to think what you would like, here I am to fill the gap, as having full time and leisure. Yeaterday morning came a c.p. from Franca to say she had seen you and Victoria the previous day and that you were both well and most beautiful. This was satisfactory muchly - in two ways - first from tha physical side, and too it made me guess that you had perhaps begun to see a few friends - a thing you could by no possibility have attempted unless the house were in some degree reorganised.

You will have got my letter saying as how Mrs DR. Barr had written to me and to the Direction about a room for the end of the month. and how I answered at once to Göttingen cordially. here I interrupted to run and ask how the Direction had answered and they tell me that in a first letter they had written to Mrs Barr "all Full" but that a lady had suddenly given notice that same day, whereupon they wrote again, at once to the Munich address saying there will be a small room on the top floor (in many ways more desirable than this (on this floor) but that there will be also larger, more expensive, because double, rooms on this floor when Mrs Barr comes, to choose from.

Franca also writes on same card that she has married Mr Lanza, so of course I wrote at once congratulating and wishing all possible good. Louise Moro admires and believes firmly in her, and I say that if any power on earth can galvanise Lanza into normality and efficiency, - that power is Franca. So we had better go on hoping and if possible helping them. In a certain sense (awkwardness of identical address) it will be easi

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it will be easier for her friends to recommend them both. She certainly deserves to succeed, poor girl - such devoted souls are very rare now-a-days. His ineptie makes her line of conduct all the more admirable.

Buonaiuti has just called to make his Xmas visit and brought me a box of sweets from Venchi which I shall reserve for others, as I don't go in for such things. He sends you and Family his very best. He was as ever most cordial and pretty ashamed of Mortera's hesitations & minutiousness. Believes firmly in his fundamental good faith and honesty. So do I. AS M. will give me a definite answer on March Ist, I shall, in the worst case, have a month in which to find other lodgers. Sigra Concaro says her husband's comrades will be looking out for a flat and that there are good chances in that direction, especially as in those/6 months there will be no question of heating. Said heating has risen from 97 lire (per month) last year to L. 152.75 this year. However there is great hope from a large consignment of coal from Poland, due to Italy as some remnant of War indemnity. As you are always inquiring about Finance, I wish to state that having made a preventivo, when all possible expenses are paid I shall have on Conto Corrente L. ± 5000, to which the Jan. tagliandi are to be added, making it well over L.6000.

On Monday I lunched at Aureli's and found them as cordial as ever Massimo came home to lunch about 3, just as I was about to leave. We had waited an hour and a quarter before sitting down to table Piera had phoned here and there to let him know I was to be there, but she had not reached him. In his new position he has had to defend some very knotty difficult lawsuits and has had many brilliant successes. Piera's figure has at last returned to normal, but until she put on a very becoming hat to come out with me and M. who insisted on driving me home (they again have a car, possibly obliged),

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her face seemed to me too broad. However that might be, and I believe i
s usually a permanent trait which she obviates by doing the hair-rolls very
close to the face. She announced her intention of coming to see me
before Xmas together with Sofia who is clamouring to see me. A nice
intelligent girl whom I met and liked in Bibbiena, came to have tea with me here on Sunday living in Città-
Giardino with her mother and working in an office for the nonce un=
til their affairs are settled, but on her mother's imminent return
from Germany where she has gone to retrieve said affairs, they will
settle in town and the girl will give up the office. Name Livia Buonanni. The man who is repairing the big
carpet says I ought not to accept a centime less than L. 4000. Am
going to ask G. Sangiorgi to take our small antique Oriental rugs.
which are still in good condition. Some of the more interesting women, whom
I should like to chat with, play bridge in the evenings which is a
deterrant. There are however others compared to whose travels and
experiences, I seem a perfct baby for inexperience, living as I have
done all my life. However they are fascinating to listen to. There is
a luminary called ~~Mrs or~~ Miss Kendall who taught for many years, ~~at~~
~~Vassar Latin and Greek~~ History at, ~~I think~~, ~~Princeton~~ Wellesley University and has spen
t long years in China, probably after retiring - she must now be wel
l over 80. but still bright, interesting and immensely strong. Came
down last month from London a stright without a stop, tho' not in a sl
eeper. Then there is an elderly couple called Scribner, nothing to do
with the Mag. She told a wondrous yarn about a doctor (American) who cured her
of arthrite diffomente, by injections distilled from her own blood.
She is still passionately fond of - DANCING which she forthwith re
sumed while the cure was actually still going on. Rather an Irish per
formance, I say. He seems pretty delicate and she says he must rest
quite a lot. I have not yet spoken to him, tho' he seems quite tame and
approachable. I must see to cultivating some interesting ones ~~for the~~

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in view of Mrs Dr. Barr's imminent visit. A Mrs or Miss Pomeroy too is very nice and sits next me at table. however she is to leave shortly I regret to say, (a false report, she remains till Feb. or March) Many others, among who a Mrs Griffiths a great friend of Mrs Kendall's, intend to stay until Easter. Mrs G. is very amusing and a great laugher. She too is a great raconteuse and I regret that I sit too far from her to hear all her yarns. The weather has turned rainy so I have not been out much latterly and thus have seen no more movies since the one I spoke of in a former at the Palestrina.

Wonder if you realize that I consider I have a vested interest in Victoria and that I am parched with longing for some fresh snapshots. If you can contrive to throw in some of her Mother, so much the better. Also of her Papa.

Have just phoned to have news of M. Napolitano from her mother that who is still out of doors altho' the weather is far from fine, It is 9 o'clock p.m. Phoned again & ascertained that Maria having been delayed by illness, will not arrive before the 23rd. Mother pretty tired having to look a bit after Giovanna and the library routine. Did not say where Maria was ill and I am hoping this illness did not affect you on top of all the other woes, tho' it sounds rather inhuman to say so.

Enough for this time, you sweet thing, All my love and fond wishes to you THREE

as ever

your own Mav.

P.S. Heard twice how well Jane looking - even better than at his last visit.

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Girardet &c.

Dec. 10/37

(Mrs 2nd A.W. Barr)

Dearest Childie, Enclosed 1/ please mail to the addressee, if you approve of it entirely . If not, there is time for me to write and send another ø of which you must write me the text (w. address.).

Nothing new to register here. I am getting our big carpet thoroughly overhauled and repaired. It will be ready for Christmas. I want to sell it. Consulting Sangiorgi about the best way to exhibit and advertize the sale of it, he said he would be inclined to purchase it, but must of course see it first. So some day soon, he and I will D.V. go see it together. I am told it is still worth four thousand, being an Aubusson- Indiano, ante-guerra. Speriamo bene. I should be glad to sell him the oriental rugs too, as it seems a sin to have them in a hired flat. I should of course replace them by modern ones. They are 5 with Elsie's.

As you know, I am pining for news of you three darlings. And still more for the news of the happy close of this truly gruesome interregnum. AND for fresh snapshots of that wonderful Child of yours.

I have forgotten all about my little cold, which, by the way, was not flu at all. but a simple feverish cold. Yesterday at the well-beloved Palestrina I saw Proprietà Privata with R; Taylor & Jean Harlowe, now dead, I read. (~~the girl that invented the platinum hair, name escapes me at the moment~~) very well given. Every single word quite audible. People at table as ever very cordial and bright. There are 4 movies here close by, besides among which the Supercinema. Heating here is far better than ever at 63. Please don't forget to give this address when renewing, if so inclined, The Readers Digest , ~~for~~ of which I have never adequately expressed my appreciation. Here I am again with empty hands for my

(over)

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nearest & dearest ones
at Christmas.

This makes me feel rather bad.

Shall write at once on receipt of your next. che ormai non dovrebbe tardare molto.

All good to you 3 darlings,
as ever fondly

Mav.

P.S.

A 2nd letter from Mrs Barr came this evening (telling of your cable & announcing her arrival for last days of Dec.) so I just added a few amiable lines & sent (the letter mentioned above) to Göttingen. Mrs Barr has also given me her Munich address, and has written the Direction of Girardet about a room. This I am glad of, for as the place is pretty full the choice may not be large. Heating is excellent in all rooms I am told. Then arises the question of traffic-noise. No tooting or street-calls. Just the motor busses & trams on alphalt & rails. I don't mind it. No body complains of it, but it is there!

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Miss Sharp did find room for the 3 bottles after all. Also chic cap + 2 scarfs

She crossed on Conte di Savoia starting from Naples on Nov. 26 (or 7)

Pensin Girardet &c.

2/12/38

Saturday

Gave her a box of rather choice sweets from Venchi's.

Thanks for Mrs Barr's address. I hope to write to her to-morrow. So many ladies here keep sending her kind messages. She was immensely liked.

Derest & Best Beloved,

I am painfully aware of having left yu too long without news. This ~~is explained farther on.~~ & is due to pure faze & weakness, but especially to waiting for a real improvement. This is intended for THE CHRISTMAS LETTER & brings you all three my dearest most loving wishes for a right good, happy, carefree, joyous time.

The typewriter has taken to doubling letters -Try not to mind its bad temper.

Since the one & only letter describing visit to the osteopath, you have never returned to the subject. So I am still quite in the dark as to the definite result of his treatment. Was he supposed to set things right all in one visit ? Did he do so? Do you now feel completely free from pain, or have you to go back periodically to keep things straight? Please answer this point. Say too if you have succeeded in persuading A.H. to go too & have his eyes examined, since there is that wonderful possibility of complete relief from his most unusual affection. It must be so very disabling & disheartening. He must not resign himself to things like that. It is our duty, I believe, to be & remain efficient.

Of course I know that if I say that I was dismayed about the sudden & vibent arctic wave you have just had in N.Y. , you will forthwith start ut to make fun of me, as you did about the Martian scare & so many other things. So I might as well cngratulate you on yur enjoyment of the horrid thing. Even if yu were able to get everything you needed by phone & put off dates ' meetings &c. , there is the fate of A.H. having to go to the Museum....Has he & have you specially rigged clothes & footwear for such emergencies? Did you both keep the rig you had at Sankt Anton? Please tell me how yu managed that first day of cold. Also whether S.P. was put to sleep at an open window with 12 degr. below outside?

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Re: The new boiler is now installed & functions of course, irregularly & began only about the 25th instead of the 15th. We here had begun to heat from 6 p.m. midnight from about Nov. 1. and now since the 15th (about) all day & quite satisfactorily, (contrary to your preconceived notion). for I never complained of bad heating here. Our Amer. guests come to dinner without wraps & in fairly thin frocks.
In the 63 flat I was always painfully aware of insufficient heat, as you were too, & may remember. But here, there is a rich glow the moment one enters.
As I mentioned above, weather here is still very mild & sunny. I came in at 7 p.m. for the last few evenings without the slightest feeling of even chill in the air.

To his immense satisfaction & delight, I am passing on my Digestio to Dr Lupi, whose son too, he says, will be most glad of it.
Please don't forget to send a little money to 117 Tracy Ave. Kansas City (Mo.) as requested in a recent letter of mine (Silent Unity Dept.)
It is a grand Institution.
Love & Love & Love to You, as ever your fond Max.

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2

Sunday morning. in bed.

Health bulletin. Of course you are suspecting all kinds of mischief because of mentions in my recent epistles, so I hasten to say that, yes, I have been through a brief attack of dyspepsia, but am now well on the mending tack. As there was a tendency to vomit, Lupi thought this trait might possibly be due to "azotimia". So he took a sample of blood from the arm & had it analyzed. The result was most favorable & his surpicion of insufficient elimination by kidneys wholly unjustified. I had 2 days previously had urine (pardon) analyzed & result sent to Lupi. This too had proved utterly satisfactory. So much light on the situation enabled Lupi to concentrate on tummy only. So he changed diet, ordered Soda water, lemon juice & rind in drinks, ordered variety of food &c &c all of which has proved highly satisfactory & though I still eat too little, my strength is returning fast, and weather being still mild warm & sunny I go out every day and sit in the sun for at least an hour or two. I have had a hat or two altered. One is completely satisfactory & rather like smaller flat blue one you handed me this summer. No 2 is still in the making & should be mildly turban-shaped and quite plain. Both are black felt, latter of plain & plushy sort mixed. Modista is really clever, has an immense clientele, was recommended by Czapolinsky & charges only £10. for remodelling. Is totally unscrupulous about waste of customer's time, so I go there armed with something to read. I get from

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3

3 door to door by tram, she lives on a mezzanino in Via Volturno, with low, easy steps in a respectable house — so don't worry about fatigue. I get up about 10 & go out at once, go to sunny Café, am back at one, generally go out again to another sunny Café till 4. Afternoon program will shortly be changed to Cinema, as Modista lives over a goodish Cinema in Via Volturno. Lupi is still stressing grand Sympathetic stunt & yesterday he found improved condition of catarrh & blood-pressure, owing to it. Says the heart is doing right well & has done so throughout. Says improvement in ~~panting~~ breathing is due to this Sympatol stuff I'm taking assiduously these last weeks. Allons, tant mieux! So, now, having finished all translations & eliminated all work or occupation, I am concentrating on getting strong & live in happy anticipation of your highly miscellaneous parcel, description of which made me feel dazed & dizzy when I got it & now begins to amuse me vastly. As Ciano's speech is being variously quoted, I send you original, together with Gayda's article reminding about 1935 unfulfilled agreement with France, which I, for one had completely forgotten. The new tenant Conte Noris paid regularly on Dec. 1. They are settling down slowly, being stightly crotchetty & chilly.

(go back to sheet 1) back of

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Unholy in our Parlance only means abominably disagreeable.

Nov. 18/ 37

Pensione Girardet

You darling sweet Childie, Well I realize what dear Elsie and you too used to call the "abomination of desolation" i.e. tha first hours after the departure of maids and indeed the whole interregnum. Your letter of the 6th fully reflects this unholy # state of mind wh. I sympathise with you from the bottom of my heart. If matters had come to the pitch of insolence with Elisabeth you are well rid of her. The meannes s/ of her behaviour just now when the coming of Victoria has increased your usual matters is truly beyond words. What I think most important is that you are not getting strong as quickly as you ought. If you were strong you would feel less overcome & wretched. So I expect you will have had to make the best of Rose and eating outside, and for the sweet kiddie, the Irish nurse- until she leaves to make room for a cheaper successor. How you brought yourself to sit down and write me such a sweet long letter, full of altruism and concern for others, is truly admirable when your strength has too many urgent calls on it besides. Any one else would have just curled up and taken a good rest. You don't seem to have approved my suggestion of turning Maria Nap. over to Franca & letting them worry things out as best they may. It would have made things easier for you - but you know best how you stand with Fr. and possibly don't want to create obligations, tho' it seems to me that the obligations are all on Fr. 's side. And this would have given her some satisfaction in helping you out with Maria. Now I absolutely will not hear of your talk about interfering with my wishes or decisions about pensions ans modes of existence in latter times. Corvisieri was a most providential move and the very best thing that could possibly have been done under the circs. I was in Marco of Laisg else at the time, I was

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need not and indeed must not be an immediate one. It is this: - Don't you think that it would be an immense change and satisfaction to me to run over and take charge of Victoria while you are in Europe next year? I am so strong and well now that I should love to, and we could live in the bungalow at Greensboro, or wherever else you prefer. Surely there a maid could be found at reasonable charge to cook and wash and clean our rooms. Think this over well before turning it down . This project, as you see, is based on your last sketch for '38 by which you and A.H. were to be in Europe in Spring, confiding the Baby to a qualified nurse or home during your absence. There is here a Mrs Dohan, (an Irish name) , curator of a museum in Philadelphia Pennsylvania who knows Hal Wethey and thinks him a most admirable person.

No more for to-day. Never scruple to write me about any disagreeablenesses. By the time your letter reaches me things are bound to have improved and get at least partially reorganized. Be sure you tell me about the kiddie and have a good look at her before you hazard the assertion that she is anything but beautiful and most lovable. Everybody hates to change their habits . It is touching in the extreme that you should feel it so keenly and I should propose to do so the very least possible. No more for this time.

as ever your only Mav for whom you are and have always been The Bright Light in life.

P.S. Prof McCarthy my table neighbour denies that the Bryn Mawr faculty and students are, or have the reputation, of being even the least bit brighter than other Colleges. He is a New Englander & is in a high school in Cleveland Ohio. He is having his sabbatical year & has travelled & observed, I fear, somewhat superficially people & institutions in different Countries He is intensely pro-Roosevelt.

Very few things I need. Mind this, please.

Don't bother about items of clothing for me, above all no underskirt as I can pile on in other ways I can buy here the #

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Weather so mild I sit with open window the whole time (2) even in the evening.

done under the circs. I was far too run down to hope for admission i in an ordinary pension and they surely nursed me back to strength carefully and kindly and conscientiously. I now consider that I have made good friends of both ladies and this I highly prize. I might have left them that time in March, but as you were expecting I should have hated myself to have caused you the very slightest anxiety, so I stayed on right willingly and went on getting strong there. Here I continue taking things very easy and my most strenuous days are when I have to go down to 63 in the morning & be ready by 10 as has frequently happened lately and no later than this morning to meet two engineers about the defective working of the heating. I sat with Sigra Concaro after they left & met the Major for a sec. going away. As they are not paying for the heat, they feel immensely grateful for my zeal in this matter, wh. is of course in my interest for future lodger who will pay for heat and in general will affect the value of the app. for good or bad according to result of to-day's examination and decisions. Speriamo bene. About Maria's appearance, her mother says what is true that she really is in bad need of a thorough change & hopes much from tha Am. trip as much for her health and nerves as for the rest. The conversation at table is quite interesting and my neighbours keep me so lively that I get behind sometimes (but seldom) with the courses. Yeaterday I scored because nobody knew the name of the volcano on Iceland but me, without the slightest hesitation I said Hecla, but they did not seem to believe me much. Perhaps the name has changed since my youth as have other northern islands like Nova Zembla or whatever it is now styled. To-day at 4.30 as I was setting fire to my tea-water, Yolanda called, fatter than ever, well over her operation and finally settled back in Rome where they have rented a one-room flat with kitchen and bathroom & spent 3000 lire on furni=

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she remarked that meta is much more expensive than spirit and wants me to accept a good spirit stove that she now does not need as they have put in light and gas. As I have just renewed my supply for the first time (yours is still lasting) and will only give out in some days, I said NO. These people always think the kindness we show them is their due. and that she owes me nothing. People keep lending me books and things that they insist I MUST read and keep asking me about them that I really shall have to look sharp to get my lesson and Bti's stuff (wh. this time, is only typing former lectures that he has touched up since I did them) Up to this I have taken things pretty easy & got up too late to do more than have an hour's stroll in the sun before lunch. This, of course, only on days where my presence is not needed at 63. To-day for instance I was quite ready before 10. My breakfast which I take hitherto in bed, is so abundant that I have enough bread and butter and nearly enough sugar for afternoon tea which I supplement with jam wh. is hitherto my only expense, as I had a residue of tea and the Dutch lady left me fully enough for some months. My conto corrente is still at the same figure, over 7 thousand and I have a lot (688 lire) in the house. My pension comes in on Monday next and ~~688~~ Concaro's rent on the fourth of Dec. All this I precise, as you still continue to inquire anxiously about my funds. My only expenses here are for travelling and cigarettes, matches and Bocchini. Everybody seems to want to go platea at the movies which I have paid for hitherto only to lady-housekeeper and a niece of the hostesses. Teas too I have always paid for, except Miss Haight's. Cocaro's rides have not materialized and her mother, who owns the car, has returned to Verona. Luckily, I guessed how this would be and expected nothing,.

Now I want you to do a bit of hard thinking and to take Alfred into your counsels before amswering the following proposal, answer to wh.

(see back of first sheet)

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For the last 10 days we have heating everywhere from about 5 p.m. Very good & sufficient. Automatic.

Pensione Girardet

10 Novembre '37

Dearest & Best-Beloved Childie,

I feel pretty bad at having left your last of Oct 21 unanswered, so hasten to answer it and to-day's of Nov. 2, all in one. My

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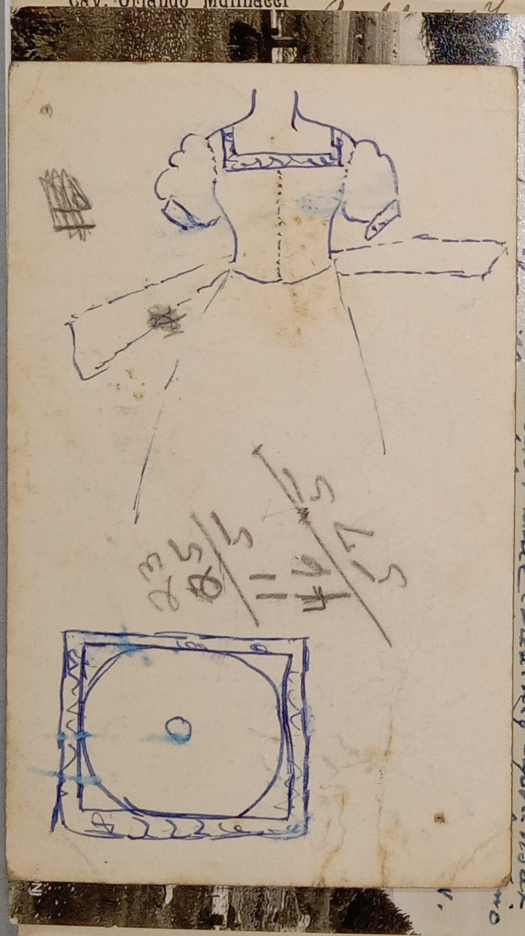
Albergo Pensione
BELLA VISTA
PROPRIETÀ
Cav. Orlando Mulinacci



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ARREDAMENTI DECORATIVI
MOBILI ANTICHI E MODERNI
SOPRAMOBILI · STOFFE :: ::

TELEFONO N. 292-192

SCHACKY

BOTTEGA ARTIGIANA

FIRENZE

LUNGARNO GUICCIARDINI, 1B



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...out thrall from you. Carpet situation as before S. G. has not yet seen it & pleads too busy & will go "to-morrow" wh. is of course a dodge. I intend to take active steps this week & shall certainly report. But fear it will not be easy to sell well. Lovissimo to all 3, as ever fondly Mav.



...per il famoso [illegible], ma non è stato possibile poterlo fare, non essendovi legname abbastanza stagionato. Me ne dispiace proprio.
Mi sono permessa di spedirle a parte un modesto lavorino di Badia, con preghiera di volerlo far pervenire a Daisy, come piccolo ricordo della sua amica d'infanzia.

For the last 10 days we are heating everywhere from about 5 p.m. Very good & sufficient. Autonomo.

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Mrs sissons wrote me a most affectionate line from on board the S.S. " Duilio " bound for S. Africa with 30 items of luggage among which antiques. So I got quite a shock as it looks as tho' they never int=

Thanks for 3 [illegible] insufficiently [illegible] [illegible]

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Mrs Atti Barr Jun
Beekman Place
New York City
U.S.A.
S.U.A.

5/2/38 Cable to Mrs B. shows you anxious ab. m. health which is now quite normal as I said in recent letter wh. you apparently don't believe. Sorry, but have told you absol. truth fr the very 1st. I am now perfectly well & if I've not yet returned to table for meals this is solely due to state of m. hair & uncertainty as to where to get proper cut. Also to resolve not to return to table in present state of hair also to resolve to finish certain transl. first. Also to strong desire to feel myself a free agent with

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Novembre '37

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Thanks for 3 ... insufficiently ... me any

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Albergo Pensione
BELLA VISTA
PROPRIETÀ
Cav. Orlando Mulinacci
BADIA PRATAGLIA (Arezzo)

3. 11. 937 XVI

Sentima Signora

Non so cosa avrà pensato di me, non avendo saputo più nulla; però non creda che mi sia dimenticata di quanto le promisi. Ho atteso fino ad ora per il famoso lumino, ma non è stato possibile poterlo fare, non essendovi legname abbastanza stagionato. Me ne dispiace proprio.

Mi sono permessa di spedirle a parte un modesto lavorino di Badia, con preghiera di volerlo far pervenire a Daisy, come piccolo ricordo della sua amica d'infanzia.

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Posso sperare di rivederle a Badia?
Ne sarei felice. Avrò pure piacere
di sapere notizie del lieto evento!
Voglia gradire i miei più
cari affettuosi saluti anche per
Daisy

Betina

Natalia Mulinacci-Rossi

Present is a vide-poche
in whitish wood, smooth & glossy



Screw foot unscrewable

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N.B.

I have answered Natalia & thanked in your name most cordially.

Archdeacon & Mrs Sissons
The Standard Bank of S. Africa
Cape Town
South Africa

Why did you enclose among rolls of ill. papers Prof. Hitchcock's Congratulatory letter?

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Novembre '37

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Pensione Girardet

10 Novembre '37

Dearest & Best-Beloved Childie,

I feel pretty bad at having left your last of Oct 21 unanswered, so hasten to answer it and to-days of Nov. 2, all in one. My reason for delaying was that I was trying to decide about calling Lupi - to satisfy you . If his rooms were heated, I believe I should have gone. Calling him here to visit me in bed is quite too too invalidish for my present state of mind & body. So I did the next best thing and got weighed this morning at Roberts'. Result: 57 kilos from which deduct about I k. for coat, pocket-book and over-boots. none of which were included in former weights.

On Friday 5/II I ordered 6 pots of Psem which were sent off the very next morning. X. I am wearing my only long sleeved blouse continually. It is the lovely lama one - greatly admired, wearing admirably.

I am quite extra contrite at having mentioned sottoveste felpaté or anything quite so foolish, for I can always pile on in dozens of other ways. If still in time, please substitute it by a brightish blouse, X. otherwise do please take no notice of this request . It sounds so cruel to put you to the very slightest effort in your present state of weakness and prevailing fatigue, so I quite understand your apprehension about Maria Napolitano's imminent arrival. Can't think why you don't just turn her over altogether to Franca Freynaye especially as she could find extra cheap lodging for M. much more easily than you, in your smart quarter about Beekman. Fr. does everything on the cheap just as Maria wants to. I spoke to M. about FR., but refrained from giving her address lest you m ight not approve.

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Do tell me all about Fuggo every time you get news of him.

tend to return. On inquiry everyone but self knew of this project on account of the Archdeacon's state of health. I shall write them for Xmas & send you their address in case you feel like it to. She inquired particularly for you as she knew you were expecting and sent you their united love. He is fascinating.

I did not send on Roselli's card at once lest it shoud injure your health or make you angry.

Mrs Fazzi called for a very nice visit on Tuesday forenoon & says she would like to repeat the experiment. Sends her love and best wishes to Victoria and parents. Anna has post as teacher at Cesena. ginnasio Lettere.

Mortera came back to knuckled down to my conditions, but surrounded the whole project by a cloud of uncertainty for the which he shelled out one month's rent as an indemnity in case his plans change before April 10. or as deposit in case he occupies. In this latter case he promises (written) to advise me in good time about March I. Bti says he is honest and conscientious & will not let me down and is well able to pay, as he and his brothers are bankers. They are Jews. Meanwhile the telephone bill for Oct. carried an item of 91.85 lire for a conversation with Berlin by Dr Fass which I had understood he had settled before leaving Rome. Telephone people deny this, so Bti. phoned the Snia Viscosa who answered that Fass is working in their Padua (Padova) establishment. So I wrote him there recommending the letter, but with no result. That was three weeks ago. Stiamo a vedere. I found him scrupulously honest and straightforward in all his dealings while here.

I am glad H. Franc chose something you were minus and needed. I left her the choice. Also that you seem to like the item, though you would say too that in the contrary case.

I wish I could write a poem about your Baby. She is a perfect dream. Has a perfect head and you say flat ears which you say are closely lying.

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The chin is quite all right, the ears are a lovely shape, the nose is very good in profile. As for the expression in the one where you are holding her - it is perfectly astonishing for her age and rather formidable, so resolute - as if she jolly well knows what she wants and intends to get it - envers et contre tous. Becky Baum, a clever Jewess with whom I was pretty intimate at the time, said the same about you at that age and foreboded that you would lead me a fine dance and this all because you had a sweet nubbly chin that she said was promineht. Strange that Victoria should have large eyes Dear B. Katie was the only one of us that had large eyes. The head is a wonderful shape. So is the forehead which is high for her age. So I can't say how glad I am to have these snapshots & hope you will repeat the experiment and send me more from time to time always stating age or date of taking

Camilla & sigra Martone came by appointment lately on separate days and I offered tea at a good café closeby. Maria's little girl, now 5½ is quite a strange type and very pretty. A very active mind and very healthy, tho' thinnish and wiry. Three ladies & a man sitting near us fell in love with the child and were quite sorry when at long last we stood up to go. We walked all the way to Porta Pia and I was not tired in the very least. As Mortera wanted a mattress for the branda, I had it made now, to have it over and also because the price of Kapok is sure to soar owing to the scarcity of wool. So to-day it was brought and delivered to Sigra Contaldi who is having a loan of the said branda (with the Concaro's full consent) and she was right glad to have the mattress as well. I lately gave her that lovely pink roll-up necessaire for travelling that you sent me not long ago and as she had none, she says she is very glad. I think I told you that they fed me three times a day after I left Corvisieri on July 14th. for fully 10 days, until they left town. She then accepted £.50. quite insufficient.

(I said yes, provided of Kapok)

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With fond love to all 3 as ever your only Mav.

4

They are leaving 63 and to-day insisted on showing me over their new abode cl close-by in G. BElli No.60. Rent 900 lire a month . Intend to let 2 rooms without furniture to colleagues, so as to reduce the rent. Of course his studio is now in the flat.

I think it immensely comical and amusing that A.H. does the appro= priate gym. exercises along with you. I should love to see you both ~~XXXXX~~ in action.

I have been to about 3 movies a week since I came here and am im= mensely satisfied to be here. The weather is so sunny and mild that I go out instead of sitting at home to write letters to my ever dea= ly and best Beloved Daughty. About once a week we have a thunderstorm with heavy rain lasting just a few hours in all, after which the radiance begins again. It is very outdoor-alluring. the Parco di Colle Oppio close by is made up of the greater part of the Brancac= cio gardens where you and I went to fetch bad apricots during the w war. There are quite a lot of ruins, but all the seats are monipoli= zed by mothers and kiddies. It is like no other park or garden in Rome. Very sunny, but too few seats, so next time I shall take a folding seat that I have little use for here in my room. I make my own afternoon tea with milk and bread & butter left over from brea= kfast, also sugar tho' not quite enough, so I buy that and Cirio Jam in a large shop near here. I have bought a pair of watertight Boot ees for when the streets are wet as to-day, and find them verypractical. The box of META you left me is not nearly finished, for the water in the faucet is so very hot that it takes no time to boil. All sorts of convenient clean shops here close by. Thus I have disc overed A place where they do up my hair about once a week, or accor= ding to need, for the small sum of L.5. I repeat the sum now on Conto corr. L. & 7100. ~~and~~ En plus I have over one thou here in my room. Please do not think of

I had a box of tea since '35

Sending money for Poem, or for anything else, for I have enough & to share from pension & Eux of flat. without letting anything from C. Pte: L. 1255 → Pension here → 32 / 30 / 960. or 992

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Friday, Oct. 29, 1937

Dearest and fondest Alarmista,

Long before this reaches you, you will have realized how utterly unfounded were the apprehensions you express in you two darling letters of Oct. 12 and 14 that came in the same envelope on Monday 25th. This I confirm by stating truthfully that I did nothing in the whole removal but turn the keys in my luggage & in the lock of the top room. All, literally ALL the rest was done by porter and the invaluable Serafina who in her pre-matrimonial state was a personal cameriera & an expert packer. Arrangements about coming here I did over the phone, before leaving Bib. I had written to both Serafina & porter of 23 stating day & hour of my arrival also instructing porter to give S. 10 lire to buy stuff for breakfast & details of wh. I had specified in my line to her These worthies proved up to the mark and all went perfectly well. I slept four nights in the flat & then moved smoothly & well satisfied to this pension where, as I since mentioned in subsequent letters, I was & am still well satisfied. A week later I again requisitioned their services to pack & bring about 10 days ago trunk here with winter clothes. So not a bit of strain for me.

(1

saying that they had a vacancy, I answered that I had made arrangements h here for the next 6 months. I note your wish that I see Lupi, & share it & should have gone to him before this, but that I needed some small items of underwear before going to him. These I have now captured & shall cer- Monday Nov 1.
tainly see him & get weighed by ~~XXXXXX~~ & shall let you know result at once in my next. What you say about a possibility of going to have a peep at you in your home is quite true, for not only would there have been a hitch about the Am. Visa, but my passport needs renewing, as I let the last
date pass ~~this~~ year, thinking that you had given up the idea of fixing a meeting with me outside Italy, possibly because I was so seedy last year. As for a voglia rientrata, there is none, for by all accounts N.Y. is not a fit place for elderlies whether delicate or healthy. This even abstracting from the fact of your leading such a hectic existence that there

I go out at least once every day, & sometimes again after dinner (cena)

We at Ber hope is a T it's best only
I am at long intervals & time me & day.
I'm getting more & Burlington, as you see.

Have acquired new galoshes, so as not to be too weatherbound. Am getting hats remodelled & have got fox collar sleeves &

I have seen Fox Russell. at last with Duke Richard & hope to visit the Augustan & hear which I'm to tell his own delightful tale in the Palazzo Barberini as soon as possible.

I often make tea on Meta ring in my own room, but am often out to tea with other guests, at cafés near here.

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Prof. Mc Carthy speaks highly of Vassar College & runs down Brwn Mawr. He is in a school, not a College, I forget where. Says the Jews in Am. have a preference for the name of BARR, which they take on, as they do other good British ones, in the idea of passing for Christians. Saturday 30/IO Bti. phoned this morning & was much surprised to hear I had not concluded matters with his friend Mortera I told him my point of view adding how glad I should be if matters could still be arranged a little more to my advantage - for instance 700 all th year round comprising Tel. and heating . Said he would speak of it IF he saw him. Since Mortera spoke of returning to Eypt g/ at the end of Oct. the chances are not favourable, Seeing how high the expenses are for Condomini in that blessed house, which is tassata come casa di lusso, and that the Caldaia we got in two years ago needs extensive repairs running into thousands, I don't see why I should not get some value out of the flat. Said caldaia was furnished by a firm highly re commended by DR Romeo, I for one was not suprised r/ at this disastrous (t resul for I had set him down long ago as an inveterate camorrista. I asked figure of cto. Cte. at the Bank this morning. It is well over/~~xØØØ~~/ 7000 (seven thou. of which I shall not need much until April , as the pension & rent will be amply sufficient for usual things, you can see clearly that for a long time to come I shall not have to draw on your funds. Prescindendo poi from warclouds in which I do not believe, I have not the very smallest hesitation about selling titoli should the need arise. As long as the flat is let, this need will not arise . So I must insist on your setting your mind easy about my finances. If the r/ Motera project falls definitely throug I shall take active steps in due time. Fortunately the request for furnished flats is fairly frequent. in the "Messaggero". I do hope and trust Monday may perhaps bring better news of you & that are getting a more peaceful time and are able to rest & begin to enjoy watching Victoria's daily unfoldings, also that the highfaluting which is often only affected in selfdefe ~~see~~ , may have subsided by this. Do stop worrying and take life as it come es without anticipating calamities which never occur

As ever fondly your own Mav.

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would be no time for me, that you would not let me go out alone, & having no time for me, you would have to trouble your frinds to take me out & finally that there is no extra room in your flat for even the most intimate guests. By this Maria Nap. will have told you how very well & strong I am. I saw her a couple of times before she left & fear she will have misjudged me for not sending you anything more tangible than a letter. Since lastI wrote I have been to several more Movies & am now on the watch for Scipione Africano which hither to has only been seen by the German guests now visiting Italy & for whom the whole trafic here has been upset for the past two days .So after a disappointing sally this morning I have vowed a deep vow that I shall avoid central parts of town until these high jinks are over. All you tell me about the Irish highfaluting nurse & arangements for Victoria's needs I read with breathless attention for you had made no mention of plans for such(after coming home) in your letters. I realize tho' that you have had a very fatiguing time after leaving the hospital & this I had been dreading because of your silence on the point, for the same thing happened to me on a minor scale of course for I had Miralma in the quality of dry-nurse.I can't help thinking that a full month would not have been a day too much for you to recruit in after so arduous a time, and rather deplore that this was not managed better.You ought to have floated from the hospital straight to your own bed and stayed there until you felt fit to get up for a short time every day. I can't see how it came about that you had to re-shift the whole house over again on returning from hosp. , since you seemed to have done so much in that line previous to going there.Surely you must have foreseen that there would have been some extra help on your return. But no doubt the hitches you mention on about getting a qualified person had upset previous plans., and obliged you to have fatigue instead of rest on your return home.I note with immense satisfaction that you are snatching intervals of rest and am overjoyed to know that you know of the right gymnast

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to do for your figure, I trust that they are the right thing & that you will not overdo them. Anna Regenberg's mother overdid & caused permanent internal trouble thereby. I may have mentioned in one of my recent letters that there was a good chance of a tenant from April 10 for a fairly long spell. Well, that is still hanging in the balance, for I broke off because terms were too low. Bti was away at the time, and has come back, & perhaps he may yet retrieve matters by persuading his friend to be more liberal. He is very anxious to have the plan succeed. I note what you say about getting a truthful report of my finances. My sally of this morning was to that effect, but all traffic was suspended at that hour & in the afternoon it rained, so I rested instead of following up the plan of asking bank for exact figure of my conto corrente there. Have been trying to get Bti on the phone all this even., but he is out & maid says, try at 9.30 . So I did, but to no effect. Shall add a line to this to-morrow morn. in case there is anything worth while writing about or definite to say in re his stingy friend. What you say about presents to Victoria is highly satisfactory & speaks well for the good feeling of Americans. But of this I was already persuaded by the many instances when they befriended you while at Vassar. There were two interesting men at table lately; one beside me & one opposite: Prof. McCarthy & a Mr Gale with a lovely wife. Latter couple have lived a long time in China & had a lot to say about it, knows the language too & hoppes to find his flat in the French concession intact on his return. The Gales left this morning, so dinner was pretty dull for me without their usual interesting chat. There is too a swiss girl who was in Russia among the Bolshies for a year & she is absolutely crazy with admiration of Mr Smith, she says, as a reaction to her Russian experiences which were painful in the extreme. She has a ~~employ~~ post in Switzerland but has to take long holidays every year so as to carry on, for her nerves were ruined by Russia. But she too leaves early to-morrow. The Dutch lady left this morn. leaving me a present a full hecto of excellent tea. We had been out a couple of times together & I paid for our teas at a caffe.

Dear love to V. H. & a gentle kiss to Victoria. The banquet of 50 took place days before V. H.'s Castle

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[c. 1937-38?]

1/

Piazza dell'Esquilino 12 Girardet
Oct. 15 6 p.m.

Dearest Beauty, & perfect Trump,
Altho' it is in reality not so very long since
I last wrote, it seems ages to me, because I've
been wanting to write every day, so constant-
ly do my thoughts & good wishes revert to you
3. I confirm receipt of your precious letter of
the 26/9 which I answered at once. If I did
not write again since, it was because it
seemed silly to tell you over again how it
bucked me to know that you were so well
cared for & approved of doctor & nurses
so whole-heartedly. Need I say how deeply
I appreciated the effort of writing that
letter under such circumstances, and above
all so soon after the Event.
Of course I've been craning ever since
that letter of yours for further details
about the subsequent march of
events inherent to the new state of
things, of course too anticipating everything
most normal and favorable, as is
my wont. Of course too I find it a wrench to
quit this subject & talk of other matters....
Owing to a dripping water-faucet under her win-
dow which prevented my new tenant from
sleeping & wound her up pretty high I'vched
to go exhorting porters & examining tanks in
all the back premises round about 63. She be-
lieved she identified the offending drip

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So I agreed to go halves in the apples. Job was done at once by Stagnaro to the tune of Lit 6. I handed my quota to the lady & thought no more about it. Next day which was yesterday at 3 p.m. I had arranged with Marcone's porter and Serafina to fetch away my winter togs - always a complicated matter owing to barricaded door on top.

Senonche-Buonaiuti phoned up the evening before saying a friend of his is looking for just such a flat as ours and would I arrange to have him look the place over? So I phoned the Concaro's and fixed look-over for 3 p.m. too. That look-over lasted an hour. Man is an advocate Mortara from Alessandria (Egitto) now decided to settle in Rome and wanting premises in April of 38 - just the date of the Concaro's departure. Mortara says he would stay for at least 12 months. All this sounded good, but during look-over the wife & daughter proved somewhat distasteful and took Sig.ra Concaro aside to ask her if she really and truly felt comfy in the flat? Mortara is about 55, wife same age. The family consists of 4 persons all grown-up and a 5th member to come only for holidays. They finally decided themselves to my and Sig.ra Concaro's intense relief, saying they would phone to fix another interview with me here at Giraldo's. They have not done

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3/ so as yet, tho' it is now near 7 p.m.
It sounds good, but they are not 1/2 so
pleasant to deal with as the Concaro's.
I find I shall have to get rid of this big yel=
low trunk, for it won't pass the doorways
of either lifts or taxis and is thus both
Cumbersome and expensive to move.
After inquiring here about price a flatter
model I shall tell you, so as to compare.
The Concaro's lady's mother is staying
temporarily with relations here (lives at Verona) and
they want me to go riding with them
in her car. said so every time from the first. Mo=
"ther is very cordial & pleasant, go ahead
and not fat, but no beauty, whereas the
daughter is decidedly pretty attractive
animated, but... attenti alla linea!
She's just on the verge of too much. I've
seen 3 good movies since I came
here and maked point of going out
alone or in Company every evening af=
ter dinner (at 7.30) & shall Continue this
plan until too Cold. Now I am glad
to have my winter things here at hand and
have arranged for Miss G. & Tudor's Sarta &
modista on Monday to make alterations,
or at least shorten frocks & tighten hats
as last year I had nothing done of the
kind, for I did not care a fig what I put
on at Corrisieri Miss Helen Westhaight
left this show today. Beyond having me to
tea that once at a Caffe Close by she took no
notice of me. She is going to Greece.

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4 / She kept her immediate table-neighbours well entertained & told them heaps of amusing things. I should have liked to be near enough to hear. Every one here leaves the table when they see fit & stalk out of the room without even a nod. I saw Miss H. fraternizing in drawing room with far-off table-neighbours - Americans of course. There is an elderly Englishman who speaks Italian and Spanish I am told but I have only exchanged a few worlds with him as yet. He sits far from me at table.

It will interest you to know that I have arranged to remain here for 6 (six) months & have obtained better conditions thereby L.32 tutto compreso & no Copel servizio My room is warm & sunny at present, but will not be so sunny in winter. Noise of thundering trams is deafening, but does not prevent me from sleeping right well at night. Bed is good, better than at Bib. but not as good as at 63. Concaro's expatiated on their excellence yesterday. Mortaro's took care to sit on them but ventured no opinion. Food here continues good. Cook, whom I met I twice in hall, is a coloured man from Tunis or Algiers. My room-maid is very efficient, silent but well-inclined since I handed her a few trifles of scarves & such. Buonainti will be mortified if Mortaro does not take on the flat. I have cooled as you see on the Gigliesi Pens. in Via d. P.te Pinciana 6. This is so much livelier, has better communications convenient cheaper shops close by. Silenzi's are so black, I could never receive R.ti there Love, Love, Love & kisses as ever Max.

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P.S. To-day am enjoying lazily, as I unpacked & fixed every thing last evening after Cena. I now have type writer, Gramo & last not least, my meta heater saucepan & tea-pot. Am looking out for Swiss Milk in powder & you bet I enjoyed my first home-made tea at 4.30, as hitherto I had gone out for it. No one here wants tea so it is not included. As I took housekeeper

Girardet
Piazza dell Esquilino
Oct. 6 Evg. 1 a.m

lfred,

y joy over your cable
e good news of the
rrival of your daugh-
ter, I do believe I have omitted
congratulating the happy Fa=
ther, so the present line is to ex=
press regret, ask your indulgence
and beg you to believe that I am
simply parched for further
news. I am truly endeavouring
to "possess my soul in patience"
as the saying is, well knowing that
this is no time to disturb either
of you with my foolish longings.

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to 2 movies, she has
sent me teacups &c
My next will be typ-
ed unless, as this
time I am too
lazy to pick it up.
(After Cena:) Have
just settled to go to
a movie with nice
girl from Lausanne
So glad to be here - I
owe it to my Beauty.
as ever fondly Mav.
Did Att. get a line from me?

Girardet
Piazza dell Esquilino
Oct. 6 Evg. 1 a.m

lfred,

y joy over your cable
e good news of the
arrival of your daugh-
ter, I do believe I have omitted
congratulating the happy Fa-
ther, so the present line is to ex-
press regret, ask your indulgence
and beg you to believe that I am
simply parched for further
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Pension Girardet
12 Piazza dell Esquilino
Oct. 6 Evg. 1 a.m

Dear Alfred,

In my joy over your cable with the good news of the happy arrival of your daughter, I do believe I have omitted congratulating the happy father, so the present line is to express regret, ask your indulgence and beg you to believe that I am simply parched for further news. I am truly endeavouring to "possess my soul in patience" as the saying is, well knowing that this is no time to disturb either of you with my foolish longings.

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Tho not yet fully rested from a fairly arduous week, I keep running round doing a lot of superfluous things to deceive my impatience for the very smallest piece of news. Thus this evening after dinner found me at a near-by Cinema "Orfeo" to see "Vivere" that I missed with so many other good things last year owing to bad health. In it Tito Schipa sings 3 or 4 songs as he only can sing: it was very good to listen to. After a showery day, it is now thundering & lightening getting closer & closer. I am quite comfy here food is excellent, room good, bed ditto. Company at table nearly all Americans 3 girls from Bryn Mawr know Dr Wethey. one of these made me laugh saying: "Yes, I don't know Mrs Van Buren, but spoke to her over the phone — She sounded thin as you say."

Dearest love to all 3 aff'g Mav.

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Knives & h.w. bottle arrived safely & are A-1 Will Jane Deere be most plea= sical & useful. Servant Will high= ly satisfactory & premises al= ways expects Rones & very quick & nimble & thin Mrs Sybil Deere's aunt passing. So Mrs Miller she got my letter. own Darling Childie

& making a So I don't fin= ep mourning =-only black months. You dearest, it is =a matter of different be= people know se had notes ne. E. Farrar's nies, also Lilla's illegible. She a Miss Hunter telling of Elsie's Knew it before God bless my May.

reads as you

4

The other day, when Mr Ellis would choose out those needed by the Trustee, Jane has Bank book & tax returns & says that nothing private would be looked at.

Written on Monday Eve, posted on Tuesd 24th 1-28 morn

Mar. 1928

Dear Childie, Your letter of Thurs reached me Sat. morning. Glad you got the knives safely. Hope you like them. Sorry they are not better. Have written to Jane Deere to see if she can get better ones. Have also written to Mrs Miller to get your letter. Have also written to Jane Deere to see if she can get better ones. Have also written to Mrs Miller to get your letter.

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3/

a black felt hat & making a new one for me. So I don't intend to wear deep mourning as you may note — only black things for a few months. You do as you think fit dearest, it is of no importance whatever. Here & for me it is different because so many people knew her & have of course had notice this week from me. E. Ferrari's letter was very nice, also Lilla's Miss Miller's all but illegible. She encloses a letter from a Miss Hunter Sybil Reeves's aunt telling of Elsie's passing. So Miss Miller knew it before she got my letter. God bless my own Darling Childie Max.

Reaches you.

Good bye my Sweet & darling Childie, for this [illegible] — how much! — Prefer farming out long letters to you [illegible] of to all those dear kind people to whom we owe [illegible] very much. Jean daily confirmed in my surmise that there was a [illegible]

[illegible] on Saturday, when Mr Ellis would choose out those needed by the Trustee, such as Bank book & tax returns & says that nothing private would be looked at.

Written on Monday Eve, posted on Tuesd morns 24th-1-28

20 thoroughly & that since the old Studio times as ever your fond. Max.

other day. I learnt [illegible] news [illegible] at the [illegible] simple one [illegible] give in- [illegible] oval [illegible] from St Leo [illegible] from Mrs [illegible] for as long [illegible] owing to [illegible] cut up [illegible] attended [illegible] letter Severan [illegible] were present [illegible] that [illegible] posited [illegible] doubtless [illegible] wreath she [illegible] white flowers. [illegible] papers to [illegible]

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4)

As I can't find a letter from Mary Ellis saying that her husband fixed up Dear Elsie's will for her some years ago & was attending to all business details, I must have sent it on to you already. This I have of course phoned to Aureli who had offered in fact settled with me that after 1st week he was to get in touch with Consul in London. I am very glad not to have to trouble him more than he is already about this flat stipulazione. I trust you won't have much trouble & expense about this procura business. I much regret that you shd be bothered about it.

Reaches you.

4

[illegible] Wednesday, when Mr Ellis would choose out those needed by the Trustee, such as Bank book & tax returns & says that nothing private would be looked at.

Written on Monday Evg, posted on Tuesd morns 24th-1-28

Good bye my Sweet & darling Childie, for this [illegible] – how much! – prefer farming out long letters to you [illegible] of to all those dear kind people to whom we owe [illegible] very much. I am daily confirmed in my surmise that there was a [illegible]

[illegible] thoroughly & that since the old Studio times as ever your fond. Max.

[illegible] other day. I learnt [illegible] news [illegible] at the [illegible] simple one [illegible] in- [illegible] val [illegible] from St Leo [illegible] from Mrs [illegible] for as long [illegible] owing to [illegible] cut up [illegible] attended [illegible] Severan [illegible] present [illegible] that [illegible] posited [illegible] doubtless [illegible] wreath he [illegible] white flowers. [illegible] papers to [illegible]

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5)

P.S.

Darling – On second thoughts I am not sending you all these sad letters. You know the main lines of the matter. If M. Ellis had wired instead of writing, I might have got there before the operation. As it was, I got first notice of the bad turn on Sunday night 15th. Elsie died on Monday morn^g 16th. Up to that letter accounts had been quite satisfactory & poor

Reaches you.

Good bye my Sweet Darling Childie, for this [illegible] – how much! – Prefer farming out long letters to you [illegible] of to all those dear kind people to whom we owe [illegible] very much. I am daily confirmed in my surmise that there was a

[illegible] other day. I learnt [illegible] news [illegible] at the [illegible] simple one [illegible] in- [illegible] oval [illegible] from St Leo [illegible] from Mrs [illegible] for as long [illegible] owing to [illegible] cut up [illegible] attended [illegible] letter Severan [illegible] were present [illegible] that [illegible] posited [illegible] doubtless [illegible] wreath the [illegible] white flowers. [illegible] papers to [illegible] on Saturday, when M. Ellis would choose out those needed by the Trustee, such as Bank book & tax returns & says that nothing private would be looked at.

Written on Monday Evg, posted on Tuesd morns 24th-1-28

20 thoroughly & that since the old Studio times as ever I am Fond. Max.

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6)

darling Elsie (wrote herself constantly) was expecting to be allowed to get up every day & believed she was being kept in bed solely on account of the exceptionally cold weather.

Also on second thoughts I shall not return your cheque for the present, until I know what the monthly outlay for this flat will amount to & more especially whether there will be arretrati of same i.e. for water stairs porter & light stoker (termosif) & administration fee &

Also because of unexpected outlay for black things, as I had only contemplated the dark grey tailleur & one hat of which I wrote you before all this sorrow. {My own Darling! do not grieve or fret about me ever your fond Max.}

Reaches you.

4

Good bye my Sweet Darling Childie, for this [illegible] – how much! – prefer farming out long letters to you [illegible] of to all those dear kind people to whom we owe [illegible] very much. Jean daily confirmed in my surmise that there was a [illegible]

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Teenfoin Radio on 14/2 "Thank (for Procura which is alright) & Pig" = P.G. (Camilla's)

1) Dearest Beauty Just a scribble to say that Fred spent 1 afternoon 2 nights & 1 day in Paris, yarned with the Ellises, saw Miss Baverst whom he describes as unfemme très ordinaire but pleine de bonne grâce, took the urn from where Mary Ellis saw it placed & put it into a larger niche, placed round it 4 tiny vases with white narcissus, gave no orders about its definite bestowal or arrangement, saw Elsie's room all en désarroi & was very painfully affected by the sight of it "à peine une chambre de bonne, sans les combles." Took away some nick nacks among which a processional cross, gave poor Mary Ellis a miniature he found & of which Mary writes to me that she knows from

Reaches you.

4

Good bye my Twee & darling Childie, for this [illegible] – how much! – Prefer farming out long letters to you [illegible] of to all those dear kind people to whom we owe [illegible] very much. Jean daily confirmed in my surmise that there was a [illegible]

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2/ Elsie herself that it was not her work, whereas Fred thought it was — So I wrote to Mary confirming my invite for April 1st saying I felt sure that you would feel with me that she must have something more personal as a keepsake to whom the time comes, but that I didn't intend to open any trunks or boxes Miss Bar. might send down to me unless you asked me to. So Fred accomplished nothing & reminds me that the first month will fall upon the 19th a fact which I am not likely to forget, this because the niche has to be paid for.

The Trustee is proceeding slowly because they found no list of values with the Banks they are in & are proceeding by guesswork, Fred being authorized to enquire (only not collect) at the Credit Lyonnais. I shall send amount for hire of niche for one month, (the first month is gratis). Then as Fred & the Ellises think there will be a margin to my credit when all is paid I shall write to the Trustee asking him to give Mary Ellis £4. 9 (Nine pounds nine shillings) for purchase of permanent niche engraved plate (this being the charge she wrote to him (Fred) & me a fortnight before Fred's journey. Furthermore Miss Bar. writes "There is just one thing I wanted to tell you — there was no trace of Cancer — I asked the Doctor about this after the operation & he was quite emphatic."

Camilla's candidature & Mary's will coincide, as Camilla says he might get his permanent room & I might put two beds in drawing room for Mr. Ellis and Betty. — whereas at first outset

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She (Camilla) seemed to think that a delay of 3 weeks in taking him in would not matter. Mme Frankau has not yet been approached about giving up the servant. If she were less exigeante Nina could do quite a lot for her, such as marketing & washing plates, as the girl is very quick. The Frankaus are bad managers & Nina says their money is at an end, so perhaps they will be less inclined to object to maid's departure. I get her to describe me a lot of dishes, so as a cook, I expect she will do well, but shall have to coach her about table-service.

I took the Procura to Aureli as soon as I got it he is in touch with the notaio & interviews him to morrow at 5. I shall sign the day after,

Reaches you.

Good by my Swee & darling Childie, for this [illegible] – how much! – Prefer farming out long letters to you [illegible] of to all those dear kind people to whom we owe [illegible] very much. Jam daily confirmed in my surmise that there was a [illegible]

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4/ he thinks. I phone him every evening about. He is so busy & so often away. He came the other evening to say something & is as good & kind as the first day & more so. He remarked on the amount & this horrid tuile of the Procurer must have cost you, this of course motu proprio. I nodded as I had already noted it on my own & with dismay. My poor Childie what a disaster in the present state of your finances! And here am I buying cooking stoves & getting a general electric-switch-off as our wires are so old & Camilla has one) I hate to think of your having to ask your pupils to pay up the money they

Reaches you.

4

[illegible] Tuesday, when Mr Ellis would choose out those needed by the Trustee, such as Bank book & tax returns & says that nothing private would be looked at.

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5/ owed you! Do tell me how you Managed! Than the expense for my tailleur of which I enclose a preliminary view which I don't like & am having another done Total expense 11 lire. How I should love to send you a good old slice of money, but how can I with Mary's impending visit? & my bank-book showing not much over 2 thou? I console myself to a certain degree by the thought that you will of course as you say, not send me any more — also that since the tight place entailed by the fur Coat, you got your salary end of Jan. & will, I trust, have kept enough in hand for your immediate wants, especially as you knew in advance that the Procura was a probability. But it cost so very much more than the former one that I am fairly scared to death. Also that you had to go to N. York on purpose. Fred acknowledged the hundred lire I sent him for flowers for you & me. & said how many francs he got for it. I should have advised him to cash the cheque in English money, since he was to buy the flowers in London. As Camilla is not sure whether the proposed p.g. will board with me or not & is taking only one room for 350 at the (utmost outside) figure, I dare not yet rejoice immoderately. Still as he

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6/ wants to stay for a whole year it will most certainly be a help e come! Let's hope he may want board & as Cam. is almost sure that he will. He arrives from Bonn at the end of March. So the bed on the Corridor will come in useful at last.

I shall have a big job upstairs getting down Contents of poor Elsie's linen-box & hope to get rid of most of the other Cases & hope to wade through this biggish job (+ shifting furniture) before the end of March. We began doing something this afternoon shall probably stow in a case the books of old black Cupboard in the hall

reaches you.

Good bye my Sweet Darling Childie, for this — how much! — Prefer Farming out long letters to you [illegible] of to all those dear kind people to whom we owe very much. Jean daily confirmed in my surmise that there was a

[illegible] Thoroughly & that since the old Studio times as ever Your fond. Max.

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7/

& Keep all the linen it it. I little thought it was to remain here after all. The manner of the acquisition is an exceedingly bitter one. Mary remarks in one of her numerous letters that Elsie was so very business-like & left everything ship-shape. (minus however the list of valuables & where to find them) Fred says Mr Ellis went to Elsie's room immediately after her decease, but found nothing - I mean no valuables seeing she had been over a month in the hospital it wd be interesting to know if & when her room was locked after she was taken across to the Hospital. Not that she was at all likely to keep titoli or certificates there, seeing they will no doubt have been al portatore &

Reaches you.

Good bye my Swee & darling Childie, for this [illegible] - how much! - Prefer Jarming out long letters to you [illegible] of to all those dear kind people to whom we owe [illegible] very much. Jann daily confirmed in my surmise that there was a [illegible]

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8 thus ~~will~~ have been probably ~~left~~ placed in the custody of some bank, but which? Miss Beverstock, I believe, ~~[illegible]~~ took steps in Elsie's interest at the time of the theft, so she may know where some of the things were at that time. Seeing the she & Mary Ellis have often met lately it is not thinkable that she should not have said all she knew as soon as this hitch became apparent. Also it was she that took all Elsie's papers to Mr Ellis on the 21st Jan to be sorted out by him & some handed to the Trustee by him. Aureli says that here everything would have been placed sotto sigillo by Trustee's Carg at once & inspected later by him in person. Mah! Let us hope everything may pan out all right & is perhaps already turning out all right by this. Funny that Mary & Miss Bar. should have refrained from mentioning this hitch (which must have become apparent at once) though they both wrote to me times without number. & again to-day. Also M. Richard was consulted by Elsie about her French money & may possibly know where she kept it but Fred does not seem to remember this tho' M.R. spoke to him at the time with disapproval of some step Elsie was taking at one time about it. M. Rich. was at Toulon in Jan. & may be there still.

Good bye my Sweet Darling Childie, for this

Studio times as ever your fond. Max.

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9) I lunched with Miss Miller on Sunday & there met a niece of hers, very bright active handsome & off the Common. Has 5 children lost a boy of 14 last year, handsome but not all there. Hubby in an inebriate Asylum now after giving them a fearsome time round Xmas. She is interested in one Artemidorus whose mummy she saw at the Brit Museum. Was greatly struck by the portrait on the sarcophagus & dreamt that she was he. Wants me to find out what I can. I find there were 3 of the name & that one wrote a treatyr work "On Dreams." This much the lady knows but wants to find out more. Promised to tell me the extraordinary dream as soon as we know more, a lot more.

Reaches you.

Good bye my Swee & darling Childie, for this [illegible] – how much! – Prefer Jarming out long letters to you in [illegible] of to all those dear kind people to whom we owe [illegible] very much. Jonn daily confirmed in my surmise that there was a [illegible]

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2) Miss V. was greatly impressed by the usual honour to Miss H. of holding the opening lecture of the season – which is always reserved for ~~[illegible]~~ a big Wig – generally if not always British.

With regard your cheque dearest Childie, I thought I had made it quite clear in a far-back former letter that as soon as either Fred or a p.g. turned up you were to stop sending like a shot – hence my radio. I have heaps of money and more shoaling in the whole time. It makes me feel wretched & a wretch that you shd have to send any money at all.

Reaches you.

4

Good bye my Sweet darling Childie, for this [illegible] – how much! – Prefer farming out long letters to you in [illegible] of to all those dear kind people to whom we owe a very much. Jean daily confirmed in my surmise that there was a [illegible]

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and only stand it or admit it in autumn as a dire necessity. This is not out of pride, cussedness or independence malplacée, - it is because you need the stuff for your career & any you don't need momentarily is better placed in those excellent T & T shares than with me. So why not put it there & have it near you on emergency. I got Lire 1196 on the cedole of our remaining shares at the Bank & now have about 3000 on the libretto, so why you continue to send is a mystery to me & distressing to a degree. It is only in autumn that I ever run short, so why not invest what you don't actually need? I shall exhibit present cheque at Bank & inquire if it will be all right & smooth for you & if so return it to my generous thoughtful Darling with loving thanks & "no offence meant."

Please return or keep safe for me dear Elsie's p.c. enclosed in my last as also this present letter, latter especially, as her last goodbye to us three. Darling, I pass on her

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admonition "do not grieve" changing the form & apply it to you: Do not fret about me in all this sad sad matter. For as you are well aware I have The Great Resource to lean on and am enabled to see things in a far different light from most - but I don't approve of holding forth about it to the Unitiated (at least apparently (uninitiated) *) & you & I have stood preaching enough to last us for while to come

God bless you for your great love for your increasing fond

Max.

reaches you.

Good bye my Owee & darling Childie, for this [illegible] - how much! - Prefer Jarming out long letters to you [illegible] of to all those dear kind people to whom we owe [illegible] very much. Jam daily confirmed in my surmise that there was a [illegible]

[illegible] Do thoroughly & that since the old Studio times. as ever your fond Max.

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3/ through feeling myself 'de trop' as I always did, especially when they were together. You mustn't forget that this went on for years here in Rome, day after day in the old studio days — so that this is no mere notion of mine but a settled conviction. As I admired & loved Elsie & had great faith in her talent & future, I suffered not a little to be able to be so very little to & for her. I never was able to modify this state of things in the slightest degree. As you saw for yourself she preferred being with you during her convalescence here in 1926. So it was anybody but me.

As for funeral rites & being present or absent at them, I have no reason to think she gave much importance to the matter, for she left Rome a few days before your father's demise & later again in dear Auntie Katie's case.

Read has gone.

Good bye my Swee & darling Childie, for this — how much! — Prefer farming out long letters to you in [illegible] of to all those dear kind people to whom we owe a very much. Jann daily confirmed in my surmise that there was a [illegible] Continue [illegible]

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Elsie said she hoped I would go up to London when the warm weather came. This I should like to do, & have good hope of when the School closes end of May – but not before. Then I shan't be in anybody's way & none of her friends need even know of it. If there is any money over when everybody & thing is paid up, it will facilitate the matter I expect – if not a way will be found.

As usual I shall leave this open till posting, so as to acknowledge the letter you mention intention of posting next day.

It was Aureli that posted the letter you mention – I know the value of 'Espressi' & never send you letters in that way.

Reaches you.

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not even once.
I note & approve your idea of writing a record of this once big family & shall be glad to give you any reminders that I can about the former generation — that is if it comes into your plan.
I'm sadly afraid my letter of yesterday enclosing Miss Bosanquet's was over-weight & that you had to pay tax on it. It only occurred to me later that I ought to have verified. If so, forgive me Childie Darling. I fear you are appallingly short of cash. Please please

Reaches you.

Good bye my Swee & Darling Childie, for this — how much! — prefer farming out long letters to you — of to all those very much. Jan

6/

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anything
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Camilla's ca
If I do, I tru
dream of
even later o
affairs are
& the stay in
by a possible
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like. Tho' I fail
to send, seeing
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6/

don't crush me by sending anything whatsoever until you are afloat again. It would only distress me.

I hope to clench matters about Camilla's candidate this week. If I do, I trust you will not dream of sending money even later on. When your affairs are more settled & the stay in N. York, entailed by a possible scholarship, is quite over & you are earning again & flush, we shall take up the subject again, if you like. Tho' I fail to see why you continue to send, seeing I pay no more rent. (see 1st page)

Reaches you.

Good bye my — how much! — of to all those very much. Jan

Studio times as ever your fond. Max.

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...ur idea of writ-
...is once big fa-
...glad to give
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Albergo Amorosi - Bèi
Bibbiena (Arezzo)
10/9/37 Evg.

Dearest Beauty
& Well-Beloved
Childie,

Altho' my confidence
in the exactness of dates
of Births is somewhat
limited, I realize that
your (and Our) great
EVENT must be pretty
near when this
reaches you.

Good bye my Owee & darling Childie, for this
- how much! - prefer farming out long letters to you
of to all those dear kind people to whom we owe
very much. Jean daily confirmed in my surmise that there was a

Mr Ellis on Saturday, when Mr Ellis would choose
out those needed by the Trustee, such as Bank
book & tax returns & says that nothing private
would be looked at.

Written on Monday Evg, posted on Tuesd 24th-1-28 morns

Do thoroughly & that since I hold Studio times as ever your fond. Max.

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2/

I even fancy that no letters will be handed to you in the Clinic for some days after the fact.....

I was and am delighted & overjoyed to note the lighthearted, carfree tone of your recent letter got last evening (dated Aug. 25), as you note that the King's in the big house are not half so sociable

3/

and enterprising as you and A.H. God bless him! he must be a new man to feel like that after such a summer, affording only so very late a vacation.

And you, you very Trump, do right well to squirm round & have as bright a time as possible in these last weeks.

You are indeed being merry and wise, you two.

I had a long pleasant letter from Frau Helmolt

Good by ... – how much ... of to all ... very much ...

... white flowers. ... papers to Mr Ellis on Saturday, when Mr Ellis would choose out those needed by the Trustee, such as Bank book & tax returns & says that nothing private would be looked at.

Written on Monday Ev^g, posted on Tuesd 24th-1-28 morn^g

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4

who is now pensioned-off but still very active. All Summer she spent in a pleasant place preparing some nephews for their School in Dresden where all their lessons will of course be in French. Now she is back in Dresden where she has resumed reading aloud to a most blinded gentleman who is highly-educated & communicative so that the readings always trail off into most enjoyable Conversations. She is also studying Italian for herself but misses opportunity for Conversation. Says Frau Reum is well, but

4

Mrs Ellis on Saturday 21st when Mr Ellis would choose out those needed by the Trustee, Union Bank book & tax returns & says that nothing private must be looked at.

Written on Monday Eve, posted on Tuesd morn 24th 1-28

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5/ misses
her husband surely still. He
was really very exceptionally
nice & interesting. I wonder
what has become of his won-
derful Dictionary.
I forget whether I mentioned
a visit from Maria Laggio from
Florence. A week or two be-
fore I left for Visieri & he
spent a Sunday afternoon
with me, having come from
Florence to see the Exhibition
of Maternità e Infanzia being
held at the Citeo Massimo
all Summer & which is attra-
cting thousands of foreigners.
This evening's post brought
me a box of Superfine Siga-
rettes also from her, with

4

Mrs Ellis on Saturday 21st when Mr Ellis would choose
out those needed by the Trustee, Union Bank
book & tax returns & says that nothing private
must be looked at.

Written on Monday Evg, posted on Tuesd 24th 1-28
Morn's

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6/ the kind of mouthpiece I affect & could not then find here. I have since found a source here.
Camilla is well pleased with her new Pension, so that is satisfactory. Here they give me a very good afternoon tea with choice biscuits & food continues most satisfactory. As far as I can see at present I shall bivouac at 63 on returning to town. If by Nov 1, I have not let it, I shall possibly store furniture and endeavour to let empty.
Am now canvassing for an Irish niece of Emily Ferrari-Hutton's who is looking for a post au pair in Italy. Much love and fond Hugs. God bless my sweet Childie as ever fondly Mav.

Good by my sweet darling Childie, for this — how much! — prefer farming out long letters to you in [illegible] of to all those dear kind people to whom we owe a very much. I am daily confirmed in my surmise that there was a [illegible]

20 thoroughly & that since I hold studio times as ever your fond. Mav.

other day. I learnt [illegible] news [illegible] at the [illegible] simple one [illegible] in- [illegible] val [illegible] Leo [illegible] Mrs [illegible] as long [illegible] owing to [illegible] up [illegible] attended [illegible] Several [illegible] present [illegible] that [illegible] posited [illegible] doubtless [illegible] breath [illegible] white flowers. [illegible] papers to Mr Ellis on Saturday 21st when Mr Ellis would choose out those needed by the Trustee, such as Bank book & tax returns & says that nothing private would be looked at.

Written on Monday Evg, posted on Tuesd morns 24th-1-28

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Friday 10/2 Eng

Dearest Just a scribble to say that if to-morrow is sunny I shall go & get photoed in my new rig – nothing big – just a tessera size to give you an idea. Also to say that I am still rejoicing over your very spirited move re the fur coat – all the more so as I know of old yr strong aversion to yoking even the smallest debt. It was well worth while this time & I feel you will never

Good bye my Swee & Darling Childie, for this – how much! – prefer farming out long letters to you in [illegible] of to all those dear kind people to whom we owe a very much. I am daily confirmed in my surmise that there was a [illegible]

[illegible] 20 thoroughly & that since the old studio times as ever your fond. Max.

[illegible] other day. I learnt [illegible] news [illegible] at the [illegible] simple one [illegible] give in- [illegible] val [illegible] from St Leo [illegible] from Mrs [illegible] for as long [illegible] owing to [illegible] put up [illegible] attended [illegible] other several [illegible] are present [illegible] that [illegible] posited [illegible] all doubtless [illegible] wreath she [illegible] white flowers. [illegible] papers to Mr Ellis on Saturday 21st when Mr Ellis would choose out those needed by the Trustee, such as Bank book & tax returns & says that nothing private would be looked at.

Written on Monday Eng, posted on Tuesd morns 24th-1-28

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regret it. Also to say that - not I - but the House Agent & Aureli are eagerly looking for the procura asking for which Aureli's letter was posted on Jan 11 - so you might, with luck have got it on the 22nd ult. & with equal luck have got it ready in say five days & posted it on the 27 whereas in yours last, posted on the 27 you didn't even mention having got Aurel's request enclosed in a scribble of mine!

No cause for worry on our side tho', Anzi - De Angelis got Aureli to promise that I, the party in fault, would take no legal proceedings against him for not having legalized the purchase of the flat within the promised term i.e. Jan 15th. Aureli seems to apprehend no damage to us for this delay so I'm quite serene about it.

Also to say I have got in a peach of a cooking stove. White enamel 3 fornelli + an oven. Works perfectly &

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3/ will soon cover the price, 310 lire. The old fornelli had latterly become impossible & tubes were found to be full of residue in a brown powder. Also as the gas meter (contatore) was not working I had it overhauled & it too, is now alright. It had become a perfect nuisance & caused us great loss of time. It, the contatore was set right and the general Col. Montaubé was found to be reduced to 1/4 the right calibre with naphtha which they removed, thereby benefitting the entire community.

Miss Miller has asked me to lunch on Sunday 12th to meet

4 Letter privat foot way. things shoes say day to be with dance mem enjoy white child

Good by my Sweet Darling Childie, for this – how much! – Prefer farming out long letters to you in [illegible] of to all those dear kind people to whom we owe a very much. Jam daily confirmed in my surmise that there was a [illegible]

[illegible] Thoroughly & that since the old Studio times as ever I am fond. Max.

[illegible] other day. [illegible] learnt [illegible] news [illegible] at the [illegible] simple one [illegible] ive in [illegible] val [illegible] om St Leo [illegible] om Mrs [illegible] r as long [illegible] owing to [illegible] ut up [illegible] attended [illegible] ther several [illegible] re present [illegible] as that [illegible] posited [illegible] all doubtless [illegible] wreath the [illegible] hite flowers. [illegible] papers to Mr Ellis on Saturday 21st when Mr Ellis would choose out those needed by the Trustee, such as Bank book & tax returns & says that nothing private would be looked at.

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as married niece a
Mrs Ennis Dawson.
I am accepting. Would
have chosen dinner myself.
This evening kitchen & bath-
room were lighting together
— an unprecedented case
in the annals, so I have
good hope of keeping on my
10 becco Meter & being saved
thereby 362 lire as I heard
to-day on inquiry. That is
what I should have to lay out
for deposit & other etcetera's
for a 20 becchi Meter.
A Miss Bosanquet has written

Good bye my Swee & darling Childie, for this
— how much! — Prefer farming out long letters to you
of to all those dear kind people to whom we owe
very much. I am daily confirmed in my surmise that there was a

4 letter
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so thoroughly & that since the old Studio times as ever I air fond. Max.

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the nicest letter about dear Elsie & sends you her regards & sympathy adding that she wd be delighted to be of use to you at any time in London. I promised to pass on the message. She is lame, but very well connected & has a heart as big as a house & a warm genial manner. I met her several times during & after the war. About Elsie's age.

Shall leave this open till the last moment so as to acknowledge eventually anything from you. I know I acknowledged Cylinder with knives (4) not 3 as stated, Shimmy & hot water bottles ages ago & trust you got that letter all safe. Elizabeth

Miss Bosanquet gives me two addresses. One is: University Women's Club — 2 Audley Square London W.1. She insists on the Christian name in this address.

I have been to see Mrs Gorin who was receiving & the Wacman's who now have a phone & a nice servant. They gave me hot scones with too much fat in the dough — just as you made them Delightful. Here at home this evening to

Good bye my Swee & darling Childie, for this

Studio times as ever your fond. Max.

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6 inaugurate the oven which was still virgin we had a bbacchio arrosto with salad, preceded by soup & followed by apples & Coffee Nina is quite a good dab at cooking I am glad to say — more particularly in the event of having Mrs Ellis here with her daughter.

C. Moretti has a possible p.g. for nearly a year a prof of 27-30 who won a Rockfeller prize & may possibly come to me in March for 3 weeks, & permanently in May. Sprebbe ora — Vero?

Good bye my Swee & darling Childie, for this — how nice it! — prefer Jarning out long letters to you in [illegible] of to all those dear kind people to whom we owe a very [illegible] Jean daily confirmed in my surmise that there was a [illegible] Consigne for

4 letters [illegible] private [illegible] foot [illegible] way. In [illegible] things re[illegible] shoes for [illegible] say they [illegible] day for the [illegible] to be wi[illegible] with Sh[illegible] dance. [illegible] ment of [illegible] enjoys [illegible] white a[illegible] Child & is [illegible]

[illegible] thoroughly & that since the old Studio times as ever your fond. Max.

[illegible] other day. [illegible] learnt [illegible] news [illegible] at the [illegible] ple one [illegible] ive in [illegible] al [illegible] on St Leo [illegible] Mrs [illegible] as long [illegible] owing to [illegible] up [illegible] attended [illegible] for several [illegible] present [illegible] that [illegible] deposited [illegible] shall doubtless [illegible] wreath the [illegible] white flowers. [illegible] sie's papers to [illegible] would choose out those needed by the Trustee, such as Bank book & tax returns & says that nothing private would be looked at.

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Dearest Beauty (26-1 Eve

Just a scribble to say I am well & calm.

I have been to this Concert, invited & fetched by Sig Ragnini. I knew it would do me good & it did.

I go to school on foot & back every day. Commissions in the late afternoon Saw C Moretti last of evening. I went up after dinner & sat for an hour (as I often do). She sends love & cordial sympathy.

Dsie had been [illegible] the operation of that she was so intimate with Miss Jeffrey Tangetting many letters from unknown friends of her's ever your (Come) ownloring Mav.

Good bye my Swee & darling Childie, for this [illegible] – how much! – Prefer Jarning out long letters to [illegible] of to all those dear kind people to whom we owe [illegible] very [illegible] Jenn daily confirmed in my surmise that there was a [illegible] Consigne for

4 letters [illegible] private [illegible] foot [illegible] way. In [illegible] things re[illegible] Does for [illegible] say they [illegible] day for the [illegible] to be wi[illegible] with Sh[illegible] dance. [illegible] ment of [illegible] enjoys [illegible] white a[illegible] child & is [illegible]

[illegible] morrowingly & that since I hold Studio times as ever your fond. Mav.

[illegible] other day. [illegible] learnt [illegible] news [illegible] at the [illegible] ple one [illegible] ive in [illegible] al [illegible] on St Leo [illegible] Mrs [illegible] as long [illegible] owing to [illegible] up [illegible] attended [illegible] ter Several [illegible] present [illegible] that [illegible] deposited [illegible] shall doubtless [illegible] wreath she [illegible] white flowers. [illegible] sie's papers to [illegible] would choose out those needed by the Trustee, such as Bank book & tax returns & says that nothing private would be looked at.

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I feel I ought to write to you every day. Last night I went to bed instead as I had had not much sleep owing to writing all letters to London Paris & you in the evening. The Haights with their friend are leaving these days. They sent me a glorious cyclamen in a pot in full flower.

Elsie sent M. Ellis a cheque for £150 before the operation which M. Ellis heard of for the 1st time on Saturday morning like poor heroically brave Elsie.

Mrs Ellis writes that she is coming to Rome for a month with her daughter in April & asks me to look out for a pension as she supposes I can't have them. Of course I shall ask them to come as real guests in return for all she has done for dear Elsie. I long to hear from you, dearest Childie. I enclose a letter giving a fresh note (for me) as I did not know that

Good bye my sweet darling Childie, for this [illegible] – how much! – prefer farming out long letters to you [illegible] of to all those dear kind people to whom we owe [illegible] very much [illegible] daily confirmed in my surmise that there was a [illegible] pensioner [illegible]

4 letters private [illegible] foot [illegible] way. In [illegible] things [illegible] shoes [illegible] say they [illegible] day for [illegible] to be [illegible] with [illegible] dance. [illegible] ment of [illegible] enjoys [illegible] white a [illegible] child & is [illegible]

[illegible] so thoroughly & that since the old Studio times as ever your fond Max.

[illegible] other day. [illegible] I learnt [illegible] n news [illegible] ing at the [illegible] imple one [illegible] aire in- [illegible] val [illegible] om St Leo [illegible] om Mrs [illegible] for as long [illegible] owing to [illegible] cut up [illegible] attended [illegible] letter several [illegible] ere present [illegible] es that [illegible] posited [illegible] shall doubtless [illegible] wreath she [illegible] white flowers. [illegible] sie's papers to [illegible] would choose out those needed by the Trustee, Sue has Bank book & tax returns & says that nothing private would be looked at.

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4 letters to write in the hours outside school & private lessons. (So, Miss Baverstock says, was Thursday at the funeral) To-day was sunny & bright. I went on foot to school cashing your generous cheque on the way. In the afternoon I went out at 5:30 to see to certain things returning at 8. I have bought a nicish pair of black shoes for walking with 1/2 high heels & am glad to say they are quite comfortable & easy. I wore them to-day for the 1st time. Servant still premurose & glad to be with me. I make her an injections every evening with stuff that she gets gratis near here & in abundance. Also I give her foot plaster & advice about management of her pedestals from which keep suffering she now enjoys immunity. She has reduced & trimmed all the ugly big white aprons et se gobe dedans. Has the mentality of a child & is not permalosa. Only anxious to be worked into shape. → see across 1st page

passport formalities. He seems greatly cut up about this & wired his daughter who attended & has written me quite a suitable letter. Several other lady friends of dear Elsie's were present. In a letter from Mrs Ellis to-day she writes that the Public Trustee with whom Elsie deposited her will is also her ~~Trustee~~ Executor & says I shall doubtless hear from him ere long. That the wreath she ordered for us was of violets & white flowers. That Miss Baverstock was to take Elsie's papers to Mr Ellis on Saturday 21st when Mr Ellis would choose out those needed by the Trustee, such as Bank book & tax returns & says that nothing private would be looked at.

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Good bye my Swee & dare – how much! – Prefer farming of to all those dear kind very much. Jean daily confi

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dous uplift for me. So the sting & regret are now removed from my grief at her loss & I am intensely thankful for this enlightenment regarding her.
The quiet stoicism with which she arranged all, foresaw all in the way it would least inconvenience others are beyond all words to admire. But it would be selfish to wish her back. I suspect she was latterly just carrying on valiantly but had lost the incentive to live & enjoy, having no one in particular to live for or to love. ~~You~~ mustn't mind Darling, as her very own.
if my letters are not very personal, just lately comprising the present one. I have so very many

passport formalities. He seems greatly cut up about this & wired his daughter who attended & has written me quite a suitable letter. Several other lady friends of dear Elsie's were present. In a letter from Mrs Ellis to-day she writes that the Public Trustee with whom Elsie deposited her will is also her ~~Trustee~~ Executor & says I shall doubtless hear from him ere long. That the wreath she ordered for us was of violets & white flowers. That Miss Baverstock was to take Elsie's papers to Mr Ellis on Saturday 21st when Mr Ellis would choose out those needed by the Trustee, such as Bank book & tax returns & says that nothing private would be looked at.

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Good bye my Swee & dare – how much! – Prefer farming of to all those dear kind very much. Jean daily comp

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Good by my Sweet & darling Childie, for this time, I should – how much! – prefer farming out long letters to you instead of to all those dear kind people to whom we owe so very much. I am daily confirmed in my surmise that there was a consigne for all to keep me from travelling up to London. If Mary Ellis had wired when the sad turn came instead of writing, I might even have seen Elsie before the operation. Sal- so believes he was more intimate by far with Mary Ellis than with me. They under stood each other so thoroughly & that since the old studio times as ever I am fond. Mar.

My dear Childie

I confirm letters written at least every other day since that sad evening of the 17th when I learnt the sad news. Mary Ellis has ~~had~~ given news of the simple & quiet funeral service at the Crematorium where the urn, a simple one, has been deposited until Fred or I give instructions for inscription or removal. A cousin, a Mrs Duchen, came up from St Leonard's for the funeral. Fred to whom Mrs Ellis had offered to stay at her house for as long as he liked, was unable to be present owing to passport formalities. He seems greatly cut up about this & wired his daughter who attended & has written me quite a suitable letter. Several other lady friends of dear Elsie's were present. In a letter from Mrs Ellis to-day she writes that the Public Trustee with whom Elsie deposited her will is also her ~~Trustee~~ Executor & says I shall doubtless hear from him ere long. That the wreath she ordered for us was of violets & white flowers. That Miss Baverstock was to take Elsie's papers to Mr Ellis on Saturday 21st when Mr Ellis would choose out those needed by the Trustee, such as Bank book & tax returns & says that nothing private would be looked at.

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This evening came a letter from Fred enclosing one to him
" from Mrs Ellis. She says: "Elsie left a will & appoin-
" ted the Public Trustee as executor My husband
" has already communicated with him & will
" see to any legal details, so that you may
" feel assured that things are being properly
" done." Also: "Just before the operation Elsie sent me
" a cheque for £150 (pounds sterl.), in case she did
" not recover. What is over from this after everything,
" including doctors' fees, hospital expenses and any
" small debts she may have had, is paid, will of
" course go back into her account at the bank."
Fred wrote to George ~~him~~ at once Also to both Richard's who hitherto
have given no sign of life. ~~Fred asks for~~
Name whom I met & told of our grievous loss spoke kindly
& wrote next day in her name & Cesare's quite decently.
I met Em. Hutton to-day whom I had written She wept so she could
not speak & ran away. Sig.re Giorni Miss Miller, Miss Baverstock & others
all very feelingly I am writing again this evening to Miss Baverstock, Mary
Ellis & the Misses Haight who with a friends, a Miss Par-
sons, have enjoyed our Sunday evening meetings for the past
2 Sundays beyond words. They are interested to a degree
& heard Mr Rawson in the Stabes They sent me a flowering
very choice cyclamen in a pot with fitting expressions
this afternoon. I get on well with sister & Miss P. Miss Eliz is less expansive.
Dearest the gloom & dare of the first 5 days with me has changed
to a radiant realisation of joyous life for dear Elsie. This
makes me unspeakably happy for her & has been a tremen-

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Aug. 26/37

Alb. Amorosi - Bei Bibbiena

Dearest Darling Childie,

Your two most welcome p.c's of Aug. 9 and 15-16 to hand with glad thanks. So happy to know dear A.H. is free at last & probably enjoying the comforts commodities & keen air of Grenzb. & do hope & pray you have a jolly good time together at last without broiling and sizzling. So glad to know by 1st of 2 p.c's that you found A.H. in fairly good form, but how delightful to hear you are "disgustingly healthy". How sorry I am that I sent you so few jars of Psem. I found it no good here & had to take Castor oil last week & am now using stuff called "Pastigliette Brioschi" that seem to suit me well, for this place (for no evident reason) seems to be constipating in spite of excellent, too abundant (for me) food. Camilla at midday meal eats colossal amount, all her own and often more than 1/2 my portions. In the evening she eats no meat, fish or fowl (or soup) only vegetables in salad or otherwise.

Yesterday we took the often-deferred trip to Badia Prat. from whence I mailed you some views of the dear old place, which tho' much more civilized and convenient & cleaner, is still delightful. Trees & shrubs have grown incredibly & hills have

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no more bald patches. I intended inspecting the church (restored to 10th century style) but was prevented by a heavy (local) downpour in which we drove off in Comfy autobus at 4.40 p.m. I am glad, very, to have gone there this first time without you, my sweet one, for it was pretty bad, and I was glad to take refuge on the way to Isola to get over the first fit. When I felt better I posted your p.c's & went to interview Mulinacci where after a time Camilla joined me. He was most cordial & wanted to give us heaps of things, but we requested only espressi in which he joined us. His sister who nursed dear Tap is now settled in Romagna & hereldest son is one of the waiters at Bellavista to which establishment Mul. has built an "annexe" ~~across~~ on the opposite side of the road nearly opposite. In this annexe is now the post-office. He is Mulinacci is of course "incorporato" ~~and~~ so all pensions there now have the same terms: from L. 27-20 according to length of stay, number in family & month. It is a restful lovely place. On wall of post-office there is posted a list of the walks, long & short, this I intended to copy for your benefit, but the very heavy shower with hail interfered. The road up to Badia is unbelievably winding & with poor Tap's nerves I wonder if he would have stood it in a big motor-bus. Shall write again very soon, tho' there is nothing to tell about our quiet days. Dearest love to both as ever fondly your own Mav.

Natalia your play mate of first years, is married & has 3 kids. (there) (Elsewhere)

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And how satisfactory that Baby is strong enough to suck so vigorously tho' still without any nourishment. Grand too that the Doctor knew & did his share so well. Only for the spells of unconsciousness you would have been far too prostrate to write letters. Brava for the decision to nurse yourself at first, altho I can't help thinking that 3 months would be more desirable for both - artificial food is so expensive & requires such care about sterilizing. As for the traditional preference for boy-babies. Which I blush (now) to say I shared, - no son could or would have done as much for me as your Darling Self. You say nothing about bandaging Tommy to help it back to normal proportions, but that I expect is an antiquated proceeding & as your Doc is so up to date, he will be sure to advise you well on this rather important point. Three kilos and 1/2 is perfectly grand as a starting-point. I shouldn't

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Pensione Girardet
12 Piazza dell'Esquilino
Rome.

Dearest & most admirably
Daisy Child

My surprise and delight at
seeing your darling writing
so soon after the Event
knows no bounds. Your
feats are getting more &
more marvellous. Who
ever heard of a Woman writing a 4-page letter after
46 hours of THAT....?
And absolutely to the point too.

mind about hair being black - it always changes. So do the eyes change colour, so it doesn't matter about the colour at present. So glad you approve of Hospital and nurses - and food. My diet was incredibly neglected in the first weeks & I was too weak to take steps myself.

I am well, very lively & go-ahead. My Concaro tenants quite in love with me & wanting me to tea and motor-rides the whole time. This pension is quite satisfactory. I've been to 2 good Movies within the first week. Love & blessings to all 3 as ever fondly & proudly your Mav.

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Pensione Girardet
12 Piazza dell'Esquilino
Rome.

Dearest & most admirable
Daisy Child

My surprise and delight at
seeing your darling writing
so soon after the Event
knows no bounds. Your
feats are getting more &
more marvellous. Who
ever heard of a Woman wri-
ting a 4-page letter after
46 hours of THAT....?
And absolutely to the point too!

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ways changes. So do the eyes change
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of Hospital and nurses - and food.
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steps myself.
I am well, very lively & go a head. My Concaro
[illegible] me & wanting

NEW YORK: 230 West 41st Street
LONDON: Bush House, — Aldwych, W.C.2 —
BERLIN: 9 Hermann Goering Str.
28th 1937
MAURICE
da Palashina 63
Tell me what to do please
BUNE
e their paper

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NEW YORK: 230 West 41st Street
LONDON: Bush House, — Aldwych, W.C.2 —
BERLIN: 9 Hermann Goering Str.

Paris, JULY 28th 1937.

IMPORTANT—

Subscribers will confer a favor by remitting within 6 days, and are respectfully reminded that their subscription is liable to be stopped after that period.

In sending remittance please quote reference No. 639

I got this early in Aug. & wrote them at once countermanding paper until further orders from America. Spite of which papers have continued to come in batches of 3-4

Mrs M S FRITZMAURICE
Via Rerluigi da Palashina 63
ROMA.

Tell me what to do please

Subscription to THE NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE

(EUROPEAN EDITION

Paper sent to
BIBBIENA AUGUST Ist.

From AUGUST Isy. 193..7
To OCTOBER Ist. 193..7
2 Months ..... Days. Francs 90

for which amount we request the favor of your kind remittance.

H.A.

Checks and P.O.O. payable to the NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE, PARIS.

A supplementary charge of 15frs. a month is made to subscribers in France who desire their paper forwarded to them when traveling abroad.

but why 90? (ninety)

...ing, from a lady ales

...t sweet attack and am

I have absolut... ...zi is coming to tea with me some day this week. we shall go ... Caffè Pagano close by, for I am inviting. The PSEM I had sent you on Nov. 6, by Roberts Farm. must have reached you a close ago ~~must have reached you long~~ ago, I trust in good form & you will no doubt, mention same presently.

(6 poly)

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Alb. Amorosi Bei
Bibbiena Arezzo Italy

Sept 2 1937

Dearest,
nothing has happened here since my last missive a few days ago, except that Camilla has left this Albergo for an ~~airy~~ airier room she found in another pension in same town. The people here were unreasonable & said nasty things to her.
To-day, from a lady des

RARDET

~~5x/2/12/37~~ Sunday evg.
5/12/37

test sign of life was a p.c. saying
ccessive discomforts you were in good
so in a letter got recently you said
from the "madding crowd" and taken a de=
y fine weather. Nothing could possibly
joy as ~~this~~ these two items of news. It is a half the battle
Estabrook once bounced at me the words:
e overcome. I was astounded. Mrs Barr's
your new life was difficult and upsettin
d me vastly and filled me with hope that
of your troubles cannot now be far off.
o turning. Never forget either our famou
I arrived at Levanto minus all our keys
m, altrimenti si starebbe in pena costan=
te per la paura di smarrirle. Ora cha sono veramente perdute, il peggio è passato , abbiamo toccato fondo. Ormai non può succedere ch qualche cosa di buono in confronto". E, di fatti, poco dopo le chia vi si ritrovarono nella taschina del mio spolverino.

I am long since over my little short but sweet attack and am going out every day in the sunny hours .

I have absolutely nothing to tell. Mrs Pazzi is coming to tea with me some day this week. we shall go to the Caffè Pagano close by, for I am inviting. The PSEM I had sent you on Nov. 6, by Roberts Farm. must have reached you a close ago ~~must have reached you long~~ ago, I trust in good form & you will no doubt, mention same presently.

(6 pots)

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My dearest love to Alfred, I am bearing in mind his 3 big jobs: 1) Museum building + architect. 2) A.M. Exhibit in Paris + dealings with Desarrois 3) A.M. Exhibit in New Building in Autumn of 1938.

Auto-
Canding from the Corriere della Verna, I begged these Cyclamens which she had gathered at "La Penna", the highest point of the mount. I asked for just one to put in a letter (to you my sweet Childie). She insisted on giving me at least 3 dozen. These will be pale and faded when you get them, whereas they are dark & fresh as possible.
Godbless my Darling as He only Knows how.
Did you get some p.c.'s of Dadia?

te per la paura di smarrirlo. Ora che sono ... peggio è passato , abbiamo toccato fondo. Ormai non può succedere che qualche cosa di buono in confronto". E, di fatti, poco dopo le chiavi si ritrovarono nella taschina del mio spolverino.

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tect. + Trustees
2) A.M. Exhibit in Paris + dealings
with Desarrois
3) A.M. Exhibit in new Building in
Autumn of 1938.

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uld possibly
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me the words:
. Mrs Barr's
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be far off.
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all our keys
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(6 pots)

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I am well & enjoying Cool, sunny days. Last week it rained for 7 days and nights, so Badia is probably shrouded in the Sept rain and fog you & I know too well.

Clever, with unspeakable love & yearning, your fond

Mav.

RDET

~~5x/12/37~~ Sunday evg.
5/12/37

st sign of life was a p.c. saying
essive discomforts you were in good
in a letter got recently you said
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fine weather. Nothing could possibly
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te per la paura di smarrirle. Ora cha sono veramente perdute, il peggio è passato , abbiamo toccato fondo. Ormai non può succedere ch qualche cosa di buono in confronto". E, di fatti, poco dopo le chia vi si ritrovarono nella taschina del mio spolverino.

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(6 pots)

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2000
20
40'000

GIRARDET

~~5/12/37~~ Sunday evg.
5/12/37

Dearest Beauty,

Your latest sign of life was a p.c. saying that in spite of all your successive discomforts you were in good spirits and lighthearted. Also in a letter got recently you said how you and A.H. had escaped from the "madding crowd" and taken a de=lightful day off, favoured by fine weather. Nothing could possibly have given me so much real joy as ~~this~~ (those items of) news. It is a half the battle to know how to take things. Estabrook once bounced at me the words: Difficulties were made to be overcome. I was astounded. Mrs Barr's quiet certainty that altho' your new life was difficult and upsettin 'she will master it,' amused me vastly and filled me with hope that in such able hands the end of our troubles cannot now be far off. It's a long lane that has no turning. Never forget either our famou little game the day you and I arrived at Levanto minus all our keys "meno male che sono perdute, altrimenti si starebbe in pena costan=te per la paura di smarrirle. Ora cha sono veramente perdute, il peggio è passato, abbiamo toccato fondo. Ormai non può succedere ch qualche cosa di buono in confronto". E, di fatti, poco dopo le chia vi si ritrovarono nella taschina del mio spolverino.

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in the Atlantic, lent me by that Mrs Dohan, curator of a Museum in Philadelphia.

I am reading a story called "Enchanter's Nightshade" by that delightful Ann Bridge whom I positively love.

I had fondly hoped to get a weekly snapshot of Victoria. But your household was no doubt, knocked that and much else on the head.

Mrs Barr being on the spot & so very much younger & spryer, is far better qualified to watch over the dear thing than I am, swept to crack up suddenly. You need make no bones about turning down the project. I had no idea when writing that Mrs Barr was to be back in America in the spring. That's all. Good bye for this time much love to A.H. and hugs to Darling Self as ever Max.

I continue to feel this Pension to be all I could wish for a much more ~~[illegible]~~ guests and hostess are very kind & friendly.

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28/II/37

P. Girardet.

Dearest & Best Beloved,

Thanks for your brief line announc=nig Mrs Barr's imminent arrival. Nobody here ever heard of Kather ine Dwight. Next day came a letter from Mrs Barr fr. London saying that & why she was not coming for the present & was bound with her friend for Göttingen, for two months ,but that later she would cer=tainly come to Rome & to this P. wh. she remembers favorably since 1910. A very Considerate Courteous letter.

To please you,I called Lupi who found all well & blood pres=sure, always hitherto far too low , almost normal .Three days later I awoke at six one morning (on Tuesd. 23/II) after a good night's sleep, with a sudden torcicollo & pain from it along the arm & as if fev er were coming, That day at 2 I had 39.2. Next day at 2, fever was gone & Lupi paid just that one (Second) visit to say it was flu and that it was over when fever went. So here I am like a coq-en-pâte, being in quarantine, one of the ladies having constitu=ted herself my good genius & advising me to take my time before comi ng to the dining-room, bringing me drinks, sending me tea & other smal amenities to wh. she is not usually given - quite a privilege, I am told by Sigra Munzi the Secretary whom I somstimes took to movies. So I appear to have found grace . Was afraid I should have to go back to Carvasieri

I do hope & trust that your second Irish nurse will prove satis factory in all wise & devoted & affectionate, without kissing. Pauline

Please remember that, compatible with your fearsome household situation and altered habits which situation Mrs Barr assures me that you will cope with successfully (Speaks as tho' she had seen you sin=ce the birth, says how admirable you are with "wee Victoria)"

Should have been out of the house on Thursday, but for bad Pleamentaria W. wind!

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Therefore I resume the thread : - Compatibly with all these abomi=nations, REMEMBER that I want a fresh snapshot of that child as often as possible, Why, those I have, were done a month & a half ago, She must have changed and if possible improved, unbelievably since then! ! !

Thanks for all you say about clothes. I seem to feel that will be as usual, just the right thing. Sorry I spoke about warm underskirt. I spoke to Lupi of course about my AM. project (which in the light of subsequent developments has lost any value that it ever had) he wanted to know whether I suffered from sea-sickness. All depended on that. If I did I had better not try. I naturally said I didn't know. He then said all depends on that.

Remember I want those snapshots badly & feel ashamed to have only those first ones to show Emily Ferrari & V. Gatti who both think your da=ughter entrancingly pretty .

As ever fondly & pretty jealously,

your only

Mav.

P.S.

Please don't worry or recommend care after flu. I know & am ta-king exaggerated care, because of Carr sicki. So don't come back on it. It is well over thank God. Snapshots, please.

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P.S. Fresh snapshots of V. always freely appreciated. No hurry thought! Maria Nap. came to see me & stayed a long time. Brought a pink wool knitted vest. Says your desire ~~for~~ job is pure fancywork, you being in such a grand position.

25/1/39

Girardet &c

Dearest Beauty, This a kind of supplement.

Tra p.c. I sent you some days ago, but in wh. I overlooked your (loving) query as to why the Xmas cable was fully signed. Yes, it was one of that list of formulas, but I had sent it off myself at S. Silvestro & with no signature. So the post people must have added it on their own. I'm sorry you had apprehensions about my health on that account & feel pretty bad at causing you anxiety. My post Xmas & post New Year letters will however have completely dispelled your uncomfortable feeling on that score.

Mrs Barr & I continue to get on swimmingly. We are both vastly amused at Alfred's & your apprehensions lest we should not like each other. I find her a most entertaining conversationalist & he tells things in such an interesting way & knows such a vast number of people, had has such a rich full active useful life compared to my own. Then she has taken so much to the other guests here. They all seem to have known some town or people whom she too knows or knew. Then she is so keen about the things she goes to see here, — sometimes alone & other times with one or two of the guests here. Roman Ceremonies during which she is edified & flabbergasted at the evident devotion

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2/ of the worshippers. Enjoys services at the Am. Episcopal Church on Via Nazionale where she & Ben went again this morning for a Memorial Service to celebrate the 50th year of its foundation. She seems to enjoy everything so intensely - as tea, this afternoon with 2 other guests from here at the Casino on the Pincio where there was an unusually fine sunset which she made me actually pee on her return.

I weighed myself about a week ago: 55 kilos. I was pleasantly surprised, because about the 10-15 of this month, I had an added feeling of weight about the tummy & at once called Lupi, as more measure of precaution. After a day or two the old pain of 2 years ago set in. Lupi tried various things - changing at once as they did no good. Now he seems to have hit on the right thing & I have begun to eat again with relish, so I needn't have bothered to bother you by mentioning it. The hostesses & guests have been most kind & in every conceivable way. I have been fully as well taken care of as if I were at Christie's about which I have learned a dead secret, which in a way, I regret. The 2 ladies are returning definitely to England where they will direct a similar establishment which is to include Mr & Mrs Tudor now aging & living quite alone in a new place, he having lately given up his parish. From here they will take with them 2 of their present patients & all their furniture &c. &c. Nobody knows as yet of this project due to appear within 6 weeks or so, of course & you will be the first. Lupi wants me to lie down after food & keep quiet in a general way, so I haven't made much headway lately with my lessons for Kansas C. or translations, nor have I been much out of doors. Now, if you start worrying as is your wont, I swear I'll never tell you anything again. Dear love to A. H. Blessings to Victoria & your darling self as ever fondly

Mary.

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1)

Begun on Jan. 5th Thursday
G.N.J.

Dearest Childie My own Darling Daisy-child!
What a whirl of good times you describe & how carefully & graphically! I keep wondering how you remember things & details of doings so well & don't confuse & jumble things up. But of course in a letter events go quicker than in the happening. I am overjoyed that you had the good time you expected at Baltimore & sincerely hope some day to meet those dear people.
In the matter of letters I have received:
1) a 1 wire at 8.30 a.m on the 25/12 from Baltimore
2) 1 letter 2) written just before holidays began & telling general lines of intended trip & which I partly answered in a former promising to note what you say of De R. who has hitherto not called or given sign of life. Also about Amelia's stormy departure and preliminaries I am still well satisfied with her successor [. In it you exhort about Miss Haight on whom I called twice & who had tea here on Tuesd. 3rd with Duchess & Miss Verschoyle I couldn't well have her alone or with just anybody, so I did the best I could think. They were immensely impressed with each other & the thing went off right well.]

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2) In it you also mention a list of people you had written to here which s'intende, gratifies me not a little. I note mention of Sir R. Rodd coming to Vassar College. For a lecture or what?
As you know from a letter I wrote on Xmas Day or next I lunched with Miss Miller & read your letter on my return home about 3 Had a Conference at Via Abruzzi that even. if I don't mistake. Anyhow I got on right well & did not feel dismal in the least. Had roast chicken with salad & a rich cake for dinner as the new help Nina takes ex^g meal & sleeps here, so I had to provide something extra. She much prefers my half of her day to poor Sig^ra Franchen's whose nerves don't appear normal. N. regrets my projected flitting & would like to come to me for all day. & leave the lady opposite.
To go on with acknowlegements, I duly got since abovementioned a letter dated 13-12 mentioning 2 packages (3) the one
3) with books arrived a week ago & I am well on with the "Spinster" Many many thanks. The circular one with knives &c has not yet turned up. In it you mention manufacturing Assisi pincushions & present problem and the delight of getting away for the first time for the whole vacation time My poor Darling! It must have been hard to bear those first years! Also the present question gives me a big qualm, for if your money is tight I know best why.... This letter I seem to have answered too in a measure for I distinctly remember sending you the required addresses you ask for. I am glad you have kept in touch

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3) with Prof McComb & his wife. They seem to move about as easily as yourself for you mentioned them in your Boston letter too & now again in N.Y. and later as possibly turning up in Baltimore. He must be an interesting soul & quite different from most with his quiet languid ways & refined tastes. A day or 2 ago from Baltimore

4) I got your long delightful, detailed epistle over which I gloated for hours. So glad you approve of my poor poor hanks & found them adapted to your frocks. You make quite too much of them. Did you get a book I sent you "Ma che Cosa"? &c So glad my wire about Fred was forwarded. For all these pure delights in form of letters & wire I thank you most lovingly - also for all the quaint massy emblems the last 3 letters were profusely adorned with. You are too good to me My Sweet One! As for your present of 10 $ I have not yet invested it but shall probably give it form as a hat to suit a talpa grey frock I bought stuff for lately & have interviewed Spagnolo about pattern here enclosed. All you say about H.R.H. & his laborious Xmas Card & queer personality is most interesting. It seems out of date to-day that so young a man should be so uncouth in his exterior. Thanks for list of presents. It makes me unspeakably happy to know you are having a good time & have managed to preserve such a keen sense of enjoyment. This is a divine & priceless gift. I note too the prolonged & evidently pleasant visit to the President & his people of whom I know nothing. Fancy you cooking an

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(I was on the point of writing "their awe-inspiring stomachs!!

4/ Italian dinner for ~~their~~ such awe-inspiring folk!
You seem to be walking round them all in turn.
Although you often mention Miss Do little with interest
& affection I don't know what her rôle & functions there
consist in, I hope she & you all enjoyed the dinner down
Town that "The Family" offered her. Yes, I remember J. Gilbert
in the "Big Parade", a good actor, but not remarkably
handsome. As for the Alumnae Party I congratulate & wish
I had been present, but I don't remember the dark blue frock
you mention. You know I haven't seen you dance for some
time, but I can imagine a thing or two with regard to it
& you judging from what you say of Bruno & H. R. H.'s adhesion.
Fancy a man sallying forth for an early evening entertainment with
out a cent in his pocket! As for the Frick library & Cook's lecture
on M.SS's — & his taking you to dinner after it I wonder
how long one should attend an Italian Prof's lesson before
he would dream of such condescension — or liberality —
I note the Concert at the Carnegie Hall ~~concert~~ & dinner
with P. O'Neill's flame. Then your luck in running
across M. Cooper's friend & dip in at Chafard's
boîte. You must know a number of resorts by this eh!
Fancy just "meeting" F. Clearman! Glad he was nice to you
and fixed your ticket to Baltim. Why must you drive so fast
through the Holland Tunnel? I am sorry for Maude's
state of health. I took courage some years ago
& advised her to see a Chr. Science practioner. She
did not react or mention that passage of my letter.
So many people don't know about it & thus go on believing
the illusion to be reality. Your brief mention of George is
strange & makes one wonder why he did not marry
Flor. Vidor & why he did marry the other party?

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5/ I am very glad you saw F. Clearman without the ladies for a while. He must be a different man but all warped by business & discomfort (moral, I mean) at home. Interesting very about Mrs Pollack; what energy after a long spell of family life to be able to turn to like that & find the ~~the~~ Verve to work well enough to deserve Prof Cooke particular interest. So glad you have made a friend of this remarkable woman and congratulate you on the very interesting men you met in Princeton and — the lovely sunset. I see most of your glorious letter was written in the train to Baltimore & wonder at and admire your forethought in providing the wherewithal. Never ~~to~~ knew any one else to write long interesting lucid letters in a railway carriage. I shall be looking out for your next with suite at fin of the holiday trip.

As for myself I get on right well, am well satisfied with present servant have an excellent appetite, eat right good food & feel in good form. I had only one desirable offer for the flat. Nice Amer ladies fr. Los Angeles. We shall see more of each other but they ~~do~~ cannot take the flat, owing to passport hitch. Daughter is a piano virtuose & has promised me a ticket for a concert she is giving soon. Mother is Welsh. I shall probably have to use servant's room as a store room for packing-cases & upstairs lumber, so it will bring in less. I have seen my room at Grigioni's pension. All is of course deferred as those ladies were to have taken possession on Monday the 1st & only called off on Friday the 30th. Aurelio is looking into details of stipulation papers. He called 2 evenings ago to ask some

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6) details & point out some items that he intends to resist He is very painstaking & Clear headed Ernu called this evening. She showed me your lovely letter. God bless your kind, loving, generous heart my own Darling Child! She was very quiet well dressed & looking better than I have seen her for many months back - in fact for 2 years. She was interviewing Nina when I came home about 8.45 She told me of Amelia strange behaviour one evening to you when minus a key this summer. It might have been as well to enlighten me on my return home & spared me two months discomfort. However it is all right anyhow and the present one most devoted, cleanly, active & anxious to please & delighted to be with me new broom of course, but she is the right sort all the same & good will goes for such a lot!

I am sorry I mentioned Auntie Elsie's illness when writing to you for the thing was over when she wrote the first of two recent letters. In the 2nd she says the illness was quite over & tho' still in that hospital and in bed, this fact was owing to the doctor's insistence and the appallingly cold windy weather. Doc wants her to go & recruit somewhere & she is taking steps to get into a Convalescent Home at St Leonard's for a few weeks. Says she only meant to let you know après coup to spare you anxiety & worry. The writing was quite normal & steady again. Wouldn't hear of my going to her. Would like to come

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Out to me, but says it is quite too far off. Says her room is always bright with flowers & that she has 4-5 visitors every day. My first letter and hers were delayed owing to the shocking weather in the Channel & suspended traffic on account of snow on land & gales on sea. This was preceded by such dangerous "Verglas" both in Paris and London that I had been thinking a lot about her & Fred.

Much love & fondest kisses to my darling fond Childie & a very special hug for all the jolly letters that have given me so very vivid an idea of the many pleasant & desirable acquaintances you constantly make among "intellectuals"

as ever your own

Max.

Am sending on Fred's wondrous "Illustration" to you & hope you will like it. On second thoughts I shall send it to the Littell's, as Auntie ~~mentioned~~ asks me whether I have sent mine to you as if not she intended to. Easiest for her just now as any friend could post it. Whereas if she had to provide something else it would be more

Complicated

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Wednesday 23/11/38 Sunning outside a Café. Yours of? with long list of wonderful things — almost overwhelming. Shall keep it well to hand to refer to. I've just phoned Buton (who) furnished Lenterba. He assures me it is the unsweetened kind — that he doesn't keep the Sw. as nobody wants it. I'm glad of this. As to Miss Sharp, who is leaving by Conte di Savoia 26/11, she has not yet definitely assured me whether or not she will take the 3 bottles. She undertakes however & cap and for my 2 scarfs (both horrid) got them in Flor. in a moment of aberration & compassion for 2 starved-looking elderly shopkeepers. Said they needed my L-50 very badly & thanked me profusely. Please say why it is obvious that I have no maps at hand (geographical, I mean)? Did I make some bad "brioche" in that line this Summer, or in my letters? If so, please specify time, place, Company & magnitude of error. I had heaps of linen & Cambric hanks this Summer, by me. If you had said your wish, I'd gladly have used them. Yesterday I got cheque for fourteen hundred lire fr. A. with very Courteous letter, saying he's glad to oblige you & me. Tackn. by return of post. & fancy I carded you too in proposito, but am slightly hazy on the point. I had of course felt that you & 2 were pretty immune from

Esquilino &C. 20/10/38

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martian scare. The people who took fright were those who had not heard the introductory announcement & were "versagliati" by the successive sequence of messages, which of course, were framed to sound as real as possible. Fear is a horrible monster that will make Cowards of the Bravest if entertained. After 1 day of rain we have hot Sun again to-day. Super's troubles are due to inertia of grand Sympathetic Nervous system & is treating the case accordingly. Sam just as I was this Summer & hope much from change of Heating. It is absurd to be always ailing. Somewhere that about the neck pain? Has it gone? Love to the boys for being thoughtfulness personified

Miss Ruth Burr
c/o 2 Beekman Place
Rhinebeck on Hudson
New York
U.S.A.

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21/11/38 Dearest. I confirm answer some days ago to yours of 11/11 re Technicolor & other things. This is to say how overjoyed I am by subsequent letter with the most fascinating snaps. They are a Chapt. of your lives. I am delighted. S.P. gets more & more expression & personality. You & A.H. are killing & I am so happy to think you take time to enjoy good times w. Baby. I'll never forget the fun I had with you. It was exquisite also because never to be renewed — as I well knew. — I still have to go to 63 sometimes about trifles. Hope soon not to go at all. Boiler only L.384.25. Feel much relieved. I paid it this morn & love to all 3 as ever fondly Max.

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Giovedì 10/11/38. Ho [illegible] Dear & ever welcome l. of Oct 26- My very mild allusion to my energetic protest is very sweet & most natural. You must not think I am un= grateful. I am overcome w. gratitude & thankfulness. But you had already done such a powerful amount in that line that I was quite overwhelmed at further effort lest you should be stirring from home on my account. A's cheq came duly early this month, preceded on Oct. 13 by what you left to him for me: 473. For all of which I bless you.

After odious putting off, the new tenant took possession on the 7th & yesterday the contract was signed at Aureli's studio, he & Piera as ever most kind & help= ful. For six months only, but probability of re= newal. I have requested tenant to buy & charge me with some small items & charge them to me. It is easier & less fatiguing for me. Also I am backward with a transl. & work for Unity & hope now for a few quieter weeks. To-day came the books I had ordered from Unity & requested you to finance. I am so glad you acted at once & feel very grateful. No, I did not feel uncomfortable about getting them. A. feeling sure you would say the right thing. I regret to say I've not yet gone to dentist but hope to now at once. I well remember the scare I had about your teething. So carefully sympathize about recent alarm. So relieved it all stopped so suddenly & that Viti is her merry little Self once more. No, I don't see Cl. H. romping w. anybody. & hope he gets other satisfactions from S. Pin his own way. Phipps has become

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part owner & runner of a grand
Beech-end Ranch (Calif.) w. 2 other men,
with a good outlook. It was owned by
an English millionaire until last year when he
died. It is very well known. Shall write you
name & locality next time. Phipps still holds
his post in an Insurance Co where he is giving
great satisfaction, but the pay is insufficient.
So glad you've begun to go about again
& trust for good news re household help.
I need a very warm blouse to wear with dark
blue clothes, open in front please. I need
nothing else. Especially no shoes. Much love to each
as ever fondly
Mav. I do need neck scarfs. lace & chiffon.

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31/10/38 Monday Ev'g Just a line, Dearest, To ackn. yours of Oct 16 w. photos most interesting tho' only 2 of S.P. Am writing to Miss Poirier To convey y^r thanks to her friend. Imagine my joy at prospect of relief for you thro' osteopath. Yes, the Girard people did welcome me back tho' not so heartily as Aurelena set. Sorry you think heating here so bad. This evening at 5 all the radiators were too hot to touch, they will now be hot at that hour always till Nov. 15 when they will heat all day from 7 a.m. I've had a whole week's respite from outdoor activities & have done nothing but read sleep & eat. Effects of chill (very slight) mentioned in my last, quite disappeared. Catarrh & digestion good. Breathing variable, but mostly good. Expect I had best stop worrying about y^r drudgeries since you think it's only mo= mentary & advisable so as to reach Nov. 1. S.P. is changing quickly & always for the better. I saw Piera's youngest immensely changed & im proved, & now a strikingly pretty child & most responsive gay & engaging.
New tenant's contract begins to-morrow but they take possession only a day or two later by ag= reement w. married daughter of Mortera (who left w. wife & another daughter for Abss. 10-12 days ago) Beyond those 3-4 days before contract I had no fatigue whatever. As I wrote before the place was let on 3rd day. Mortera's daughter & husb. & maid are still in the flat. If you tell me of S.P. is most delightful. Strange that she sh^d be still

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As I wrote you in too hurried p.c. I let the flat on 3rd day from adz in the Messagero. There were three eager candidates. I let it to th first on time, tho' I fancy No2 would have given me less bother. I met the ex-Prefetto & Ex- Governatore-di-Rodi (then styled Commissario) last even. at Aureli's where a rich caparra was handed me & a provisory con= tract drawn up. They are only just back, Piera is very tired like yourself from the removal & settling down which is far from complete as yet. It was too good of them to receive us with this bother at 8 o'clock, just before their cena. Piera was most affectionate & full of admiration p.m. of a fascio of really good gladioli that I handed her, & no less at my turn -out which was as at A. d. Cast. plus the admirable ½ season coat, (just back from the cleaners' along with 4 other articles). Piera handled it re verently, that's the word, as she took it from me, silk lining turned ou It looks quite new & silk of lining has come wonderfully well.

Can't say adequaltely how heartily I approve of the passage in firs t of last 2 letters in which you allude to your past attitude regarding your situation, & resolve to alter it. I know I need not mention the all= importance of your influence on S.P. & her development & feel certain that whoever the thing turns out she will not suffer. I do think that if feasible something ought to be done soon about her baptism. It seems unlikely that there should be no branch of the Church of England in N.Y. Maria Nap. has given no sign of life about the things for you & the peo= ple I mentioned have left. Have just phoed, She will be home at 9, so shall repeat call & add if useful before closing this missive.

under weight, since appetite is so good. I went to fix appointment w. Dentist, but he was ill in bed tho' hoping to resume work in a few days. Would like a smaller dining-table. I have held out hope in the near future. His contract is only for six (6) months. If (as is his hope/lively) of renewing does not materialize, I shall consider selling the flat, but not before. The tax I mentioned is not really new, it dates fr. '35. I wrote of it at the time. There is some registering or conversion of it due within the next 3 months, but no fresh outlay. Aureli advised them to pay it off gradually by add= ding a trifle to ordinary taxes. I took his advice & do not feel any strain. I shall write next after tenant is installed. As ever fondly MAY.

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Esquilino &C. 20/IO/38

Dearest Childie, How to thank you for the last 2 letters o of Oct 7 & II which reached me respectively yesterday & this morning, I know not. It was good to hear of Sweetie Pie's happy home-coming & immeasurably good & loving of you to find time to tell me so much about it in the whirl of settling down with new maid & probably many interrup tions.

Immediately after her husband's demise mrs Giorni left for America. since which event I have heard nothing of any of them. A's death seems pretty mysterious. And very very sad.

I feel immensely glad that you seem to have found a probable nurse, hu= man enough to lend a hand round the house in other ways too. Also that the child is back with you & A.H. again & that she is so endearing & winning. She is sure to give you both some good times alongside the ca= re & preoccupation & responsibility side of her.

I note the intention of consulting that osteopath as soon as thing s have got into order at home & hope energetically that it may soon ma= terialize into a fact. You seem to put everything else before your own troubles & very real needs. You suffered incredibly from your shoulders this summer, tho' you said so very little about it. The lady who gave me that address was still at Annalena when I called there on my way home from V. Serena . My visit there was like a homecoming all round so ob= viously delighted to see me. Sigra Rossone was away, but her elder sis= ter, Sigra Calastri, was kindness itself all through my stay there & wd not allow me to pay for my lunch that day. Both they & Girardet are pret ty hard struck by the war-scare & would be grateful for more guests.

Does K. Day realize how forbidding her child is? Must say I pity t them both, whether or not. m

As for yr Friend Donia who/your 2nd last letter mentions for the Ist time my heart goes out to her in blessing for the great pleasure & real service she has done you & S.P. with all those lovely necessities. What could be more timely & acceptable?

As I wrote you in too hurried p.c. I let the flat on 3rd day from adz in the Messagero. There were three eager candidates. I let it to th first on time, tho' I fancy No2 would have given me less bother. I met the ex-Prefetto & Ex- Governatore-di-Rodi (then styled Commissario) las even. at Aureli's where a rich caparra was handed me & a provisory con= tract drawn up. They are only just back, Piera is very tired like yourself from the removal & settling down which is far from complete as yet. It was too good of them to receive us with this bother at 8 o'clock, p.m just before their cena. Piera was most affectionate & full of admiration of a fascio of really good gladioli that I handed her, & no less at my turn -out which was as at A. d. Cast. plus the admirable ½ season coat, (just back from the cleaners' along with 4 other articles). Piera handled it re verently, that's the word, as she took it from me, silk lining turned out It looks quite new & silk of lining has come wonderfully well.

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A vast scheme, varied, most ingenious & complicated has lately been di scovered by the Italian authorities for smuggling money out of this coun try. It is believed that the heads of this contraband trafic are Hebre ws & many conspicuous persons are being arrested daily. The papers are f full of this wide-spread abuse, giving names,, position & addresses of th ose arrested & suspected.

I sent you a radio message to-day, begging you to defer your most t thoughtful plan for placing more money at my disposal. I have always & repeatedly promised to let you know in good time if I should be at any time threatened with a momentary shortage. Since my return to town I have collected 2 months pension & 2 months rent. I bought home several hundred. Last night there was the caparra. On Nov. I there will be a deposit of 2 months' rent. Tomorrow I shall collect this month's pensi 2I/IO. I have done so & wish to add an important point. When I spoke of a monthly margin of L.300, I had in mind only the monthly income, inde= pendently of the interest on what titoli are still to the good - i.e. L. I569.40 a year. This gives L. I30 a month, which, added to the 300 of which above gives L. 430. 80, of margin per month. Thus:

L.	I500	brought home
"	I8I5	3 months pension collected
"	I200	2 months' rent "
"	500	Caparra from new tenant Conte Noris "
"	473	Cheque fr. you through Alb. "
"	I200	2 months' deposit due on Nov. I from Noris
"	I66	residue of first month from caparra, same date
Total L.	6788	

over

This is the present aspect of my financial position. I am fully alive to the need of new teeth & should have seen to the matter already but for the urgency of renting at this time. Within 3 days of the adz. I had let the flat. Next week I had planned to begin with the dentist. I loathe to be chivvied into doing things that I had fully planned to do I go limp every time you give me funds. This last offer or plan floored me for 2 days & nearly unfitted me totally for all these interviews. I could think of nothing but of all the little extra crumbs of extras & small comforts such a plan would deprive you A.H. & S.P. of & saw you buying ugly cheap clothes for everybody on my account. I who whose fon dest dream would be to overwhelm you 3 with leisure & good things & fun And funds abundant for yourselves & those you love to help. Put yours elf in my place - should you enjoy draining every scrap of comforts & extras out of Sweetie Pie's existence, par hasard? Even granted she wer e in a slightly better financial position, thro' unremitting effort, tha n yourself? Siamo giusti. You just wouldn't do it. Then why mortify me unnecessarily ? Your love for me & your innate generosity run away with your reason at times & make you write me letters like the second last (of the 7th). For in spite of what may sound unaimiable in the for egoing I love you more than ever & herewith solemnly assure you that I shall not fail to apply to you for funds long before they get really low. Besides, on an emergency Aureli has offered time & again to advan ce me sums. So that I shall never be in a tight place.

I went to a lovely film "Rosalie" last night with one of the Gir. ladi es. Mme Fouquet has just recommended "Pazza ~~per la~~ musica" with the I4 yr-old Deanne Durbin. She writes: Mais au point de vue photos je n'ai rien vu de comparable aux clairs-obscurs des productions de la TOBIS F Film (Cie Viennoise) que nous avons admirés ensemble, ni aux films fr ançais quant à la psychologie". Don't be angry with me. Ever!

As ever fondly your Own Mav.

P.S. Breathless & turning over for M.H. Maybe seems to have cleared up, if forget the seedy me. Mrs Bass is a dear.

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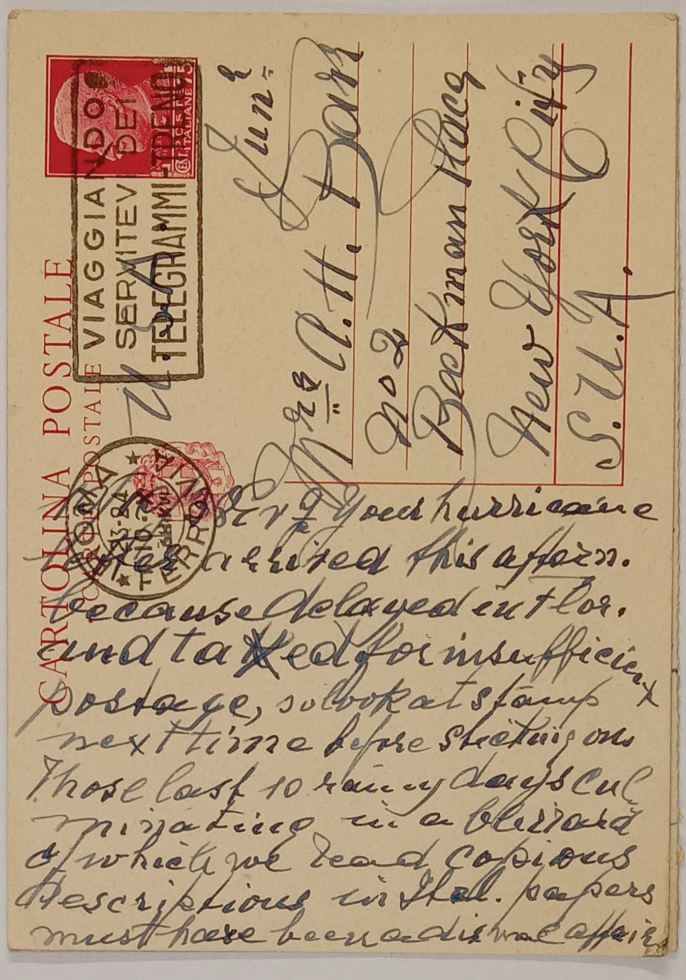

CARTOLINA POSTALE

CARTOLINA POSTALE VIAGGIANDO SERVITEVI DEI TELEGRAMMI

Mr. A. H. Barr
No 2
Beekman Place
New York City
S.U.A.

Junr

Mrs Ev^g Your hurricane
after arrived this aftern.
because delayed in Flor.
and taxed for insufficient
postage, so look at stamp
next time before sticking on.
Those last 10 rainy days culminating in a blizzard
of which we read copious
descriptions in Ital. papers
must have been a dismal affair.

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I did not speak of it in my
letters - hoping you would
be spared upset or damage....
Virtually you were spared....
So was Victoria thanks be.
Surprised & shocked 1° that you
think I believe all printed
matter. 2° That I am not dis-
gusted & saddened by certain
events. Hope you'll remember
to send me Mrs Barr's add-
ress. I found that lady very
very much broader than
I had any reason to expect
from her precedents & sur-
roundings. Still I'm glad she
approves of Unity which is
truly wonderful. This is sup-
plement to longish typed letter
posted to you this morn. I had
hoped in Scotch maid & so
feel had for you. I hope &
trust you not too submerged
Love to Aitt. As ever - so fondly
Mav

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18/10/38 Just a scribble to say
& thank for Alberti's cheque
duly collected. It brings what
you left me when leaving
to 2. less a few L. Also to
say that after some labo-
rious days I have let
the flat to an ex Prefetto
ex Governatore di
Rodi, a Conte Noris
for Nov. 1. Contract to
be signed to-morrow
Woman is waiting
for this p.e (Hurrah!
Lov lov & lov
as ever fondly Max

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Rome Girardet &c. &c,

Sunday aftern. 9/IO/38

X { On Friday too, I drove by auto to Flor, sharing expense with D'A.

Dearest & Best-Beloved,

This letter-paper alne tells yo that I have come back to civilisatinn. I returned on Friday about 20.30, fortunately toge ther with a group of other guesta, so that I got a right good cena. Altho' the journey was such an easy one, I felt that you would feel more comfy by my waiting several days with my things all packed, as I did, until the had wound up some business that had cropped up at the very last moment & wh. seemed important. I phoned M. Napolit. at once the very next morning & she spoke 6f the Centerbe, that she apparently had not yet bught. So I told h her to hurry up as there is a guest, man & wife returning to N.Y. today or to-morrow & she swore she would send it along at once. It has not yet come Ofcourse the people will want to see the bulk of the thing before underta= king the matter. The cuffietta sarda too must be an after-thing, as she wants Victoria's head measurements, apparently, before ordering or buying. Alberti wrote on the second to know whether I was back, before sending the cash you left him for me. I found his letter here on arriving together with yours of the I8th/9, to which this purports to be the answer. Yes, I all but promised the Annalena people to return there in Spring. There is a Miss Poirier there, a standing guest, for the past I5 years now, who took me com= pletely under her very kind wing. As I said in a former, she drove to V. S Serena with me & handed me over to Signora Assagioli. On Friday as I was Leaving (I had to go back there to fetch a thing I had forgotten), So I had lunch there before taking the train at 3) she insisted on taking me to the station & waiting there for a solid hour & a quarter, because the 3 o'clock train had been recently suppressed. So the Doc. only turned up at 3.30, as he had been much delayed by the drawing up of a legal contract We then started & all went smoothly by lovely weather & a wonderful Beleuchtung round sunset. By mutual consent we were both bearing in mind the decision of the powers that Be, to take place that very evening. It turned out fairly mild with numerous exceptions in favour of various categories of persons among whom we may fairly hope that Via A. del Cast. is included. I found a nice pc. from him, in answer to a letter I had written to his wife, saying why she could not answer because absent. I also found a letter from Aureli asking whether I had your Procura generale or not, as it will have to be produced at the Credito about the latest Tax which has to be converted. So I had to go to the top=room on Sat. afternoon & hunt. I was pretty certain I hadn't got it & di fatti I saw by diction of the atto di vendita there that it had been presented in I928, since when I have never seen it. So I returned an important Bank paper Aureli had enclosed for sig nature. Had to make it Raccomandata, All of which took time & fatigue. I might have gone to fetch the Procura myself at De Angelis's Studio, but re flected that Aur. as my Avvto could get it by a telephone call, whereas I would have to call in person & perhaps not succeed at once. While at No 63, I called by appointment on Mottera, my tenants, who had phoned various times asking if I were back. As I feared, recent matters will oblige him to leave the country, so he is returning at once to Egypt, cutting out the al= most certainty of his remaining on beyond Dec. I0, as by contract. So I have now to start looking for a successor. I phoned Bti. about a paper I h had left for him in July & heard from him that he has to leave his seclud ed villino with his Mother & is to live at Città Giardino which everyone hates. Wish he would take our flat. He would soon economise on tram-fare & time. I have just phoned him in this sense & just the day before yesterday he signed on for the new abode. Says he would have been delighted to take our flat. But would now lose a certain sum by breaking the contract. And that he can't afford it. Wish he would accept it from me. Have just phoned again him in this sense to hear that he removes to-morrow. All furniture is gone except beds. If he could have waited till the 20th all could have been ar= ranged. Pazienza. Assagioli has a plan in embryo by which he would like to atart a guest-house on the plan of V. Serena here in Rome in his new home on the Aventine. Would like me to engage myself as a permanence, excepting of course the summertime. I have left the matter very wide open, rememberin g the isolation of Tudor's & the many attractions of this place, not least of which the cosmopolitan guests & vicinity of centre.

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Seeing you & I don't like house-work, I'm right sorry to read that you ha= ve so much of it in Grensb.& trust you'll be able to manage better another time. By the time this reaches you will be well over the first horrid time organising matters in N.Y. & do trust & ardently hope & wish that A.H.'S letest plan may permit you to remain on in that lvely healthy flat in Beek man Pl.At V. Ser. we had 2 Amer, ladies one from A Oklahoma with the most astonishing specimen of humanity I have ever come across. He is only 13 As tall as A.H. yet strong healthy lvely & natural & perfectly normal. Is going to school here at Liceo Tasso. Had a fearful lot of compiti di vacan za to do that took him many hours every day, writes a splendid clear hand. Is as mature in his views as one of 20. & so handsome. Father , Austrian, died 2 years ago. Name decidedly Slav. Woldich, which they pronounce Woi dick. She is a native of Cekoslovakia where she has a tenuta which she has never seen. She has the Russian type & not at all pretty. Speaks French li ke a Russian. I met her again at Annalena where she had preceded me by a few days & to which place she had gone on my recommendation.The other lady I don 't know much about except that she tries to communicate with some un seen being by means of an electrically worked apparatus. She only spoke to Dr Ass. She remained behind at V. Ser. & was to leave later on same day with remainder of the family for the other tenuta at Capolona near Arezzo.

Miss Poirier spoke very favourably of a lady here who wishes to have a paying guest. Name: Sigra Pinto Via Aurelia No 5 Rome. Mother to Contess a Busi who is Miss Poirier's best friend & a great friend of Mme Fouquet's has a lovely flat & excellent maids & cuisine très soignée.Money not an important factor. Please bear this matter in mind.Too bad that you shou ld be reduced by housework to writing your letters in bed, because too ut= terly done up to do otherwise.How I wish you were not so energetic! This kind of thing makes me perfectly sick. To think of you with your capacities & briiliants qualities being reduced to drudgery that the most ignorant maid would do without it turning a hair on her! And she fit for nothing el se whereas you.... No, Childie ,this must be put a stop to . This will ne= ver DO. I must write to A.H. about it.Nothing wears one out so quickly. Besides it tells on the face & complexion & even on the skin.Not to mentio n the hands. Your lovely childish hands. Think of the utter pity of it. Why doesn't he take up the position you have elected about me: My wife MUST not be allowed to do this kind of stuff. She must be shielded against such necessities. I could hate & loathe America for this kind of thing. Be, parlamo d'altro. If not I might say some very bitter,nasty things & I should hate to do that. If John Mc Andrew is still with you give him my very best regards.But of course I was forgetting for the moment,that he is now working in the Museum with A.H.

So as to settle down quicker I have bought a host of small neces sities that I had run out of in 3 months. Altogether I have had a pretty li vely time since my very recent return. Par contre, I did not go out to-day. Last night I had settled to go to a cinema, but gave it up after supper as it was thought that the lift was out of order & not running, To-day it tur ned out that this was a false alarm. Only a cancelletto left open careless= ly by someone.I might have gone alone to-day, but feared the Sunday public 'Member you promised in this last letter to give me all details of replan= ning of your Flat. I want all details about service too. I want too to hear all about The plans for Victoria. And all about her health & ways & prog= ress. I consider that she is more like A.H.'s family just at present, tho' like no particular member of it. Please give me too Mrs Barr's address & some idea of her immediate plans.

To-morrow to I shall have a lively day going over the appalling inventory with Mrs Mortera at 3 p.m.On Friday I had my hair washed & done up very becomingly,to the noticeable relief of my table neighbours forwhom I was barely recognizable as I was on arriving

May I BEG YOU IN CONCLUSION TO SPARE YOURSELF — IF NOT FOR YOUR OWN SA+= kes — do it for love OF ME AND FOR MY PEACE OF MIND.
J'EN SUIS TOUT A FAIT NAVRÉE ET DÉSOLÉE

as ever most fondly & sadly this time,
your only
MAV.

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Address: Villa Serena. Chiocchio
Strada in Chianti (Firenze)

Tuesday 13/9 Evening
(Capolona is quite another Villa of theirs near Arezzo)

Dearest Beauty I delayed longer in Florence than I had first intended & knocked about quite a lot with Mme Fouquet so only got here by hired auto yesterday afternoon round 4.30 p.m. A Miss Jean Poirier drove with me & kept the car for further wanderings to which she is strongly addicted. She is an institution at Annalena where she has now lived for 15 years. So I handed her the L. 50 agreed on by Sigra Rossone's elder sister who is now in charge. I cannot say enough for the loving kindness & reasonable charges of these two wonderful women. They left nothing undone to make me comfy & at home. Mme ~~Pou~~ Fouquet presented me with a book & written "dédicace" she had spoken to me a great about "proving" the time-long evil plans of the rich international Jews. I asked D. Levi about it & he told me there had been a thorough inquiry into this "Protocollo dei savi anziani di Sion". He laughed & said it had been proved to be a faked affair & nobody thought any more about it as there had been a very serious board of inquiry by Arians in Switzerland years ago & it had been declared false from beginning to end. This Prof. Assagioli confirmed this evening. So I shall take the liberty of not reading Mrs T's present.

I am pining & thirsting for news of you three [illegible] as ever fondly your only Mav.

8 a.m. & [illegible] not feel not for 1 mow [illegible] satisfacto"

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2 I was very well received here as also Miss Poirier (an 100% American in spite of her French Name). She withdrew after 10 minutes & we sat down to tea (very good brew) & discussed a very excellent torta that I had ordered the Sig^ra Calastri (for 8), after which I had a look round & went to unpack. Mancop' a Capa. My good hostess wouldn't hear of it & despatched a very efficient quick practical maid who did positively everything & only withdrew when all my minutest chattels were conveniently bestowed. The professor Assagioli arrived from Rome this evening by the Corriere. Says Rome is stifling: no air, no breeze, no sun & very hot in spite of no sun because the air is so damp. In a word, typical Sept. weather in Rome. The guests here are quite a few & the house is full. We are 15 at table (3 maids) An element of safety lies in the immediate proximity of a farmhouse run by a man in the pay of Assagioli (no noise there; no smells, no donkeys to bray, nor cocks to crow) I am very cozy have a fine room with mosquito windows besides sun-shutters & glass. I sit out from 9-1 & from 5 to 7. The sunsets are lovely & the whole atmosphere harmonious. There are several American ladies, one of whom an adept of the Kansas City School. An Italian Marchesa knows the lady publisher of the Italian Unity periodical for whom I do translations. There are 2 interesting youths: Assagioli's son of 15 & an American of 13 who attends a public School in Rome & is overwhelmed with Compiti di vacanza

8 a.m. & did not feel not [illegible]

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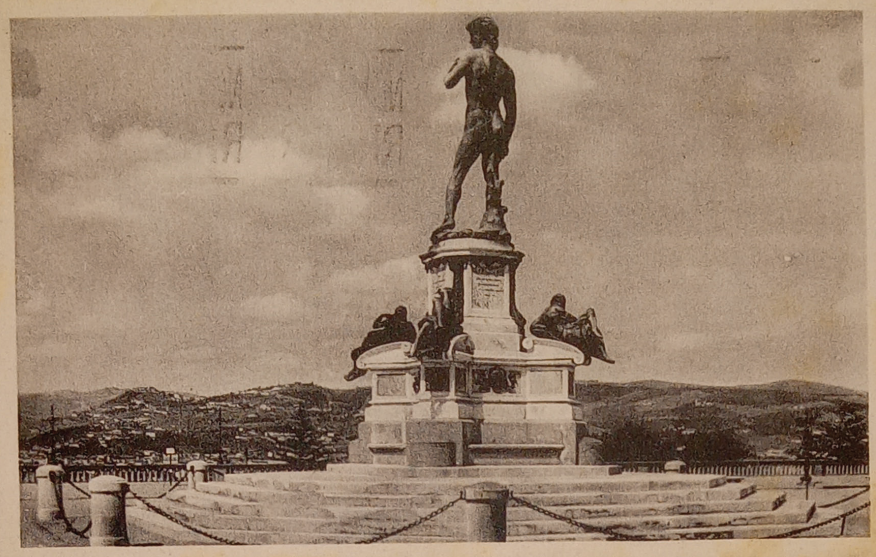
[1938]



Gentile Sig.ra MARY S

Per incarico dell'avv. Aure
per S. Felice al Cinceo dove con
tamana in ferie, le rimetto con
del Lavoro n. 2 RM 5023 l'impor
di luglio che l'avvocato stesso
Con distinta consiglierazione

old women that run the
little shop in Florence said
they needed the money so
very badly that I took the
only things I thought useful
& I tell you they blessed
me for taking them. I noticed,
as many others at Annalena,
that you never see a customer
in any of the shops you enter
in Florence. Sounds dismal,
but of course it was the dead
season. As ever fondly your Mav.

Please remember that I have here for
you Natalia's last year's present of a
carved wood object for you (I) lovely
shape & quite plain with dull polish.
So you must bring a (little) (present) trifle for her.

8 a.m. & did not feel hot for 1 mom. satisfactory

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[1938]

4/ Ren... ...adia-
me, as ... ...ore ...ht me
& more ... ...ve ...
you th... ...e ...
so diffic... ...e very
... ...me of
Am ... ...as
Scarfs ... ...our Exhib.
Give ... ...England
old n... ...Don't
little ... ...or Ditt.
they ... ...action
Very ... ...they left
only things I thought useful
& I tell you they blessed
me for taking them. Fanticid,
as many others at Annalena,
that you never see a customer
in any of the shops you enter
in Florence. Sounds dismal,
but of course it was the dead
season. As ever fondly your Mav.

Please remember that I have here for
you Natalia's last year's present of a
carved wood object for you (I) lovely
shape & quite plain with dull polish.
So you must bring a little (present) for her.
8 a.m. & did not feel not for 1 mo... ...

Roma 1 agosto 1938 XVI

FIRENZE - Piazzale Michelangelo

Per incari... per S. Felice a... timana in feri... del Lavoro n. ... del luglio che ... Con destin...

Mrs A. H. Barr Jun.
Greensboro
Vermont
U.S.A.

DITTA P. MARZANI-SCHIO

3/9/38

Souvenir Constant.
Après midi délicieux
passé ici avec
Amélie Fouquet
Mav.

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[1938]

3/ A very bright Amer. lady at Annalena, speaking of rheumatic trouble & her experiences induced me to tell of your constant muscular pain back of neck. She gave me the following address of an osteopath who gave her a complete cure for similar trouble which proved to be pressure of bone on a nerve or nerves. This man is highly scientific & ~~not~~ is sure to tell you the truth as he sees it & will not treat you if his method is not adapted to your case. I mean he is not "venale". It is

Dr Greene, osteopath,
52 Forty-second Street
(near Grand Central station)

You may have to wait half an hour or more before getting at him. The newspaper cutting too is interesting as coming from the world-famed Pende. I hope to return to Rome with the Assagioli's who leave at the end of September

Please remember that I have here for you Natalia's last year's present of a carved wood object for you (I) lovely shape & quite plain with dull polish. So you must bring a little (present) trifle for her.

8 a.m. & [illegible] not feel not for [illegible] satisfactory

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[1938]

4/ Remember to go on loving me, as for me I find you more & more lovable & long to give you things - but you are so difficile!

I am sending you two scarfs da strapazzo or to give away. The two little old women that run the little shop in Florence said they need the money so very badly that I took the only things I thought useful & I tell you they blessed me for taking them. Yesterday as many others at Annalena, that you never see a customer in any of the shops you enter in Florence. Sounds dismal, but of course it was the dead season. As ever fondly your Mav.

Please remember that I have here for you Natalia's last year's present of a carved wood object for you (I) lovely shape & quite plain with dull polish. So you must bring a little (present) for her.

8 a.m. & did not feel not for 1 mo[illegible] satisfacto[illegible]

Roma 1 agosto 1938 XVI

Gentile Sig.ra MARY SCOLARI FITZMAURICE
BADIA PRATAGLIA

Per incarico dell'avv. Aurelio partito ieri l'altro per S. Felice al Cinceo dove conta di trattenersi una settimana in ferie, le rimetto con l'accluso assegno Banca del Lavoro n. 2 RM 5023 l'importo della pensione del mese di luglio che l'avvocato stesso ha ritirato, in £ 66.50.
Con distinta considerazione.

Adamo

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1/ [1938]

Tuesday July 12 Badia-

Dearest Childie, To-day brought me 2 letters from you, July 8 addressed to Girardet, & July 10 addressed here; latter came very quickly indeed. A. Mongan told me of the unprecedented success of your Exhib. at Jeu de Paume. Now you tell me England wants it - What an achievement! Don't know whether to congratulate you or A.H. most deservedly & what satisfaction for all his collaborators. Have they left Paris? must be, or you would not feel so stranded. Can't say how glad I am that you will soon be released from Paris and from this very trying inactive interval with no company. I am told Prague is wonderfully interesting, old, quaint characteristic. I liked A. Mongan too immensely. I elicited that she is of Spanish descent & hence the wondrous eyes that are distinctly southern.

1) Please remember that I have here for you Natalia's last year's present of a carved wood object for you (I) lovely shape & quite plain with dull polish. So you must bring a (little) (present) for her.

8 a.m. & can not feel not for 1 mon[illegible] satisfaction

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(2

2. I have here too 3 pair of stockings that A. Morgan handed me for you.

3° You might bring me a supplementary hecto of tea ~~not~~ as my supply may not last me till Oct 1st & I shouldn't care to be without. I can get it quite good when back in Rome, so 1 hecto is all you need bring.

Posted up on the outside wall of the Municipio here all the names and distances of no less than 14 between walks and all day excursions (only 2: Camaldoli & La Verna) I sallied forth after dinner to copy them (the names are so reminiscent of my more active periods) Natalia (incinta di 4 mesi) tells me of one that I think we never took, & which sounds alluring. They tell me strawberries have only been served twice & mushrooms never as yet - nor raspberries either.

There is no pharmacy, but there is 8 a.m. & did not feel hot for 1 mon

It was too dark to read Names

satisfactory

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Friday Evening

3

a doctor. There are 2 corrieri (autobuses) per day from Bibbiena. I too hoped to be able to come here straight from Arezzo, but no go. Short of taking a private automobile, there is nothing but the usual trenino (coal-driven & very sooty). From Bibbiena the Corriere starts without delay. I was horrified (for you) to learn at the Cit in Rome that the direttissimi trains do not stop at Arezzo. So I came on a diretto which was not ½ bad & only stopped at Orte Chiusi Attigliano. So you will have to bear this in mind on your way down. I was not ready to start when Agnes Mongan left. Besides she started at 2.15 p.m. immediately after lunch in the full heat, whereas I started at 8 a.m. & did not feel hot for 1 mo

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(4

I got the dress back to
the cleaners at once. The
contrast is so great. But
I'm getting used to it.
To-day we had bright sun all day
from dawn, hither the mornings
were dull & cool & windy.
Fireflies, roses, moonlight & talk
float ceaselessly from the
Bulinacci Clan, really quite
touching. Eldest son Egisto
(was at the front in 1916) has taken
immensely to growing & breeding
varieties of Roses & Irises, quite
a Creator. Calls the Irises, but
does not seem to have exhibited

[illegible] to the
[illegible] Ettore &
[illegible] Azzata
[illegible] Lessoni
[illegible] son pain
[illegible] ark boy
[illegible] my room
[illegible] day. Head
[illegible] ich was
[illegible] quakes has
[illegible] excavations
[illegible] stine, &
[illegible] hy one
[illegible] which
[illegible] as (Thurs.)
[illegible] & D.C.'s with
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tored by people & trunks! I have fixed my arrival
at V. Serena for Thurs'd. next. To-day was the
only warm day here since you left. Bibi's
doctor Giglioli came to see a sick youths & sent
me heaps of compliments & regards from
B.B. seemed quite in love with you. I wrote what
you say about Centerbe cap & Sarina to
Alter Violet freak. Shall write off Jailo & send va-
rious things to Cleaner in Rome. Wonder why
you washed hair here last day & again in
Paris. Mrs Barr wrote about your tenant in
Greensboro wanting your house for Sept. & again
next year. Also that Mrs Eda was leaving & so
you could live in her house. So I pass on the
message,

other Children too are all most satisfactory"

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his roses as yet. (5)

Lovissimo
Hope this reaches
you in Paris.
Shall you return to
U.S.A with A.H.?
Food is good & varied.
I am strong & wiry.
Tummy variable
Morale altissimo
as ever fondly,
but in haste for post
~~As ever your loving~~
Mary.

Thanks for 3 books rec'd in Rome

[illegible] most certainly [illegible] pretty bad about this matter. I was most happy to read of your wonderful interlude at Courmayeur. Petit S. Bernard, Aix & Grenoble. I wish Alberti would call on me to say Ta-Ta when he comes next to Rome. I liked him. How perfectly awful that your cabin is so cluttered by people & trunks! I have fixed my arrival at V. Serena for Thursd. next. To-day was the only warm day here since you left. Bibi's doctor Giglioli came to see 2 sick youths & sent me heaps of complimenti & regards from B.B. Seemed quite in love with you. I note what you say about Centerbe cap & Sartina to alter violet frock. Shall not fail to send various things to cleaner in Rome. Wonder why you washed hair here last day & again in Paris. Mrs Barr wrote about your tenant in Greensboro wanting yr house for Sept. & again next year. Also that Mrs Eda was leaving & so you could live in her house. So I pass on the message,

[illegible] & approved.
~~2nd~~
[illegible] thing
[illegible] that
[illegible] tments
[illegible] the
[illegible] lines
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[illegible] where
[illegible] e. His

other children too are all most satisfactory

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Friday Evening
27

Dearest Beauty Contrary to the expectations of all parties, I am still here & having a good tho' quiet time, Colmata di Gentilezze by Mme Fouquet & Rossoni which latter hugs me comme du bon pain every time we meet. The American boy at table Harmon, I think came to my room between 2-4, to say goodbye yesterday. Had cut, but not brushed his hair which was still wilder & less glossy. Mme Fouquet has lent me a wonderful book on the excavations of all nations in Asia Minor Palestine & Mesopotamia Irak in recent times by one Sir Ch. Marston, transl. into French, which I am devouring before leaving towards Thurs. next. Your two lovely letters & p.c's with Superga & Facteur's comb were a most welcome boon. If you had mentioned your port I shd. most certainly have written there & feel pretty bad about this matter. I was most happy to read of your wonderful interlude at Courmayeur. Petit S. Bernard, Aix & Grenoble. I wish Alberti would call on me to say Ta-Ta when he comes next to Rome. I liked him. How perfectly awful that your cabin is so cluttered by people & trunks! I have fixed my arrival at V. Serena for Thursd. next. To-day was the only warm day here since you left. Bibi's doctor Giglioli came to see 2 sick youths & sent me heaps of complimenti & regards from B.B. Seemed quite in love with you. I note what you say about Centerbe cap & Sartina to alter violet frock. Shall not fail to send various things to cleaner in Rome. Wonder why you washed hair here last day & again in Paris. Mrs Barr wrote about your tenant in Greensboro wanting yr house for Sept. & again next year. Also that Mrs Eda was leaving & so you could live in her house. So I pass on the message,

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2/ free of responsibility tho' of course you will know it long before this reaches you. Says her health & strength are completely restored. & no longer a subject for inquiry. Says she she wished with me that A.H. was with me in Badia (whence I wrote her) so that I might get to know him better. I am smoking very little, without effort & breathing is immensely better. Shall ask Sig.ra Rossoni to name some place with flat walks for next year not too high & cold. I shall take warm rocks too. I had already charged Mme Rossoni to arrange with a trusty chauffeur to V. Serena. I do hope that A.H. will be ready to leave N.Y. together with you & by you be "wafted" to Greensb. His mother mentions quite casually that he had an immense amount of work to get through before leaving. I deplore with you this having to work in weltering heat of N.Y. Please give him my dear love & wishes for a re-creative holiday, at long last. I trust no less sincerely that you may find a good maid for the winter & that perhaps Sweetie Pie's present nurse or other friends may help you find satisfactory girl for the child.

Altho' I have very good use for it I believe I could have worried through next winter single-handed - still it wrings my heart that you should deprive yourself of the notable sum of money you handed me at leaving. Altho', taken aback at the large amount at the time, I was unable to find adequate words, I trust you did not take my inarticulateness for inappreciation. In future don't do that, & don't change so much into Italian money so you can take surplus back to U.S. I expected at most 2 or three hundred lire.

Other Children too are all most satisfactory

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3/ I too think of & pray for you 3 dearest beings at least moring & evening & bless you now for your sweet expressions of devoted attachment expressed in first of your two dear letters. I believe no mother has ever had such devotion heaped on her - or so constantly and generously. I often wonder whether A. H. realizes the amount of help you represent to him in his career & whether he doesn't often abuse of it. You are so energetic, capable & so willing & resourceful & make so little of all you do that the male is naturally prone to take everything for granted and just go on piling on.

I'm inclined to regret having chosen Badia Pr. this year, as it spoiled your childhood remembrance of the place, altho' I too admit it has changed for the worse, especially as to status of guests.

As you know, I believe in the power of thought. So I shall keep thinking happy thoughts & satisfaction & smooth running in all ways for my darling lovely lovely child, calling down on all 3 of you God's omnipresent richest blessings & furtherance for you are a manifestation of Himself. As ever fondly

Max.

Other children too are all most satisfactory

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4/ The Doro Levi's called twice & phoned often. To-aay she called & altho' she had read enclosed decree, did not seem to be affected by it. Wonder how it will affect Bibi. Shall lie in wait for his doctor when he comes to those sick youths, (one has jaundice) to-morrow morne to ask how decree ~~decree~~ will be likely to affect B.B.

Please at leisure send me "ragazzino" (Harmon's) full name and address. Also Alberti's for saluti — nothing more. Saluti Cordiali to Prof. John McAndrew when you see him.

It was so perfect to have you this time. Never yet had so delightful & varied summer. And all thro' you! Shall never forget it!

Other Children too are all "most satisfactory"

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→ I have too many blouses already! Skirts are grey & blue.

March 28/38 12 { Piazza Esquilino is quite sufficient & approved.

Dearest, I feel quite contrite about your 2nd last letter written against time, when the thing fell thro' at once after Aureli's assurance that there will presently be a rush for appartments to sell & let.

Your last was about Muriel. I am in the throes of writing an answer on the lines you suggest (most ingenious,) so you need not worry about that point.

I pity you about having an unpleasant maid & know well what it feels like. In your case this guaio will be of short duration since you'll be leaving so soon. May you soon find a fitting flat!

Excuse horrid writing, I've slipped into this bad trick thro' doing rough copy of my lessons for Kansas C. Cannot use typewriter in the evening owing to neighbours on both sides of my room, who would certainly be disturbed by the noise, have even been requested not to use it after 22.30.

I am right well & have gained exactly 3 chilos in a month & 2 days. I consider I am now fat enough, so may stop Kipernutrizione

On the 21st I met Giovanna Scolari in fact we ran into each other & were both quite dimiable for about 2 minutes. Substance of our theme was my inquiring after everyone: Arpalice pretty low & not expected to live much longer. A medeo in Argentina has 6 children, eldest of whom took over father's business when latter reached 60, & is doing right well. His other children too are all "most satisfactory"

P.S. Perhaps you sent all those cavallo pas because you disappeare of Commercial email, that I use for you because much less heavy. I know how horrid they must appear. Sorry! Danger

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2 I said: "How nice! I wonder if they are like your people; now Daisy's child of whom you may have heard thro' Arpal. doesn't seem to be like either family. Ho un bel scrutare, anche colla lente d'ingrandimento, e non ne trovo nessuna nessuna somiglianza"! And Giov. at once parrying badly: "Oh non posso approvare i matrimoni senza figli! I figli sono la vera giustificazione del matrimonio. Senza figli l'unione viene a noia dopo i primi tempi" (It was a very windy day with tramontana & I had at once proposed getting into a portone, but she had said "Oh non importa") Now however, she hurried (by) said: "Fa veramente troppo vento!" ~~[illegible]~~ And I: Si, si, è vero. Arrivederla!" Et voilà tout!

~~The~~ The redazione of the ~~giorna~~ Rivista that I translate articles for sent me a fine present of paper on a slender hint of mine. It came to-day, together with many carbons.

I am de-smoking, but only 2 per day as yet.

The pension is as full as an egg now, (my table-neighbours quite interesting.) arrivals every day for the past week.

Do not bother about the glossy inside of shoes. I have a friendship with a clever Calzolaio who keeps my heels straight & he will take the glossiness off. I'm afraid you pay quite a lot for my shoes & feel certain that with the mollette I can get here already have 1 pair of, that I could now wear Italian shoes without getting Morton's Neuralgia.

...idup here as I want to ~~copy~~ put in some good ...lle I heard lately. All dearest love to each of you Darlings. As ever fondly Mar.

3

Lightw. in weight, wooden heels. Flat middle-height-heels. White or light grey, prefer latter, or middle grey is perhaps better.

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Febr. 28 Monday. Your welcome letter of 15/2 just to hand. Must say you are hard to convince of my speedy recovery & retrieved return to normality translations, daily walks, & perfect gastric conditions. Maid automatically puts hot water bag in bed at night at 10 p.m. shp. When I needed them she brought drinks ad libitum & as many hot water bags as I cared for. I am well-cared for here. So is Mrs B. whose digestion is not very good. She is having a series of injections for that nervous depression, & bronchial residue of slight attack of bronchitis. As for hot or cold drinks, I don't need them now. When I did I had as many as I liked. Now that I am well Afternoon tea is all I need. When I was seedy they brought it to me punctually hot & excellent. Now I prefer to get it myself & have a small electric heater wh. takes exactly 2 minutes to boil. This of course sub rosam. My conto corrente on 14/2 marked 6159.75 lire. I promised & confirm it that I shall let you know when in need of funds. Therewith promise to repair to Anglo. Am. Nursing Home if ever Lupi sees fit. Only DO stop fidgetting. It is so very bad for you & indeed for me too owing to power of thought. Since you wrote above letter you will have got letters & p.c's which I am multiplying to keep you from fretting, for I have no news. My time passes translating, sleeping, outing & eating. Weather sunny very a fondo di tramontana but no wind. Mrs B. & I often go shopping on foot or in taxi according to distance. She is very friendly with many ladies, being more sociable than I am. While seedy their visits worried & tired me. Now that I am well they make me lose time for I'm still backward with transl. When present spell of transl. is over I shall get sociable again but not too too.

Evg 20/2/38

Quite a big affair

orvisieri Tea was ~~a~~ to announce their de

hey esnt you a message. "Tell Daisy to

, and then join her husband. You(meaning

ovely place, make Victoria's acquaintance

rests a bit & ~~tkes~~ takes the Baby back home".

.Their new undertaking is a nursing home

a full series of photos they showed me.

make precise at the end of March

day in a week, Miss Grant some weeks la=

lly separate wing. Need I say that I do

share in this plan if you decide to

a in ~~xxxxxxxx~~ midwivery means quite considerable experience

the countless varieties of phenomena

ich must by this be in process with Vic=

toria. (In your own case there were most alarming symptoms, until old Dr Occh=

ini allayed our apprehensions by saying that your fits of violent screams at the dead of night were due to reflex phenomena of the teething process. But I tell you we DID get a fright & fearing for your reason sat up in turns for nights beside your cot.) He was quite right & it turned out to be nothing but what he said & disappeared as it had come on without any special treatment. Mrs Barr, now quite well again, tells me of a letter in which you informed hers of the many problems now confronting you & dear A.H. & which I had not felt at liberty to mention to her. She wishes me to say in this letter which she k=nows I am writing, that she is quite ready to give all European plans & go stro aight to you if you think she can be a help. Also that she has a very soothingh effect on kids & that they are very good with her & that she would love to be of use ~~tremendously~~ That she is only marking time over here. Everybody here takes to her tremendously. There are always 2-3 ladies in her room when

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Evg 20/2/38

Quite a lively affair!

orvisieri Tea was to announce their de

hey sent you a message. "Tell Daisy to

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tremendously that she is only marking time over here. Everybody here takes to her tremendously. There are always 2-3 ladies in her room when

P.S. Yes, I hope to hear of new successful Lumbara for Victoria. Also I no less that you are having a bit of fun & have new frocks. My Violet Wolf lately got, looks good & fur Cape. Mrs Barr looks a beauty at dinner in variety of dinner frocks almost becoming. Must have been lovely in youth. She is very much liked & invited out to tea a Cas. Valadier & elsewhere. Is a great conversationalist. Knows friends of most people here. Hate to know you worry about me. Dearest fondest tenderest gratefullest love as ever from dey your only Mav.

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Sunday Evg 20/2/38

Quite a long affair

Dearest,

Just a scribble to say the Corvisieri Tea was ~~a~~ to announce their decision officially & to say goodbye. They sent you a message. "Tell Daisy to bring the Baby over, leave her to us , and then join her husband. You(meaning M.S.F.)come up to us too, enjoy the lovely place, make Victoria's acquaintance & when Daisy is ready, she comes too, rests a bit & takes the Baby back home". "write her that at once with our love".Their new undertaking is a nursing home & is truly a lovely spot according to a full series of photos they showed me. It is in Kent. Miss Tudor leaves this day in a week, Miss Grant some weeks later.Mr & Mrs Tudor will live in a totally separate wing. Need I say that I do not hesitate to accede to my very easy share in this plan if you decide to consider it favourably.Miss G's diploma in midwivery means quite considerable experience in the practical management of Babies & the countless varieties of phenomena connected with the teething process which must by this be in process with Victoria. (In your own case there were most alarming symptoms,until old Dr Occhini allayed our apprehensions by saying that your fits of violent screams at the dead of night were due to reflex phenomena of the teething process. But I tell you we DID get a fright & fearing for your reason sat up in turns for nights beside your cot.) He was quite right & it turned out to be nothing but what he said & disappeared as it had come on without any special treatment. Mrs Barr, now quite well again, tells me of a letter in which you informed her of the many problems now confronting you & dear A.H. & which I had not felt at liberty to mention to her. She wishes me to say in this letter which she knows I am writing, that she is quite ready to give all European plans & go straight to you if you think she can be a help. Also that she has a very soothing effect on kids & that they are very good with her & that she would love to be of use tremendously. That she is only marking time over here. Everybody here takes to her tremendously. There are always 2-3 ladies in her room when

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ever I go to her. Do not bother about my expenses for the English project. I can manage my share of the expense & I feel certain the Tudor-Grant pair will not be exorbitant in their charges for any and all of us. Also if we wish to pay up in instalments I feel sure they will be willing to wait our convenience. Seems to me the chief problem lies with you Darling Precious over-wrought Self. Shall you be able and willing to look after the little thing on the way over until you reach the Haven in Kent? The stewardess might look after the washing of her clothes, or get it done at least, while on board. On certain boats the actual crossing is only a matter of 5 days to Portsmouth (?). From March Ist, Miss T. will be on the spot. This is the full address:

Miss Ruth Tudor

Little Fowlers

Hawkhurst

Kent England

BLESSINGS & LOVE

AS EVER YOUR FOND

MAV.

P.S. I confirm longish letter posted 2 days ago.
I have phoned Miss T. If you consider this place preferable you are to write her your exact requirements & whether she is to find you a child's maid. I said I thought you would come without one as yours is unsatisfactory. So long
Wish you could go away to some quiet place for 10 days to rest
In haste to catch post Yours M.

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(Posted on 19th, forenoon)

Am invited to tea at Corvis on Saturday
Violet frock is much admired.
I want the Talismano back & hope they will offer it.

I3/2/3/ I5/2/38 (Begun Tuesday 15/2

Dearest and Best- Beloved,

Your 2 dear letters of 3&4/2 came on the I3th, Sunday, a very rare occurrence, tho' often on Mondays. So immensely relieved to know that you know I'm active & getting about again & able to eat quite a fair amount, tho' still pretty monotonous diet. Pain now reduced to only a heaviness, & sometimes for days on end, not even that. I fear a long letter of mine may, as y. say have been delayed or strayed. Yesterday I had a field day & did many things in town that had accumulated. Had hoped all day to write this & get it off. Now too late. Tomorrow, hinging on weather, I shall have to get some things out of the blessed top-room. This means mobilizing 4 parties+ myself +5. This time I have to get something out of Concaro's too, worse luck. Have been delaying this exped. for over a month. Thanks too for cardboard box full of lovely periodicals which Mrs B. is enjoying for the present. She has been knocked up several times & is now having very mild form of bronchitis which Lupi is managing very energically. Before that she had him along for gastric conditions. He says Rome is full of this bronchial form. Please don't let on that I told you of her frequent ups & downs, she will let her boys know later perhaps. She still hopes to be well enough to undertake the the trip to Greece in very pleasant & congenial company. This plan would bring her to N.Y. about May I5. If she has to give it up I fancy she ~~will~~ may return to Am. even sooner, tho' as she justly remarks, it is far cheaper to live here. Her blood-pressure is low. Had 2 lines of temperature, now normal. Appetite goodish, pulse weak & slow, but regular.

I lunched at Aureli's on Sunday, as I wanted him to get my taxes overhauled in view of reducing them & had to submit certain papers to his judgment. He gives good hope. All well there. They send love. Piera had wished to see Victoria's snapshots & I had promised to ~~show~~ bring them, but forgot at last moment, Arpalice wrote to-day overjoyed to hear of V.'s arrival, Inquired for your health, but of course we know that her personal views have no weight whatever with the others of that clan, I only used her to make it known, promising to send small photo which she is anxiously awaiting, she says. We shall see whether or how the others react.

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Sangiorgi has seen carpet at last after delaying my proceedings for 2 months, Says he thought it was antique. I never thought it antiqua & never told him it was. Advised me to go to a Sala di vendita on P. di Spagna owned by one Antonini whom he knows personally & has since spoken to him of my intention of getting him to sell it. SG says 4 thous. is too high but that I can instruct Anton. to start from that figure. I interviewed A. yesterday & altho he has not yet seen it he says too that authentic Persians are selling for less. ~~by the sq. meter.~~ Please say in yr. next whether you consent to my selling our 5 small authentic rugs to SG, or otherwise. My idea is that they are far too good for tenants & I have seen some new modern things perfectly uniti, in very nice shades, some all yellow, others all pink and others all green with no borders which I would replace the antiques. You will have time to answer these queries, as Antonini's next sale is fixed for March I5. SG. says he is honest and has spoken favorably of me, to him A. says he knew your Father well. & esteemed him very highly. Thursday I8/2. Yesterday I went as planned to fetch various things from the top-room; all went exactly as planned, but I was too tired to finish this letter last evening & took things very easy indeed all to-day. So I have had two field days this week & tho' they fatigued, did me no harm whatever. Lupi thinks that recent tummy trouble was altogether due to a slight, very slight, further slip down of the tummy itself, & insisted so strongly on elastic, orthopedic belt (your gift), that I had to fetch (and resumed it this morning() I had left it in toproom since August last. So I expect I shall have to wear it now as a permanence. I had quite a longish list of trifles to get there besides. Last evening Piera Aureli phoned to say she had been with a friend to see the large carpet where it still is at the laboratory of the man who repaired it. Also she wanted to know my figure & seemed shocked at 4 thou. You would say: What the Hell! I smoothed the thing over saying: c'intenderemo. But fully intend to say at next phone-call that you had since written to say that 4 thou is only 200 dollars & that you thought it too little. I am not inclined to share your theory about allergy in my own case. I read about it in Digest. It doesn't sound new, . It used to be called idiosyncrasy, & is quite a real thing.

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Neither do I share your ideas about Italian cuisine being bad for me. I didn't & don't think much of the cuisine at Corvisieri. Strenuously avoided curry & Appledumpling the outside of which is dough boiled in a cloth. They very often had rabbit in umido which I got to hate, for we had it too often. I too regret departure of the Corvis. ladies & for the same reasons, tho' much less so, for here I've had on the whole a much better time & the Gir. ladies are much kinder & more human & anxious to please . Lupi sent me an infermiera whom I tolerated for a week & then dispensed with, as I do my own injections much quicker & better. That was in Nov. for the bronchitella. I note with much interest all you say about Mrs Rowley & the supernurse & can well understand how you feel about the whole matter of leaving the little thing in other hands. I believe mrs Barr to be sincerely desirous to be of help & use to you in this matter. As she is almost morbidly averse to pushing her services (or company) on her young people, I fancy any seeming reticence or hesitation on her part may have been due to this fact. Also the uncertainty of your plans and dates of departure fron N.Y. may have made you see things differently. I consider her very sensitive & equally desirous & craving for affection. She gets short fits of despondency too, which she attributes to gastric conditions, during which she feels as tho' nobody loved her and that she is of no use to anyone. Seems however to struggle against this & is quite willing to joke about it & jeer at herself for it, tho' often with tears in her eyes. We seem to understand and appreciate each other & continue to get on right well. She is very pleased with Lupi & likes him, she has passed him & his male nurse (for injections) only (to another lady here with whom she will proceed to Greece, if well enough, on March 15. This is a Miss Pomeroy whom you may possibly meet this autumn in Greensb. She is very nice & has travelled much in Europe since the successive deaths of relations whom she nursed with absolute devotion, Looks about 55 or 60. Has a quiet sense of fun & tells interesting episodes from which you gather her warm human interest in people & their affairs. Knows Rome far better than I do. I note with grave concern all you say

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about this new phase of the perennial Museum crisis that keeps my two, too zealous Darlings from sleeping. What I say & not for the first time is: Is it worth it ? This is not living, it a crazy, breakneck rush, that involves body, soul & mind, nerves, health, natural impulses & affections & is devouring your youth itself. I say again, nothing is worth so total a sacrifice. Irretrievable too.

SCOLARI. ESQUILINO I2 . ROME. Is quite sufficient for cable or other address Often & often Girardet. Rome. has proved safe & sufficient. Of course the first is safer. Overjoyed to hear that you have got some new things & like them. This is the only bright spot in these 2 darling, anxious, worried letters. I truly cannot forgive myself for adding to your chronic woes by my lazy silence. I shall henceforward note dates of your letters & mine & shall send off at least a card once or twice a week. This whether you write or not, I mean not solely in answer to yours, as mostly hitherto. The maid that attends to me is called Nora & is quite the best in the house. There is another named Maria wh has eyes like the Botticelli Folly in his Primavera. When N. is free M. comes to bring my hot bag at IO p.m. Next time I shall provide a flower or twig for her mouth. Have read quite a lot of Wodehouse & mystery books, while getting strong & lately "Kitty" by Warwick Deeping, which Mrs B. knew & liked & has lately re-read here. I believe she would love to be loved by you & feels the costraint quite keenly for she admires you so. And approves so heartily of your masterly management of A.H.'s health. Says she had, HAD to spoil him, he was so delicate & sensitive. Seems to get on better with Andrew's wife, who credits her with notable capacity for running a house without fuss, & without seeming to, & this with indifferent maids. I do wish I had snapsh. of your Darling Self in the 2 new frocks & hat. I do believe I am the luckiest woman on this Globe in having a child like you. Please don't stop loving, but DO stop worrying about your ever fond - crazily so - Mother - the only one

MAV.

Kisses to V.&A..H.

P.S. Remember, I never do & never shall open top-room without the efficient Sera finer to open, wine, dust & shift & open boxes. I smoke meantime & order & choose. (Smoke)

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Monday Jan 31/38

Many many thanks, dearest & Best Beloved Childie, for you/r long, long letter of Jan 18th with most fascinating snapshots of your very rapidly developing very wide-awake-looking Kiddie. I am delighted to have them & as hinted, have not mentioned, or shown them to anyone. In the one slightly spoilt by the light, she is even quite quite pretty. Nobody's features are right when seen lying quite flat as in so many of the first editions. It is a matter for immense satisfaction that she seems so very healthy & well formed & takes such nice attitudes when erect. Now that she is getting so animated, it must be grand fun to watch her & play with her. I always think that the memory of kids stretches back ever so much farther than most grown-ups seem to think. I know in my own case I distinctly remember being carried up and down a certain garden path by a a retainer called Letty Roach. I was in long clothes. The period for long-clothes being fixed & limited to the first few months, my story later found no credit whatsoever. I was a/lughed at unmercifully and had to give up talking or rather telling about this matter. 2nd P.S. I still do nothing but eat, read jolly books & sleep sleep & sleep.... Must try to get out more.

Before I go into other topics I wish first of all to say that Lupi's last attempt has so far been most successful and that with some restrictions as to diet, I am now eating heartily again & gaining strength every day. To-day I went out in the full sunshine of noon and sat in the sun in a cafè close by. It was not much of an outing but was a prelude to better things. If I have been sticking too much at home lately it was because Lupi wanted me just at first so lie down on the right side a great deal. I am now improving on/ that stage & tho I still lie it is not for so long. During this last month I have done nothing but read read read from morn. tillnight & often vice versa, this alternated with long sleeps at just any old hour as I got drowsy. Of course I had gone out on the 21st to fetch my pension but did all in a.bus and was back in less than an hour. T his place is indeed Liberty Hall & I feel ever so much freer than at Corvis. Ever so many of the guests have been confined to bed or their rooms for weeks & wee-

Can use shrunk frock. I shd hate to deprive her of it or any other article
Love + love + lovissimo as ever Pondy M.

P.S. Forgive patchy letter. Can't type later than 10.30, or from 2-4. If Misa Stronski

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3rd P.S. Carpet still in Sospeso owing to S. Giorgi being too busy to go view it, he apologises & promises to go soon. Meanwhile term agreed on for keeping on view has run out. Don't think I can hope for more than 4000 M.

with one ailment or another so that I don't feel in the very least an exceptio as all the others are far younger than I.am. The HSS are full of consideration and confessedly try (and succeed) in making things as homelike as ever they ca Alas however people are now beginning to move and the very nice set I left at table will not be there when I get back to the dining room. Thus Miss Cath. Dwi ight leaves after to-morrow, tho' not her Anglo-Catholic friend Miss Roberts, forme head librarian at WellesleyColl. They hunted in couples and were so full of set tled lectures and lessons that they never did anything out of doors with anyone else. As a goodbye act of deference Miss D, went to-day to the Pantheon, Minerva and s. M. d. Pace with Mrs Barr. Also as Miss D. is set on talking nothing bu t Italian at table I imagine that Mrs B. had very little talk with her even at meals. As Miss Roberts speaks it fairly well, these two have an arrangement by wh. they invariably talk It. to each other. It was Miss Bosano it appears that put Miss DW. up to this idea and encouraged her, saying she had the makings of a fine It. h/ Scolar. Both Miss D. and Miss R. have the most abominable accents. Poor things. C hi si contenta gode. mrs Barr continues however to knock about quite happily with one or other of the other guests and always has a full programme for morning & afternoon & most evidently enjoys this town to the full. 4th P.S. Toogy: Beware of Offner!

Heating:— The intense Cold is gone ages ago. While it lasted, every body just piled on clothes. The radiators were too hot to touch. The Amer. system of building isolating elements or substances into the walls & floors, &c/ wh. I read in Am. ads, is I think unknown in Italy & this house is far from new. The heating such as it is, is far better than in our flat better than Aurelia and Corvisieri by long odds. My room tho less sunny, is much warmer than Mrs Barr's very fine large room giving on the Piazza.

I feel grateful for the mention of the black frock that shrank & for sketch of new scheme with black & white to widen. I shall weigh myself again next time I go out, but from what I said in my last about recent & fast waning tummy attack, you may guess that I have lost flesh again during this last month. The Sartina made a good job of violet frock and blue blouse, both of which I shall delight to wear as soon

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3 as I return to the dining-room. Said tailoress is very painstaking & not dear. She has just fixed a light grey tailleur for Mrs Barr to that lady's entire satisfaction. It was a very bad fit & is greatly improved. Tho I consider the jacket a trifle too short, but for this point there was no remedy. It was bought ready made & made not to fit by a tailor that. If Montera's plan goes forward, there will be no interval. If it falls through I shall not know it until end of March, probably too late for Miss Bosano. I am writing Montera requesting him to let me know a certainty by end of Febr. Sig.ra Concaro says her husband's comrades will be needing to do this same course of 6 months instruction & she thinks some of these would gladly take on our flat for 6 more on same conditions. Those with the summer months - so heating is not in question. The £650 comprising relief is not much I fear. I can't ask more owing to its being interno. So I shall probably be glad to accept the Concaro Comrade if Montera fails. I am glad in a way that you have decided not to let your flat & wonder how you managed about things you wanted to reserve & clothes left in it seeing that you never told me of yr having a bedroom.

I have already written you my "mea culpa" about your birthday miss-out. What you say of how it is slurred over (this time only I trust) makes me feel so sad for more for more than registering an additional year, a birthday festivity ought to be a personal "beneficiate". And surely, just this time that you have presented this darling Child and all the suffering & sacrifice that she stands for, you certainly deserved a gala birthday, more than ever before & I feel pretty certain that, as you say you often have people in to dinner lately, you could at least have had these guests to drink yr health without extra expense. Job or no job, I feel you are quite right to have a dependable Child's maid especially if you decide on coming to Europe & leaving Victoria with other people. Makes it so much easier for whoever you leave her to to take on the Child with the nurse trained by yourself. To be sure the nurse's food is to be considered in the case of friends. And this brings me back to Mrs Barr her personality as I see it and her plans for spring & Summer.

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4/ I cannot but think that if you or A.H. had sketched your plans dates & expediencies, not by letter but before ~~she left~~ for Europe, the lady in question would have risen to the occasion if needed & if not have gone her way. Her health seems to be pretty uncertain for besides the cold mentioned previously, she has had several small bouts of indigestion since she came & a major one since Sunday (this is Tuesday) for which she skipped two meals & hurried home about 11 a.m. from a military review at the Colosseum with Mr Smith in full view from an excellent vantage-point. Miss Dwight came home with her. Proceedings had just begun. She feel like fainting & took a carozzella home. Has been lying down all afternoon. Is going to take a pill at bedtime & expects to be quite all right again to-morrow. Several other ladies too find that food here disagrees with them and they miss certain sauces & pickles.

About the ticket you mention, which Mrs B. wd return to U.S. in July she had already mentioned same to me saying that she could exchange it for an earlier sailing or return it addirittura, according to whether you needed her or not. She is still in great uncertainty about her plans & yours on which hers, she believes, are to hinge. For I have been quite dark as to your plans, firstly because you wrote me you wished me dark, secondly because your plans really did seem pretty uncertain hitherto. To this day I don't know date of A.H.'s arrival in Europe or whether you ~~[illegible]~~ come separately or together. I don't suppose you know any more yourselves, poor Darling Things, owing to prevailing ever-repeated uncertainty every year, because of the complexity of A.H.'s activities & the requirements of dependence on the Trustees. To be quite fair on the other hand, you can't blame Mrs B. for wanting to know whether she is needed or not, for there are various "fruity" possibilies among the

(see 1st sheet)

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Jan. 15 | I have lately got 3 missives (in this order) 1 by airmail dated Jan 4 1 from Plymouth Dec. 31 [or 29?] 1 p.c. typed, no date by Cte di Savoia Sailing Jan 7. The 2 latter came yesterd. & to-day. This is an answer to none; I duly kept back line to A. as requested. He wrote lately requesting me to keep his things till called for & thanking for bother. [There was an opportunity just before No 1 parcel arrived, and another just after, bungled by the travellers both friends of A.'s of course.] He had to quit Gerbido for Albergo Palazzo Torino (18) owing to the extreme cold. Last letter dated Jan 10 says he was in bed with fever & flu & the usual "bunch of medicines." I took "Right-wood out of his parcel & sent it up alone. He will soon acknowl. it & later on will react to yours. Only then shall I be able to tell you his shade of reaction. Technicolor is turning into the "Cruse of oil that never failed"! Hip! Hip!

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my strength & panted a bit more, Also remembering that I had something wrong the last two years early in Jan, I decided to forestal a recurrence of such & called Lupi. He found everything in tip-top order except the pressure which was lower than usual. 'Spite of this fact he was well satisfied & said so, left me 2 kinds of pills, or compresses to take at very convenient times. I sallied forth at once & began to take the stuff at once with very good effect indeed. I breathe better & altho still too inclined to drowse, I feel stronger & more enterprising.

The Pensione is filling up quite nicely. The Assagioli's having been turned out of their vast home on the Aventine are searching frantically for a much smaller flat, hitherto in vain, so that they too have inquired through me about prices here. This, of course as a pis-aller, or rather en dernier resort. I imagine they are pretty hard to please.

Besides the little red tumbling man, I sent S.P. some little felt animals that were much admired before they left & which I duly displayed at the post office before making up. Man Man said thay were quite all right for Campione s. Val. So I might have the sent the rest of the little red men after all. I WAS cross.

Did A.H. get a number of Capitolium? I thought that as he knows architects, engineers & such, it would interest them especially, since the Head Man of the NEW York Exhibition who inspected the preparations for the '42 Exhib. here, expressed

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Fascinating snaps of S.P. who is changing very rapidly as we know he was bound to. Mysterious creatures are children & fathers frightening. She seems to have lots of hair – very dark. What about Complexion Skin & Colour? I've been sitting & walking in hot Sun in Parco di Colle Oppio from 2 – 4.30. First time I made the attempt this autumn or winter. Lupi wishes me to Continue injections. Altho' improved, I don't look well or rather I don't look nice. I've now got 4 dress hats remodelled hats & large wide leaved beauty I got in Florence = 5 in all. Price L. 40 the lot. Thank you my for over your 10 page letter from Florence. Don't stay if you get real rest. Blessings

Miss A.H. BARR
No 2 Beekman Place
New York City
U.S.A.

U.S.A.

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at lunchtime

The Pensione is filling up quite nicely. The Assagioli's having been turned out of their vast home on the Aventine are searching frantically for a much smaller flat, hitherto in vain, so that they too have inquired through me about prices here. This, of course as a pis-aller, or rather en dernier resort. I imagine they are pretty hard to please.

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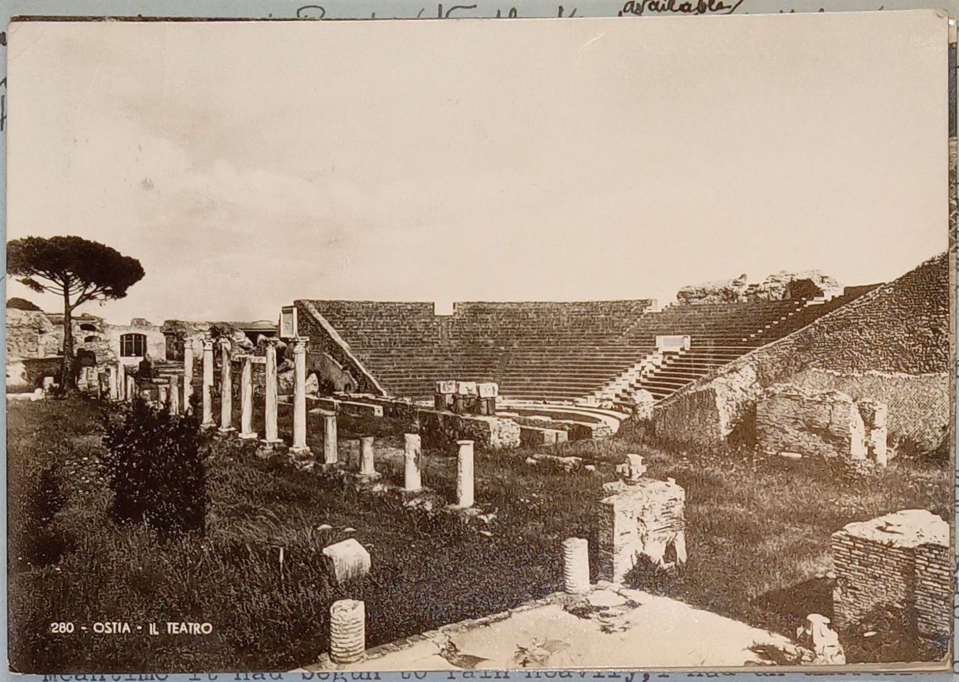

goloshes, however I kept on down the Via Salita del Grillo until the Via dell'Impero, walked to the foot of Via Cavour where I luckily found a crozza & jogged home pretty dismally, cold & wet, & not a little disappointed. Of course I changed at once in my jolly warm room & have not caught even the very tiniest cold. My mistake was not to have instructed the autista to take the roundabout way prescribed on the permit which would have however entailed climbing the cordonata to the back entrance of School. I shall not fail to send you the Illustrazione.

The next novelty is that as I was not too satisfied with my strength & panted a bit more, Also remembering that I had something wrong the last two years early in Jan, I decided to forestal a recurrence of such & called Lupi. He found everything in tip-top order except the pressure which was lower than usual. 'Spite of this fact he was well satisfied & said so, left me 2 kinds of pills, or compresses to take at very convenient times. I sallied forth at once & began to take the stuff at once with very good effect indeed. I breathe better & although still too inclined to drowse, I feel stronger & more enterprising.

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19/1/38 Just a line to say thanks for long interesting letter of Jan 3 by "Bremen" So very glad you went skiing even for that very short holiday. Ahime how short! And that A.H. enjoyed it as well as you. I had thought he didn't care for it. Pleasant relations with Mrs Barr & the whole set of interesting lively ladies-guests continue & improve. Mrs B. has quite a knack for telling nice interesting things about interesting people & compris Jimmy Stuart. Hoping for a line as soon as you have time. Mark.

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The Pensione is filling up quite nicely. The Assagioli's having been turned out of their vast home on the Aventine are searching frantically for a much smaller flat, hitherto in vain, so that they too have inquired through me about prices here. This, of course as a pis-aller, or rather en dernier resort. I imagine they are pretty hard to please.

Besides the little red tumbling man, I sent S.P. some little felt animals that were much admired before they left & which I duly displayed at the post office before making up. Man Man said thay were quite all right for Campione s. Val. So I might have the sent the rest of the little red men after all. I WAS cross.

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find out how much food I ought to absorb & with what intervals. There are 2 - 3 other guests ill for weeks here & being carefully looked after by our very kind H.S.S. Lupi, who rings every day. if I don't. So don't you worry. I am in excellent hands. As ever fondly Mar

goloshes, however I kept on down the Via Salita del Grillo until the Via dell'Impero, walked to the foot of Via Cavour where I luckily found a crozza & jogged home pretty dismally, cold & wet, & not a little disappointed. Of course I changed at once in my jolly warm room & have not caught even the very tiniest cold. My mistake was not to have instructed the autista to take the roundabout way prescribed on the permit which would have however entailed climbing the cordonata to the back entrance of School. I shall not fail to send you the Illustrazione.

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26/1/38 Believe it or not, yesterday Evg's letter was started solely for the purpose of explaining, if such a thing can be explained away, how that I was so absorbed, had in fact every nerve drained in the all-engrossing effort of staving off this sudden & unaccountable stomach attack & seeing Grape nearly every day, that I awoke 2 days ago to the dismal fact that my only Treasure must think I had forgotten her birthday! and her Darling Self. Don't brood over this inadvertent omission Sweet One. Forget it & don't torture me with it even mutually for one moment. You must know intimately & subconsciously that not a day passes without my sending wishes & thoughts concentrating on you particularly, & through you on Kitt. & Victoria, in unending blessings & good wishes, as they do at this moment, alas too late! I have had a fairly good day & am now endeavouring to

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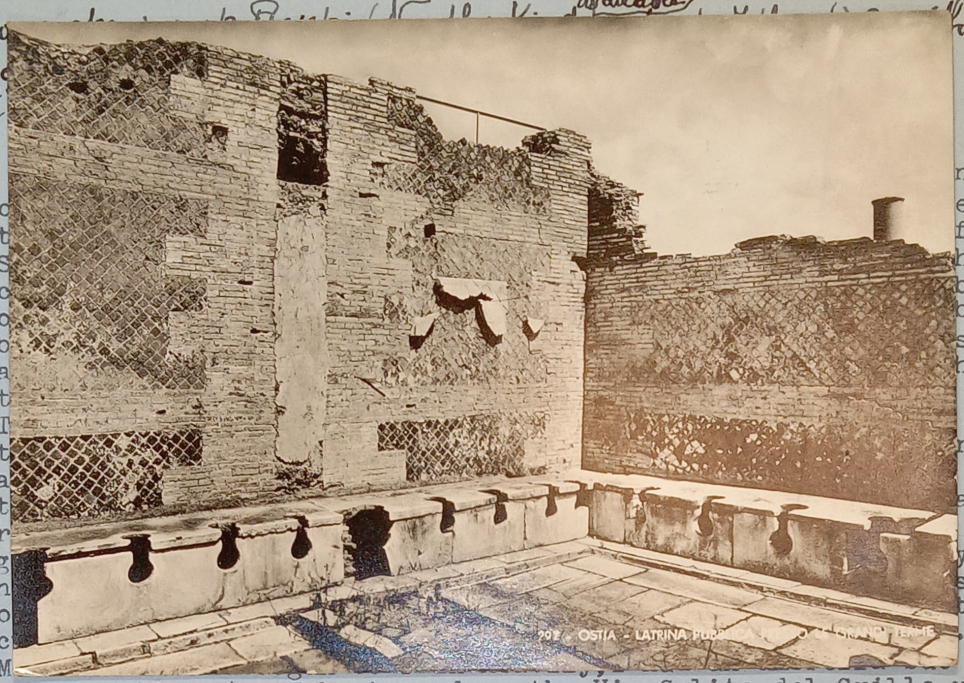

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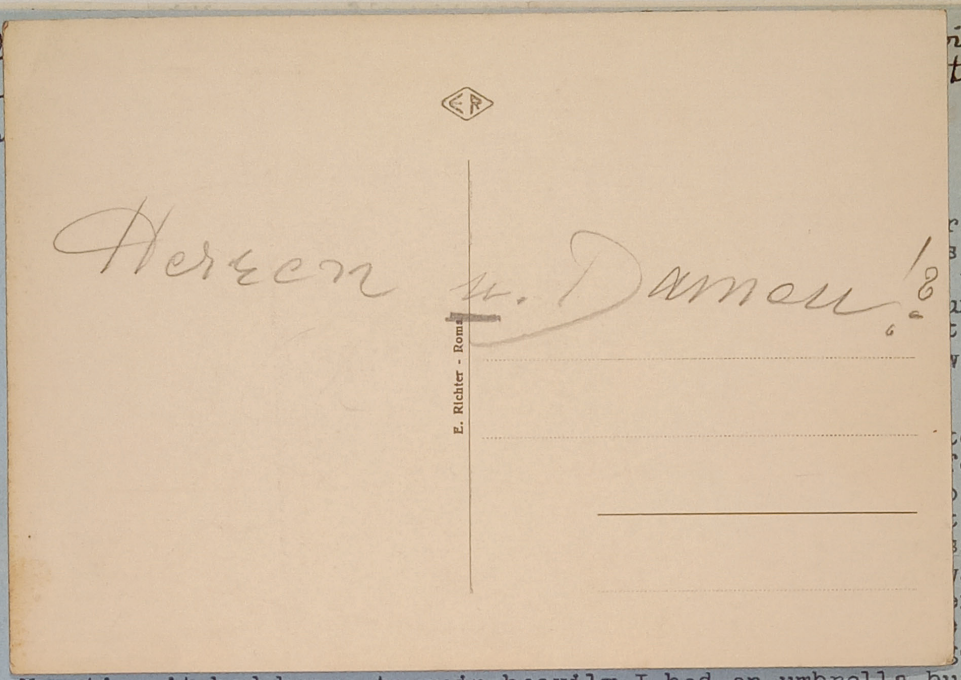

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X I found some opening-up Presepi. (No other kind available) & sent, I think 3, with some of that letter-(paper) "per augurii" on other occasions which used to be the "PAIN" (= bane) of your young life.

29/I2/39 venerdí sera

Dearest Childie,

I confirm a first air-letter to you on on the 22nd, on the 23rd a cable, & on the 26th a second airletter, both letters went by Clipper. Also two trifling things for S.P. The little red man tumbles only on slanting surfaces which must not be glossy. X I wanted badly to send a certain number of same for running races, but there was a discussion at table by which it was decreed that only one object of any kind was admitted in campione s. Valore. so I desisted. Tell me if the thing is a success & I shall send a lot more.

The outstanding features of this week : The Pope's visit to the Quirinale which I was so anxious to see that I asked for a place at my old School & got it too late to be useful. So, tho' I set out bravely in a taxi at 9 a.m. thinking to get across from the extremity of Via Panisperna, The crowd was so great & so compact at that point that I could not get anyway near the outside edge so as to show my permit to the soldiers of the cordone. ~~that~~ I turned back dismayed, tried to bribe the custodian of S. Caterina to let me simply pass thro'. No go. Meantime it had begun to rain heavily, I had an umbrella but no goloshes, however I kept on down the Via Salita del Grillo until the Via dell'Impero, walked to the foot of Via Cavour where I luckily found a crozza & jogged home pretty dismally, cold & wet, & not a little disappointed. Of course I changed at once in my jolly warm room & have not caught even the very tiniest cold. My mistake was not to have instructed the autista to take the roundabout way prescribed on the permit which would have however entailed climbing the cordonata to the back entrance of School. I shall not fail to send you the Illustrazione.

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his unqualified approval & even admiration of all he saw here. Also that Am. is inter
nding to take part in the Show.

Besides the American Lady with the musical youths, there came back here this evening one of the steadiest habituées of this Pension. She wisely steered clear of her Consul who did nothing but send all Americans straight home at the end of Aug (This they did all over Europe.) Now at least three of the habituées have no home in Am. & write heartbroken letters deploring the fact of not being here in this jolly climate &c. Among such victims is poor Miss Kendall who has no connections in Am. & longs to be here as usual.

I made a donation of some superfluous winter things, besides what I gave to Sigra Munzi last spring, The Gir. Ladies were most grateful, as they know people that need such things badly. They made a very great effect & I am grateful to know them in just the right hands. All this is your merit, you sweet generous Darling, & for this reason alone I wish to tell you. The chief article was the former winter coat with the fox collar. It was still in excellent condition but so very long that I very much prefer the new one.

This I leave open, for there is no boat leaving until Jan 2 or three. I was so taken in in Dec. by the false statement about the 'Conte' on Dec I5, that I resolved to be on the safe side in future.

The three girls at the post-office near by & who know me now by sight & are civil, were so frightfully overworked that I pitied them & popped three bags of fondants & chocs into their pigeon-holes at the last half-hour on the evening of the 23rd, with "auguri" & a very grateful shake-hands. This too is all your blessed doing. The British Chaplain is ill, so I sent him L. I00. He too was most grateful. All your doing.

I0/30/ The maid has just called me to look out at the snow which has just begun to fall for the first time this winter. The lovely steps of the Basilica are superbly white & pure. ~~Wnt/out~~ I went out at I2 for a tootle, but did not stay long, for the wind was very sharp.

On the very next fine day I shall go to buy my personal present to M.S.F.. It will take the shape of records - Beethoven, of whom I have only Coriolano.

30/I2/Sat. Nora, the maid, woke me this morning at 7½ quite elated at the look of the Piazza transformed by the thickest layer of snow I ever saw in Rome. Fully 25 - 30 centim. deep. Buses & trams did not appear until I0 o'clock & even then stopping often to clear away the caked snow. Now it is 5.30 p.m. & the stuff has not melted perceptibly, altho' the sun shone brightly all day. I awoke several times during the night & each time it was snowing. The sun went down without a cloud & the afterglow was superb beyond words. I should have ventured out for a tootle only for the high cold wind that blew all day. An elderly Am. guest at table told me she had been out & that there is a thick layer of ice beneath the snow. I believed her & had guessed as much by the number of people I saw fall & by the way they ambled along. Teachers will bless their stars that it is holiday-time - but the poor shop-girls & impiegate postali, so badly equipped ... Fancy when you worked at the Assicurazioni & had to be punctual & so many others. My school was never strenuous in such weather, for neither pupils nor teachers attended. Altho' the big table is far from full, there are 5 other tables, some with four or five persons. Altho' the intervals are most irregular, there are 5 boats for N. York in Jan. i.e. 3, 6, 17, 28 & Febr. 3. Unless there is something worth while to relate, I shall send you postcards.

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Thanks for your lovely letter of 1 Dec 13 by the Rex, which I got 25/12/39 on Sunday 24th So relieved that your anxiety is appeased at last. I phoned Cesare about Papi's picture. He and Mamma were duly grateful & impressed by your liberality. Glad that

Dearest & Best of Beauties,

This is only to tap out a piece of good news for our letters. The New Air-service just begun a day ago Rome-RioJaneiro takes letters to Seville, whence they are immediately relayed to Lisbon & then taken across by the Clipper. Hence we can write when we like without waiting for those too rare boats. Aureli phoned me this. Thoughtful eh?

This morning I went to chuch at AllSAints' , but only for Communion. The Chaplain is down with Sciatica, so the service was taken by a colleague from the Genoa diocese. There was qu quite a large congregation, as I saw just before they filed ou after singing the British National Anthem with gusto.

I was invited as usual by the Aureli's, God bless them. They are too good for words. But as last year I found church and their lunch rather too much, I said no. I promised to go to them some day soon instead. This evening we had a family dinner with a large contingent of relatives under sixteen who played games & shouted after some real coffee, sent this famil by American friends. On receiving it the Gir. paid as much in entry duty as the coffee would have cost them (formerly) in the shops.

I have just heard of a new regulation by which every scholar, boys & girls alike, must choose some form of the follow ing sports: riding, (horse gratis) rowing, skating (on rollers or on ice), sciing, cycling, driving a motor-car, piloting an air-p plane. What fun this would have afforded you in those dreary school & university years that are made so enjoyable in Eng= land, Germany & America! How I suffered for you at that time yet couldn't say too much about it. I read of

He repeated word for word all he had told me when I visited there, a month ago!

Still from Rome. Thanks for your letter. Rex will obviously be eating his head off. He is terribly bumptious & conceited. Sits regularly on Nanna's bed!

...ctuly & ...n I want ...of Violet.

...ipper came ...hile the ex= ...ou say in it ...erence & as ...emainder mat= ...nging to get ...hereas "La ...tioned that ...st you or A. ...pe in safe ...as crisp & There was a had I had a sleep ...n this flat than to say -welcome & d welfare seems HE FOLLOWING than when you ...lent. The Gir ...et you know ...rote about ...ot exist with ...place. There better clas ...et & I sin= ...oors wide &

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land, Germany & America ! How I suffered for you at that time & yet could'nt say too much about it for fear of putting you out of ~~conceit~~ conceit with the whole concern. At Vassar, if you had been 10 years younger you would have had an infinitely better time than you had in those same years in Italy.

For the past few days we have here an American lady with a boy of 15 & a girl of 14. both the latter good musicians, especially the boy who is already a prodigy at the piano. Marvellous agility & touch. Name somewhat lugubrious : Coffin. They go to the Opera every day. They Also went to the Midnight Mass at S.M.MAggiore. I am going to try for a seat at the Fusina/to School on Thursday to see the Pope on his way to return the King's ~~visit~~ visit. It will be in pompa magna, as for a foreign Monarch. Streets lined throughout with troops. I shall take chocolate & sandwiches & a rug for my knees.

The atmosphere altogether this evening was most merry, as I knew nearly all the youngsters well, for they come here to lunch every Sunday.

Be sure you tell me how you passed Christmas Day & other folichonneries. Also later, all about Pittsburg.

As ~~ever~~ ever fondly, with love to A.H. & S.P. Also many thanks to Carol. Please tell her that I read Tory's letter with the greatest interest

Lovissimo Mav.

P.S. I wore the black velvet frock with pendant earrings, crystal necklace & evening shoes.
Did A.H. get a "Capitolium" with all about the '42 Exhibition here?

If the Illustrazione is good I shall send it too, or wait for the Pope's Visit number. I got lots of Christmas Cards & letters. None from Francatrey Mayer

Cordelen France

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=BLESSING LOVE.
612P

To=morrow I shall post some funny little felt frogs
chickens & squirrels & strawberries that look cute.
monkeys please, if they reach her. How delightfully
young of A.H. to be thrilled by novelty of "20th Century
Good for him, I say! Also the 5 days in Pittsb. No less.

with gusts of cold wind that made me glad to be home at 12.30. There was a perfectly marvellous sunset that I enjoyed to the full, after I had a sleep & tea. I have spoken so often of the super-excellent heating ih this flat this season that I shall not return to the subject otherwise than to say that "Distant Cows have long horns" and that your dear & ever-welcome & ∅ dearly prized & priceless affection & solicitude for me & my welfare seems to be leading you plump into a "complex"! PEASE TAKE NOTE OF THE FOLLOWING SOLEMN, TRUTHFUL STATEMENT : I am fully as well & much fatter than when you were here last summer. My appetite & digestion are both excellent. The Girardet & Socci ladies send you word that if anything goes wrong, they will let you know at once. A. will by this have confirmed all I have so often wrote about the excellent heating here. All the ladies need heat & could not exist without it. There is no prospect whatever of a purchaser for the place. There are always 3 or 4 expensive rooms occupied by Italians of the better class prefetti & superior officers. I sleep at night under only a sheet & I single thin woollen blanket. I often have to open the folding doors wide & set up the

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(6) N.B. I'm expecting package hourly & can hardly wait, for I want to get a hat to suit shade of Violet.

21 - 12 - 39

Dearest & Best-Beloved,

Your dear letter of Dec. 11 by Clipper came on the 19th at 10 a.m. = in 8 days or less. Therefore well worth ~~while~~ the expense in the present case. I hasten to say that 2/3 of what you say in it were delivered yesterday. I wrote at once mentioning the difference & as Andrew's relative has proved straight in major matter, so I feel sure she will in remainder matter of these wondrous vols of Poe which I have always been longing to get hold of . My favorite of course is "The Raven" - for thrills, whereas "La dame sans merci" is almost harrowing in expressiveness. A. mentioned that Prof. John McAndrew knows the son & would be likely to interest you or A. H. in his present situation.

To-day I went to fetch my pension & stowed the 2 vols of Poe in safe custody until needed. Although the sun was bright, the air was crisp & with gusts of cold wind that made me glad to be home at 12.30. There was a perfectly marvellous sunset that I enjoyed to the full, after I had had a sleep & tea. I have spoken so often of the super-excellent heating ih this flat this season that I shall not return to the subject otherwise than to say that "Distant Cows have long horns" and that your dear & ever-welcome & dearly prized & priceless affection & solicitude for me & my welfare seems to be leading you plump into a "complex". PEASE TAKE NOTE OF THE FOLLOWING SOLEMN, TRUTHFUL STATEMENT : I am fully as well & much fatter than when you were here last summer. My appetite & digestion are both excellent. The Girl ladies send you word that if anything goes wrong, they will let you know at once. A. will by this have confirmed all I have so often wrote about the excellent heating here. All the Girardet & Socci ladies need heat & could not exist without it. There is no prospect whatever of a purchaser for the place. There are always 3 or 4 expensive rooms occupied by Italians of the better class prefetti & superior officers. I sleep at night under only a sheet & I single thin woollen blanket. I often have to open the folding doors wide & set up the

(5) You see how well my new, donated ribbon works. I never before had one with red stripe. Cesare phoned wanting a written declaration that you had renounced Alphonso's stuff. I gave it. I hope the CAT will figure in next snaps of SP. All Love & blessing to each, lovingly Mav. as ever fond & doting on her TREASURE.

(4) To-morrow I shall post some funny little felt frogs chickens & squirrels & strawberries that look cute. Mentions please, if they reach her. How delightfully young of A.H. to be thrilled by novelty of 20th Century. Good for him, I say! Also the 5 days in Pittsb. No less.

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certain that Langsdorff would kill himself, as he did. How thrilling all those 3 days were. In Dec. Issue of Digest there is a similar account of a similar carreer during Great War. I sent off lately some presepios to SP. paravento across it, so as to have the place cool enough to go to sleep. This only on scirocco days. On windy days the window closes so badly that I have air enough, though no draught. So stow your over-anxiety & enjoy the sensation & satisfaction of realizing that, thanks to your divine liberality I have been able to spread a lot of satisfaction around me this Xmas & the certain blessing that will accrue from all this good will descend on your Darling, beauteous head in untold good of all kinds & degrees.

With the help of Pap's medal-microscope I have enjoyed a good, long exam of S.P.'s last snapshots, for which many, many thanks; they are so very free & natural. She is developing splendidly & is changing very quickly & always for the better. How quickly they do change!

To my intense dismay, the "Conte di Savoia" left last week without the greater part of my Am. mail. The "Flotte Riunite", the chief Shipping office here on the Tritone, had said she sailed on the 16th, Saturday, from NAples. So I posted in Via Marsala on Friday afternoon thinking all was well. Next day I phoned them again to know when the next boat came in - & to make sure, I asked if the Conte had really left that day. "No, no. She left yesterday fron Naples. What!!! Is there no certainty about such dates? No, no absolute certainty. Better post any old time well in advance of date that we tell you." I tell you I felt bad - knowing how you crane & strain for my letters just now. You are not at fault about writing as you seem to think, I get quite a number of your letters, sometimes 2 or three in two days.

A. Rice's visits continue to amount to a veritable calamity for you, even in the new flat, as I see. Couldn't you fit up the maid's room well enough for visitors & let the maid sleep elsewhere on such occasions? Grand that you can fall back on Ernestine on occasion for S.P. I wonder how the latter likes such variety. I note A.H.'s two recent visits to Washington & Chicago I think that such variety would be very good indeed for any man as busy as he is. But he is so different from other mortals that there is really no knowing how it may affect him. I have written to Mrs Barr, but of course, Now I know, not in time for Xmas.

I am glad he has decided to accept the invite to Pittsburg & I only hope it will prove beneficial to you both. Brava for you & Janice walking in the woods at Princeton. Does she too know some of your friends there Does Anna still live in A. del Cast? I have written to France & carded her for Xmas. SP looks charming in tailored suit with velvet revers. I said in former how much I enjoyed A's long visits & mine to Cssa Bracci, who owns a perfectly glorious terrazza with unique view. Thank God our cook is back & I trust, completely well & fit. Your Clipper letter contained about a pound of photos. I felt

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11

I4/I2/39 Thursday afternoon

Dearest & Best-Beloved,

I am right well & have taken several quite long toot-
les, as from this to Magnanapoli, from this to Via Marsala, & ~~on~~ Tues
day 2Ist, Mrs a field-day when I was dressed at 8 a.m., went to Via Taci=
to for Pension, got cakes at Gilli & Bezz. which Mme Girardet says
are the best, saw Sigra M. ~~Andreas mothers~~ Andreas mother at her Htel about ~~Poe's~~ Poe's
works
thoroughly, rested for less than an hour, Received visit here fr.
Alberti & ~~Cssa~~ Bracci till 6, they came ½ an hour late, during which
I mooned about wondering why, e se questo non ti convince of my sta=
ing power, nothing will. I was so little tired that I undertook ex=
tra toilet activities in the evening before turning in for a good
long read of the priceless "Digest" which I have arranged to send on
to Alberti regularly. He says he will love to get it. And I fully be=
lieve it, he is so alive to America, Knows all about yur personnel;, thu
s J. McAndrew, Miss Stronski, also Agnes Morgan, a dean from Vassar Coll.
whom I dont know & whose name I forget. Also A. Ringe & her qualities
This typewriter is "verhext" to-day, doubles all letters, so I shall jus
t forge ahead, never minding. ~~I believe I told you about a very pleasant~~
~~visit~~ I paid on Sunday 10/12 to ~~this~~ a Cssa Bracci, who owns a terrace with a gorgeous
view just below my former school at an Maganapoli. Alberti was there, of
course, & showed me a few among an endless series of right good pho=
tos of his American trip & long flight to Rio with proficuo stay in
the Antilles. His time in town was so short & he was so evidently
desirous during his first visit to me that I should meet the Bracci lady, that I waived etiquette
with rather a gulp, I confess, & decided to consent to paying her the
first visit. There were two elderly gentlemen, ~~besides~~ A. & me. No=
thing could be more cordial & simpatica than this lady whom you wer
re so near meeting this summer. She mentioned your recent letter

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with evident satisfaction. Says she wants to see me very often & hopes to meet you as soon as possible. So do I, for obvious reasons. Andreas Mother knows Alberti & between them they sketched in the generous, pugnacious cause of his mission beyond the fishpond. She did not have the two vols with her, but promised to send them first thing from Florence where she resides. I was a little non-plussed by her insistance on my writing a p.c. to you saying that we had met & that I had in effect received the vols. I wrote at her request, supposing that I was to post the card myself. (in a day or two) & so was not a little surprised when she pocketted the card. Of course it will be all right in a day or two when the vols. arrive, but I thought it strange that she should act thus at a first meeting. first sight. Seems to be a great traveller & had a lovely practical little suitcase with her which she closed as we chatted. Says she may come to this pension (during) future stays in Rome. Massimo e Piera are off on a short trip to Florence The parentela is so large that the kids are all bestowed elsewhere when they are absent. All cars now circulate freely, but are limited to just a few litres of benzine per month A. says he is letting his supply accumulate so as to take a longish trip. He is on a very severe regime, but hoped to improve it closer to normal shortly. Hopes to be in Rome for two months in Jan. or Feb. about a certain course of instruction as an officer. I note the trifles in coming package for him & shall forward them at once, adding the remaining envelopes that have turned up & that you had intended for him in last pack. Mrs Munzi intends staying on at their request with eventual purchasers of this pension which however seem no nearer than before. The ladies are asking too much, she says. Says too that I would do well to stay on too, & I most certainly shall do so, provided the conditions are within reason. As newcomers would of course wish to maintain the character of the place, they ought to keep on the same conditions for present & former habitues. I said in former how that the heating in this pension is incomparably better that the two preceding winters owing to important works carried on by the ladies during last summer. A. will confirm this as he found the place unpleasantly hot on his first visit to me. All the Hotels in Sicily are empty & accounts from there are not encouraging. Anyhow I see no probable reason for changing my present abode & devoutly hope you will soon direct yourself of this "Complex" about my welfare. Why, my letters

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are taken up with frantic efforts to reassure you on this point. so that I get tired & close the letter when I should love to tell you about pleasanter things. The ladies have made no restrictions whatever & I suspect they will not do so as none are young & all are accustomed to live very comfortably. Madame Girardet especially needs heat & many comforts & could not exist without them.
Under Lago di Fucino, dried up 80 years ago, they have discovered a gas called metano which will produce heating stuff instead of benzine & be plentiful cheap & nazionale. This has been going on for some time & the stuff is now near, very near industrial production.
You must not believe all the stuff the Am. Press says about this country, or about its international probabilities. Things seem to me to be veering in many directions - veering, veering.
With joy I note the arrival of the new cat, his proper behaviour & the jubilatin with which S.P. &, in his own way, A.H. received him. How shall you manage when the usual crisis comes? So glad you enjoyed "Life with Father" & subsequent party at Kitty Day's with press = men taking photos of Swells. Is her husband dead? How did she get the swells to come to her party? Lucky, I say, & hope she may make a lot in royalties. So glad that your male friends take you out to see things that tire Alfred. Also that everyone knows of his peculiarities regarding lights & fatigue generally. Thanks for the message from S.P. to grandama Fitzmaurice & "I love oo" in the letter of Nov. II. Also for the picture of ....? in green pastel in the same. I liked the wind-up "That's enough" Thanks too for Mrs Barr's address. Am afraid her letter must wait till the next boat but shall try to get off at least a short one for Xmas. I note all you say about package & wonder why you worried to send shoes in it instead of waiting for a possible passenger-friend. I only wear white shoes in summer. C'era teppo. In yours of Nov. I7 you speak of the shattering success of the Picasso Opening & the thousands that came in fine, trainment & your extreme exhaustion after a time. I note the gl trustees dinner that preceded, the two white orchids, (Ahem Ahem), coming from that quarter, I should say it is a right good symptom. What about the dent with the important trustee? Seems to me that all your dire forebodings concerning new Deal at the Mus. are vanishing in thin air. A. tells me that Miss Stronsky has left & I expect that too upset you a bit. I note all you say about the frenzied work for A.H. before the Opening, your going to rest at Abbott's after the "worst" was over & A.H. in bed by II.30, & the days it took you both to recover. Also the big upset about the good maid's illness, the dinner prepared for five by you & Carrol alone. The charwoman's operation & your having to give some entertainments just before Xmas. All this coming together would seem to make it desirable to accept the invite to that country place near Pittsburg, thus avoiding parties till more convenient time. Why can't XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX some of his peculiarities & fads? A.H. get over at least
They prevent him from living normally. I expect he has such a knack for making friends that he can be peculiar with impunity. I told you already how glad I am over the new snaps of last summer & how lovely the backgrounds are mostly. This evening came by post a present of a new ribbon for my typewriter. As you see it is badly needed. It came from the lady for whose magazine I do some translations. I am so glad when I hear that you do things that you like, for then I get hoping that you are fretting & worrying less about my welfare. Now it is late & I must stop for the people nearby have come to their room for the night. God Bless you all three Darlings. Try to get a good rest somewhere around Xmas.

As ever fondly MAV.

over

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(4)

Carissimo Mat.

The little red manikin turns somer-
saults with delight when placed
sitting at top of any inclined
surface (provided not glossy)
as, a board, or tray. I wanted
to send 10 for Competition, but
was told that Arrapione's valore
must only contain 1 speci-
men. Must verify this state-
ment. If when Psem II
reaches you please notify
at once. I see you've got the
first. It was wonderful
seeing Alberti. He has such
a nice manner. Even he did
not see the Pope. He went in the
Crowd, in the Piazza. Very few
saw him. Cora B. was with him. They
had been to the Opera to hear Gigli the night before

"He also went to a Concert at the Ghetti"
a tremendous success.

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I confirm a very recent letter inclosing "Reader's Digest" renewal papers. And a "scherzo" invented by the Florence Students, copied for me by Sig^rd Gir. in person!

Saturday Nov. 4 1939

DearestChildie,

Your latest dated Oct.2I inside, & 23rd on postmark reached me on the 2nd. As I had just posted a p.c., I did not answer at once. I must say the appeased tone of your recent letters is a blessed relief - in contrast to those of all September. I rejoice to hear of the satisfactory maid & pray God she may so continue - so very much depends for us all on smooth internal running of a house-hold. I wish I could hope that you two Darlin/ proud sensitives could just plump a good heavy stone on the horrid manner of the increased funds e non pensarci più. It is grand that the two aiutanti di campo si sono accordate subito e senza le solite gelosie, col beneficio che la bambinaia ha smesso di infliggerti le sue chiacchiere. Siccome è tanto "letteraria" però, temo che possa leggere le mie lettere.

Can't say how I blame the wretchedly bad policy of the powers that be in the Mus. in not taking into account how everyone in it, inspired by their admiration & affection for A.H., strained every nerve to breaking-point for months & months before the Opening. No amount of money can pay for that kind of thing. And they seem to take it all as a matter of course! Ma è meglio non pensarci più, but just pity their blindness, insensibility & unwisdom. If A.H. were not what he is he would make them rue their folly in many ways - sans avoir l'air d'y toucher.

I note what you say of Janice & regret it more than I can say. I loved the thought of her utter devotion & real usefulness to you - for instance that time in Paris when you had to wangle those pics out of the unwilling artdealers after A.H. had gone back home bredouille. I sometimes fear you tend to throw people over too easily. Besides S.P may need your friends some day - one never knows. They would be an important part of her inheritance.

[Important] As you did not mention Condominio expenses when telling me Aureli was to lodge Lit 200 (now increased to 250) I naturally thought I was to go on paying it. Stead of which when I asked for the receipt lately, Cir. said Sig. Marini had paid it by order of Avv. Aureli! It was Lit 300. I imagine how rich I feel & feel! It was like a direct handsome present straight from your Darling generous hands. I am grateful!

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and far more precious than cash. Remember Franca too in this order of ideas. Her motto seems to be Où je m'attache, je meurs. Even that year she came to look after me, she seemed to sense that you were likely to cool on her & said laughingly that you would find it no easy job to get rid of her. I need not tell you how high a place you have in her affections. As for Lanza I should not try to understand - she is one of those women who MUST throw themselves away - the more unworthy the object the better I mean of course regarding the other sex. You don't say what he is doing in New London, is it a good thing? likely to turn out a permanent job? If he were an utter rotter he would not inconvenience himself by going to live alone away from her ministrations & help. Or do you suspect him of interest in other women? A friend of hers turned up a month ago here a Sigra Rotondi, whom I may have mentioned, so I wrote Franca quite lately on that subject. & shall certainly remember to write at least greetings at Xmas. How truly glorious to have those Italian masterpieces shown off in tha Mus. & actually handled by A.H.! Can't tell you how I gloat on the thought that he enjoys his work. I had thought somehow that owing to his chronic tiredness, the word joy was an unknown experience for him. You see I don't know him much. Hip Hip for J. McA. for taking you to that Rudsian Ballet premiere! and how perfectly astounding that A.H. is not one of the 4 gents! (Doesn't he like Russian ballet?) I do trust & hope you succeed in looking your very best which we know is shattering. Possibly the frock you got for the Opening? Be sure you tell me about it all. If A.H. is aware of the convulsions you seem to go through in his Mother's vicinity owing to his wrong attitude to you, in which he seems to persist, he must feel pretty relieved when the ordeal is over that you got through without exploding. Why does he do it? What does he gain by it? Is it to show off how much you stand from him? Funny about S.P.'S smoke mania - you & I can scarcely blame her if & when she takes to it herself - it is not off the cards however that it might go by contraries.

Did you ever get a letter I addressed to you to the Mus.? before I got your right number of house (you wrote 14 in my address book.)

So my best wishes to him for the Picasso exhibit.

Did not know you had written there & only found it by chance & had gone on using the old book.

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3

I Owe Some money to Helen Franc. It is weighing very heavily on my Conscience. When I contracted this matter she wrote at once saying I was not to send her the cash, for that she was continually in want of things here. I believed her & took no steps to pay, but in all this time she only ordered things once. The account stands as follows.

Original debt :	Lit.	250.00 (duecento cinquanta lire)
Ordine Brogi	L.	53.75
Tassa id.		I.30
Lettera id.		0.5o
Totale spesa	L.	55. 55

Lit. 250.00
meno 55.55 : I94.45 still owing.

This sum I request you to pay to her with my very warm thanks . Of course out of the 37 Dollars of the Technicolor you mention. Then I should like you to send I0 Dollars to:

Unity School Of Christianity
9I7 Tracy Avenue
Kansas City MO.

Silent Unity Dept.

The rest which I shall calculate at leisure you might please keep for me to pay for 2 periodicals of theirs ($1. each per annum) the scadenze of which I do not know. Thus, this time you send me none of these 37 Dollars, but keep for my account & future needs in that line.

If this request comes too late & you have already forwarded this cash - pazienza. I shall be sorry. If not too inconvenient you might do these two things for me & refund yourself out of the next Technicolor payment. Of course if you wish to know the motive of this debt to Helen, I shall of course tell you, but it would be a trifle awkward for me - nothing worse than awkward.

Last evening I went by invite of Signa Elena who is Sigra Girardet's only daughter To se a good film again at Supercinema: "Katia" with Darrieux in title role, a Pianok film. Lovely Court ball w. Crinolines. Good scenes, good acting.

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You too loved darling Auntie Katie's perfumes & pussy, satin frocks.

When she was leaving for Paris & came to bid us good bye the first time you & she met, you met bitterly & wanted her to take you with her. I shall see your little streaming face & uplifted hands: "Je pure 'igi! Parigi Je pure 'igi!

Sad times!

Goodbye for this time Sweet Childie as ever fondly, your

Dee X

Don't forget to send Dr Mrs Barr's address, in particular - where she will be found Xmas. I had no idea that She absorbed him to that degree.

Yesterday I was out quite a long time in cold, but Sun. In the evening at Superein., of course, on foot too. I feel right well. Have taken no medicine for over a month. Excellent appetite, digestion & spirits. Today was foggy & rainy & overcast sciroco. Did not go out.

Bought new Testaments, did not sell or receive any. Got Mrs Benson's address. Gave Peixotto's address to Mrs Barr. Saw Mrs Barr's address in Times. Paid Sarah & Pinkas & Purvis & Lyster & Dr Mrs Barr. Have not yet got Xmas presents. Have written Mrs Barr, Mrs Benson, Mrs Peixotto, Mrs Barr, Mrs Benson, Mrs Peixotto, Mrs Barr, Mrs Benson, Mrs Peixotto,

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constant thought & fondest love is all for you, as ever fondly Mary. I go out every day regularly, mostly on foot.
are been to cinema twice after siesta. Recent hairwash & frizzle a great success. Wore black velvet frock last evening.

Venerdi 6 October, 1939 at 2 p.m.

Dearest Beauty, Your immense wondrous letter of Sept 24, Via Conte di Savoia, reached me yesterday at 12 noon & I fear this line will not answer it fully. I shall place it in a safe, convenient place & make a thorough, clear list of the things you want to keep. Also the practical instructions you give about packing & Consular invoice I shall extract & keep with the list. Though when all is said & done, I consider personally, & others with me, that this is no time to eject Old Man Noris. Lucky enough if Aureli succeeds in raising the rent by even a trifle. It is however quite on the cards that the man will want to clear out himself owing to the bad heating last winter - for two are old & the daughter is very very delicate. So for the present I consider that far the best plan (if Noris goes) is to keep on the top room with all it contains. If he stays, all may remain as it is, unless you instruct Aureli to sell the things you do not want to keep. In your above letter you say nothing about the better linen, but I believe I remember what you said this summer. Besides the Irish linen, there is at least one good every-day set with 12 napkins which you used to like. It was in good repair the last time I saw it.

Imagine with how much interest I shall expect your next, darling letter, (now grown more precious than ever before), with the result of the Trustee's fateful conference! So your taking the new apartment really was no less than an act of Faith in your good star which may God bring true.

All you say about S.P. is fascinating in the extreme only you mustn't forget later on how often children's charms seem to get overshadowed for a time & how awkward, shy & selfconscius they mostly get. It is only when this metamorphosis is over that one can begin to speculate on the probability of what they will turn out to be eventually..... et encore!

I have phoned Aureli scores of times in vain-both home & office. Of course we know he is called up for a short time for military training but does not seem to live at home. He phoned me once, as I said in a former, saying that Piera was to be back in a day or two, but I expect that this glorious, warm weather keeps delaying her return & no wonder, for the weather is absolutely Ideally beautiful. Here. Poor A. writes complaining of the bitter cold & of his still fitful spells of pain.

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#2 I got the maid to hang all dresses

Of myself I have nothing but good to report. Although you distrust my tr[illegible] accounts, I can only persist in giving them. All through Sept. I did nothing but recruit. And lead a purely vegetative existence. Even now that I have got into my too sunny, new room, I only work at settling in for two short spells each day. Only # next week I hope nothing will prevent my resuming my work for Kansas City, interrupted since the end of July. The question of the cupboard or wardrobe in this new room is happily settled by my having requested Mme Gir. to let me have the room on the right (instead of that on the left) of my former abode which has been granted for the same price, i.e. L. 38. per day & no service. This new room looks over the Piazza & has 2 wardrobes & a chest of drawers. So for the present I am quite all right. What will happen when I go to the country next summer I know not, for as I have got down all my chattels from the Garret here, if I give up the room as hitherto, there will be a big ado once more to stow the said chattels on top over again. Kommt Zeit, kommt Rat. I may be able to keep on the room gratis if the place is empty. As I said in a former, I rquested the Powers that be to say what their intentions are about closing down, but they have taken no decision as yet & have promised to let me know at once when they do. Even if they do close I feel perfectly certain that Piera will have no difficulty in finding me a room in a family that lives comfortably with heating & decent food. So I am not in the very least apprehensive as to the future. Even if this country takes up the cudgels it will not be before next spring. The works for the Exhibition of '42 are being pushed forward with unabated alacrity. Quite evidently mr Sm. wants to keep out of the scrimmage. So you just stop fretting & thinking about getting me across the fishpond. A thing Lupi says would probably finish me before I landed on the other shore, but this only a personal opinion. Of course if you find you cannot stand the distance I shall try to contemplate the possibility which is really the very remotest thing I can imagine. And the least to my liking.

Please, please tell A.H. that although we don't correspond I take the very warmest interest in all that even remotely concerns him. Give him my very dear love & my intense good wishes for his happy career which seemed to promise so very well on the day of the opening of the new Museum on May 11. I have given your address to 2 very charming, bright girls called Alice & Louise Schramm, from St Louis. Very intelligent & well informed. Their grandfather, whom they remember well, was Irish, they have no particular religion & are of very mixed extraction. I had hoped they would be able to take your some pots of P.S.E.M. but find their return is very uncertain.

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24/10/39 Dearest. I have quite suddenly got a bit more enterprising & have strive to quite a number of useful things long put off & mostly out of doors. On Monday I was out of doors from 10-1.30 Parco Appio above Scipio Tomb & Porta Latina. None of which I knew except a flying glance w. Tudor ladies to the park. One of the landladies who knew the Popes came too. I've been twice to Supercinema & seen good things. Weather still fine on the whole & too hot in the sun but quite cold at night. Today I'm to take tea in her house with a lady friend of Franca Frenaye now located in Contaldi's former flat next door to ours. Nice for me if this place shuts up & I return to flat as a pis-aller. I note what you say of Dictionaries & have most of them here at Gir. & lately got some of them repaired in binding. Of course Larousse & Melzi are now available in much more complete editions & most desirable, but unless I under-

Thursday October 19/39 Evg.

ur darling & most welcome 3/ letters dated
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ether) & ought to have been answered, as
once. Let me say at once that I am right
traces of lumbago vanished definitely some
5th, I spent a long, delightful afternoon
s been intelligently restored & is being re=
es as a few ripped-up walks & a great sup=
The peacocks have grown tamer, but are
ow. The many arbours have been restored to
hes & pergole, but the cut-off parts have
to circulation. Many stone seats, circular
are clean & whole, the shrubs' fantastic
clipped & altogether the place looks as though som
once more and grudged no money in its rewarding upkeep.
ago I went alone for a stroll after cena & last eveni
rcinema with one of the 5 ladies (invited by me) to see "Lamia Can=
which we both enjoyed hugely & stayed to have repeat
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as had good success abroad I think in Amer.
s created here in Rome at Cinecittà. I have
this letter by pen, as the room next has just
ossession of by 2 fearfully delicate looking women
d tells me are in bed already, but have called
le to help on sleep. Guests being so few & Ita=
lians being notoriously much more exigeants than fo=
reigners, I suppose I may count myself lucky if I
can use typewriter even by day, while they are here.
The Aureli's returned to town on Friday 13, as

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take new transl. I shall need nothing beyond the old friends. I am well pleased with my new room because warm & yet airy & spacious because so sunny on dull days - we shall see. Tell me more about A. H.'s collaborators & contacts with powers t. b. - I know virtually nothing - also about S.P. who seems to be making strides in all ways. I consider, after ripe reflecting that a long journey would be very bad for her, upsetting meals, kind of food & hours & habits generally. Please bear this in mind: It is most satisfactory that Greenst. suits her so very well & that Mrs Barr continues to like it in summer. I trust that by this you will have secured a suitable maid for the winter & have stopping tagging that about yr mouth trouble? As ever fondly Max.

Mrs E. C. Barr
49 East 96th Street
New York City
U.S.A.

S.U.A.

ROMA NAZ. 25.10.39 ANNO 31

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Sunday evg. 29/IO/ Dearest, 2 letters & I card in 3 days; dated I2, I3, & I7, latter, saying you had finalmente trovato una cameriera che prometteva bene, outran the former This was indeed most blessed news which none but a woman ca n understand. Today is 3rd of tramontana & Ist of evening h heating. Let's hope this will continue, I know you will be g lad of it. Aureli's versamenti hitherto anywhere within the first IO day of each month. I was to ~~dine~~ the tea there Thursday evg but baulked at last moment owing to heavy rain & cold. I went out today & yesterd. Sun was genial in sheltered places but air too sharp elsewhere tho'' wind less high than first days. Very sorry P. Johnson didn't come to see me. I liked him we ll. what about his sister? I went to tea on Wedn. at Sigra Rotondi's, Franca's friend. She is very nice & quite off the common for an Italian. So busy that I wonder she wishes to cultivate any acquaints. S.P.'s pastels are most welcome, I recognize the stage. You must praise & encourage her do= ings even when laughably far from good. Don't forget to acq= nowl. PSEM when & if you get it.. I posted it on the IOth. Novelty about S.P. is not so much the noticing, as the vo icing said notes. Most kids are so inarticulate that they ar misunderstood. Now I trust you will both afford yourselves

Am about to start fresh series of injects to Counteract drowsiness. Former series stopped on Sept 14 or 15. Funny how your letters outrun each other.

ber I9/39 Evg.

3/

ost welcome letters dated containing many instruc= nd dated Sept. 29 via Ex= ctober 3, Via Vulcania, have

2/

last indeed, I blush to say, to have been answered, as ay at once that I am right ago vanished definitely some long, delightful afternoon gently restored & is being re= pped-up walks & a great sup= es revealed. The peacocks have grown tamer, but are ther just now. The many arbours have been restoed to r/ multiplied wooden arches & pergole, but the cut-off parts have ally opened to circulation. Many stone seats, circular he arbours are clean & whole, the shrubs' fantastic clipped & altogether the place looks as though som once more and grudged no money in its rewarding upkeep. ago I went alone for a stroll after cena & last eveni rcinema with one of the 5 ladies (invited by me) to see "Lamia Can= which we both enjoyed hugely & stayed to have repeat e many songs by an excellent tenor named Lugo, a rising as had good success abroad I think in Amer. s created here in Rome at Cinecittà. I have this letter by pen, as the room next has just ossession of by 2 fearfully delicate looking women d tells me are in bed already, but have called le to help on sleep. Guests being so few & Ita= lians being notoriously much more exigeants than fo= reigners, I suppose I may count myself lucky if I can use typewriter even by day, while they are here.

The Aureli's returned to town on Friday 13, as

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When I get busy, I shall send frequent cards. You do likewise.

some little amusement or svago after strenuous time of both. Grand for you to h have a room once more; you don't say if you like it. Remember I want badly a plan of the flat with place of furniture as in former. Trust you will refrain fro stitching carpets on all fours, and then laying them. What about your gums? Are yo you taking time to attend to cure? Please answer queries. Please send me Mrs Barr's address for a Xmas greeting. Belts of all my skirts have to be widened. in spite of moderate eating. Lupi warns against big meals. More weight to carry. Have not succ eeded in tackling readings & writings as yet. Hope every week to be [illegible] but [illegible] drowsy. Bless you all 3. F[illegible]

My room is as big as yours, & what sunsets!!

CARTOLINA RISPOSTA

MRS A. H. BARR JUNr.
49 East 96th STREET
NEW YORK CITY
U. S. A.
S. U. A.

Thursday October 19/39 Evg.

Your darling & most welcome 3/ letters dated Conte di Savoia, containing many instruc= at once, a second dated Sept. 29 via Ex= a third dated October 3, Via Vulcania, have uncensured, the last 2/ indeed, I blush to say, gether) & ought to have been answered, as once. Let me say at once that I am right traces of lumbago vanished definitely some 15) 15th, I spent a long, delightful afternoon as been intelligently restored & is being re= pes as a few ripped-up walks & a great sup= . The peacocks have grown tamer, but are now. The many arbours have been restored to ed ches & pergole, but the cut-off parts have d to circulation. Many stone seats, circular are clean & whole, the shrubs' fantastic clipped & all together the place looks as though som once more and grudged no money in its rewarding upkeep. ago I went alone for a stroll after cena & last eveni rcinema with one of the 5 ladies (invited by me) to see "Lamia Can= which we both enjoyed hugely & stayed to have repeat e many songs by an excellent tenor named Lugo, a rising as had good success abroad I think in Amer. s created here in Rome at Cinecittà. I have this letter by pen, as the room next has just ossession of by 2 fearfully delicate looking roomen d tells me, are in bed already, but have called le to help on sleep. Guests being so few & Italians being notoriously much more exigeants than foreigners, I suppose I may count myself lucky if I can use typewriter even by day, while they are here.

The Aureli's returned to town on Friday 13, as

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I feel certain this change is for the best. One is so apt to fall into a groove. Thanks for all the lovely details in your letter about plans, your weekend at Bear Run, dis satisfactory trip to Detroit, you & Janice fixing up to Greenwb - racing the train I fear & hope not. My spirits are excellent. I have moved my Cp Corrente to the Monte dei Paschi in Via Po, from which I

s dated
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via Ex=
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ish to say,
vered, as
I usually do just now, at once. I am right well & that the very last traces of lumbago vanished definitely some some days ago. On Sunday (15) I went alone 15th, I spent a long, delightful afternoon in Villa Sciarra, which has been intelligently restored & is being re=endowed with new water pipes as a few ripped-up walks & a great supply of new tubes revealed. The peacocks have grown tamer, but are not in full feather just now. The many arbours have been restored together & I fancy, multiplied with the wooden arches & pergole, but the cut-off parts have only been partially opened to circulation. Many stone seats, circular & semi, within the arbours are clean & whole, the shrubs' fantastic shapes are well clipped & altogether the place looks as though somebody loved it once more and grudged no money in its rewarding upkeep. A few evenings ago I went alone for a stroll after cena & last evening to the Supercinema with one of the 5 ladies (invited by me) to see "La mia Canzone al vento" which we both enjoyed hugely & stayed to have repeated. There were many songs by an excellent tenor named Lugo, a rising talent who has had good success abroad I think in Amer. The film was created here in Rome at Cinecittà. I have to go on with this letter by pen, as the room next has just been taken possession of by 2 fearfully delicate looking women who, the maid tells me, are in bed already, but have called for camomile to help on sleep. Guests being so few & Italians being notoriously much more "exigeants" than foreigners, I suppose I may count myself lucky if I can use typewriter even by day, while they are here.

The Aureli's returned to town on Friday 13, as

(Later after cena)

Bring the Fig Maurice Sage
we mind & hope to begin it in one
months' time

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Returned here this forenoon on foot without fatigue & no stick I mean a walking stick. Franca carded me apply lately. I shall answer shortly. Am writing my new address to everybody & posted 23 last evening. You seem to forget how signorile elegant & wooded green & lovely this whole quarter is & how flat! You triplicated your letter of May 24 with Bastianelli's shorthand

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well & that the very last traces of lumbago vanished definitely some some days ago. On Sunday (15) I went alone, I spent a long, delightful afternoon in Villa Sciarra, which has been intelligently restored & is being re=endowed with new water pipes as a few ripped-up walks & a great supply of new tubes revealed. The peacocks have grown tamer, but are not in full feather just now. The many arbours have been restored together & I fancy, multiplied with the wooden arches & pergole, but the cut-off parts have only been partially opened to circulation. Many stone seats, circular & semi, within the arbours are clean & whole, the shrubs' fantastic shapes are well clipped & altogether the place looks as though somebody loved it once more and grudged no money in its rewarding upkeep. A few evenings ago I went alone for a stroll after cena & last evening to the Supercinema with one of the 5 ladies (invited by me) to see "La mia canzone al vento" which we both enjoyed hugely & stayed to have repeated there were many songs by an excellent tenor named Lugo, a rising talent who has had good success abroad I think in Amer. The film was created here in Rome at Cinecittà. I have to go on with this letter by pen, as the room next has just been taken possession of by 2 fearfully delicate looking women who, the maid tells me, are in bed already, but have called for camomile to help on sleep. Guests being so few & Italians being notoriously much more "exigeants" than foreigners, I suppose I may count myself lucky if I can use typewriter even by day, while they are here.

The Aureli's returned to town on Friday 13, as

(Later after cena)

I'm owing the Fig Maurice Sage in Mind & hope to begin it in one month's time

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begun Thursday October I9/39 Evg.

Dearest & BEST BELOVED, Your darling & most welcome 3/ letters dated respectively Sept. 24 via Conte di Savoia, containing many instructions & which I answered at once, a second dated Sept. 29 via Exchorda with I4 photos, & a third dated October 3, Via Vulcania, have all reached me quickly & uncensured, the last 2/ indeed, I blush to say, on the I2th (these 2 came together) & ought to have been answered, as I usually do just now, at once. Let me say at once that I am right well & that the very last traces of lumbago vanished definitely some some days ago. On Sunday (15) I5th, I spent a long, delightful afternoon in Villa Sciarra, which has been intelligently restored & is being re-endowed with new water pipes as a few ripped-up walks & a great supply of new tubes revealed. The peacocks have grown tamer, but are not in full feather just now. The many arbours have been restored together with the wooden arches & pergole, I fancy, multiplied but the cut-off parts have only been partially opened to circulation. Many stone seats, circular & semi, within the arbours are clean & whole, the shrubs' fantastic shapes are well clipped & altogether the place looks as though somebody loved it once more and grudged no money in its rewarding upkeep. A few evenings ago I went alone for a stroll after cena & last evening to the Supercinema with one of the 5 ladies (invited by me) to see "La mia canzone al vento" which we both enjoyed hugely & stayed to have repeated there were many songs by an excellent tenor named Lugo, a rising talent who has had good success abroad I think in Amer. The film was created here in Rome at Cinecittà. I have to go on with this letter by pen, as the room next has just been taken possession of by 2 fearfully delicate looking women who, the maid tells me, are in bed already, but have called for camomile to help on sleep. Guests being so few & Italians being notoriously much more "exigeants" than foreigners, I suppose I may count myself lucky if I can use typewriter even by day, while they are here.

The Aureli's returned to town on Friday 13, as

I went alone

(Later after cena)

P.S. I'm bearing the Fig Maurice Sage in mind & hope to begin it in one month's time

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2/ schools began on Monday 16. Sig. Marini spoke over the phone about a paper I had written to Aureli about because I didn't know what to do about it. I concerned something they call "il nuovo Catus to". Marini assured me he had seen to it & said would I consider a rise in Noris' rent of £.50 (fifty) instead of 80 that Aureli had proposed. I said what about sending Noris away & he replied that both he & Aureli considered that in these uncertain times, unless we had a new tenant waiting & ready to pop in, it would be safer to keep on with Noris & accept the rise of 50, seeing that N. has declared that he will leave sooner than pay a cent more. So as I too had talked over this matter w. Sig. Munri, sooner than risk having the place empty for perhaps some months, I said: "Good, be it so." So this shelves the whole question of the upper room Stein Consular invoice &c &c to a future date. I have however kept your letter of instructions & hope to make out a pratical list in several copies before long.

I hope now to tackle at last a lot of arrears in reading & writing which have accumulated formidably owing to a deplorable fit of inertia, tendency to drowse, & fine weather enticing me out of doors. Only within the past few days did I get out the records once more, (last year I never had them brought down from garret) so they too contribute to my idleness. I know you will hail this fact with pleasure, as you seem to think the less I do the better. My room & clothes are now fixed & tidy, all to some pieces of silk to cover 2 unsightly deal packing cases & my dear records. (In a former I told you I now have 2 armadi a specchio) plus far too much sun as this room faces South-west & is far too warm at present.

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3/ I am much concerned about your persistent Trench-mouth & feel qualms about trusting to a simple dentist to rid you of it. Your long sore throat too is not reassuring. What about a course of pricks of some pick-me-uping stuff like the Forgenina Lupi prescribes for me when run down? It is perfectly painless, even the prick itself is barely felt if spot is rubbed with ether before hand. The life you lead is so wearing that you need to counteract its wastage by artificial means. PLEASE DO! THINK THIS OVER SERIOUSLY

I did feel horrid on discovering too late that I had let Victoria's birthday – the Second –! slip by without a line to congratulate & bring her & you my fondest wishes. What must you & A. H. have thought of me? I feel a wretch! Her new photos are delightful. I take them out every day after lunch & peruse them carefully. Shouldn't worry about her figure. All kids at that age are barrel-shaped. Badly dieted children are twice her size around abdomen plus bad colour & lots of other negative symptoms. I much appreciate her coloured pastel autograph in two tints, & congratulate you on her appreciation of what you used to call "fondling". You too, up to about 6, enjoyed this: "It's quite a long time since you fondled me last" After that age you became self-centred & very independent – to my great sorrow & regret. Another symptomatic tendency in you was to want to play unobserved; if I gave you some new things to play with, you showed much satisfaction & if I installed near me or in a spot where I could see you from where I sat, I found that

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4) after a very few minutes you retired, sometimes with much trouble, to a spot where I could not see you. Pazienza if I were given to interfering. But from the first I had a cult for your individuality & wanted you to be as much yourself as was compatible with existing conditions. I felt this too painfully for words & sometimes wonder if I did well not to combat or oppose mildly or try to ascertain why you were so bent on playing alone. When other kids came it was the same thing you carried them off to another room when possible. The last time I noted it was in the Schönbrünn Park in Vienna. You were having games with the other youngsters & when we grown-ups came to look on you proposed changing to a spot farther off. The others seemed surprised, but consented & off you all went.

The reasons you give for the form of christening are too excellent to admit discussion. You did quite the right thing. A thing I rather dread about that & other sects is the sense of guilt they foster to the extent of "offuscaring" the loving (aspect) side of the divinity, which I consider ought to predominate in all cults & doesn't.

Thanks quite markedly for telling me of A.H.'s increase of salary. I agree with you that the right time was of course at the inauguration of new building. The crudeness of the procedure chosen may possibly be accounted for by a wish to adhere to commercial or shall we say business standards & forms, or mode of handling personnel. But it shows a deplorable lack of psychological insight to wish to "class" A.H. & his wonderful achievements & quite exceptional individuality & temperament with anybody whatsoever. They simply do not know the treasure they have in him. Ergo, he & you too,

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5/ Can afford to smile at their uncouthness & want of tact & finesse; in a word their ignorant insensibility. I feel certain the slight is quite unintentional for it would be against their business interest to offend A.H. wittingly. As for the discouraged attitude of the Museum personnel, I cannot understand how A.H.'s ~~[illegible]~~ déboire can affect their real ~~in~~ towards him & his orders, wishes in short their cooperation. If they are aware of his disappointment, it ought to make them all the more anxious to make amends for, or offset it by giving him all possible satisfaction by their work & real & enthusiasm for him. Let's hope the new appointment (Mr Abbott) will prove satisfactory in many respects & that he may find opportunities for opening the New President's eyes & those of Trustees as to A.H.'s personality & exceptional merits qualities & possibilities. Have just read over your printed sheets & see she is in every creative ~~Is this his wife?~~ I'm surprised that Mrs Rockefeller could not have obviated this awkward mistake in regard of A.H.

I have carefully studied the winter coat you sent me this spring & have decided to wear it exactly as it is. I love it, & it fits & suits me admirably & is no heavier than the older one — still in right good condition. Please don't send me any more clothes. I have more than enough. Se mai, begin to lay aside for next autumn — wear an adequate sum for a good winter tailleur warm, interlined, light in weight with small side pockets for coppers ~~as~~ as similar as possible to grey blue one with petit-gris collar still in perfect condition, but now in, I think, its 6th year. I confirm posting as camp. s. val. 1 pot of P.S.E.M. which please acknowledge at once after

Whichever shall forward 3 more already in hand & only waiting for

House in sending reconnaissance unless necessary. Your ach.

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6/ It is now latish & I've got chilly & sleepy with looking on map (in vain) for Scapa Flow. I was asked whether it is in Orkneys or Shetlands & was unable to say exactly. Do you know?

How I wish I could find some means to convey to your consciousness even the palest inkling of the utter peace, quiet, purposeful activity & unruffled normality of this country & its people.

It makes me miserable to think of your utterly unfounded anxiety & nervous terror. I enclose a cutting with some remarks which I endorse about the incapacity of the man-in-the-street (which makes up the democracy governments) to govern a country. To do this requires horizon & knowledge of facts which the layman is unfit to know, much less to handle. Therefore the unity & simultaneous knowledge of facts & situations necessary for prompt timely action can only be achieved by one person, aided, of course, by loyal collaborators. It takes a thoroughly good tyrant to make a country happy & prosperous. But even thus, what to do about a preying nation like Germany for whose governments war is considered a pleasing adventure?... Wenpacha pas that I love you tenderly & wish I could make you stop worrying about me God has done so much for us two that we may well trust Him for the rest. As ever fondly your mar.

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Oct 11 wednerd. 12 Piazza Es-
Yesterd. morn, I posted 1 Poem, as a
ballon d'essai; If it reaches you safely
shall follow at short intervals with
3 more = 4 in all for this time. Nothing
has happened since my letter of 6/9
in answer to your long one of 24/9
except that I have ascertained
from his porter that Aureli is at Pal-
ombaro with his people. Except for
some Italians & 1 Australian
lady this place is empty. I like
my new room, but am disap-
pointed that it offers no immuni-
ty from Cockroaches, all-pre-
sent in former abode as in this
Pazienza! It might be far worse.
Have nearly finished settling in
Sorry that Mrs Barr's large valise
with hanging system like yours, has
crushed my best things unmercifully.
Never had my things in such a state
with old system or wardrobes. In-

...ay. Rome. Girardet &c.
...wee letter on a biglietto pos-
...18 & Boston Sept 21 came
...certainly on the Rex which
...erday. The normally quick!
...n you so often. It is very
...constant loving thought,
...reat over-anxiety for my welfare
...cent international happen-
...pretty alarming at so
...but I assure you that this
...& ready for events is
...rmally active in all
...rk. A military mark a
...ately assured us as his per-
...s Count will not fight unless
sonal opinion,
directly attacked. Coming back to your letter to hand
this morning: if the Rex started from N.Y.C. on
Tuesday 19/9 as you write, how to account
for the Boston post mark of Sept 21, repeated
clearly twice? Of course it may have come
all the way by air, & probably did so, only
the papers mention no arrival by air from
Amer. The daily papers mention shipping
arrivals & departures every day since the first
of this month. Rex must have started back on Thursday 21 or Friday 22, arriving Naples in 7 or 6 days.!
Yesterday evening after Cena I went to a
Cinema not far from here with Sig.ra Munzi
& to-day I took some felt hats to the
modista to be remodelled. She lives in
Via Volturno, I went by tram & returned on
foot, just in time for

...this month of Sept. More love M.

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GARTOLINA

Mrs A. H. Barr
49 East 96th Str.
New York City
U.S.A.
S.U.A.

Junr

Here got that remodelled
Quiz shows it would take
2.10 each at least to get them set right
in an establishment. So I'm getting
them hung day & night in a shed
on the roof of this house. Last night
a Hungarian Doctor in Chemistry sent by
Assa..... consumptive, expelled with a few hours
notice... I thought of you & handed what he
needed. It rains now at night, bright,
warm sun w. short, light shwers. I feel
right well, good appetite & digestion
Now I'm going out for an hour. Dearest
fondest love to you 3, as ever Mav.

...ay. Rome. Girardet &c.
...wee letter on a biglietto pos-
...18 & Boston Sept 21 came
...certainly on the Rex which
...rday. The normally quick!
...n you so often. It is very
...constant loving thought,
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Yesterday evening after Cena I went to a
Cinema not far from here with Sig^ra Munzi
& to-day I took some felt hats to the
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...I have written nearly every day this month of Sept. More love M.

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Sept 28 Thursday. Rome. Girardet &c.

Dearest Childie, Your wee letter on a biglietto postale by Air Mail dated inside Sept. 17 & 18 & Boston Sept 21 came this morning at 11 — most certainly on the Rex which arrived in Naples yesterday. The normally quick! So very glad to hear from you so often. It is very soothing to know of your constant loving thought, although the idea of your great over-anxiety for my welfare is pretty "navrant." Recent international happenings must sound pretty alarming at so great a distance, but I assure you that this country, tho' vigilant & ready for events is perfectly serene & normally active in all branches of life & work. A military muck a muck whom I met lately assured us (as his personal opinion) that this Count will not fight unless directly attacked. Coming back to your letter to hand this morning: if the Rex started from N.Y.C. on Tuesday 19/9 as you write, how to account for the Boston postmark of Sept 21, repeated clearly twice? Of course it may have come all the way by air, & probably did so, only the papers mention no arrival by air from Amer. The daily papers mention shipping arrivals & departures every day since the first of this month. Rex must have started back on Thursday 21 or Friday 22, arriving Naples in 7 or 6 days.!

Yesterday evening after Cena I went to a Cinema not far from here with Sig.ra Munzi & to-day I took some felt hats to the modista to be remodelled. She lives in Via Volturno, I went by tram & returned on foot, just in time for

P.S. I have written nearly every day this month of Sept. More love M.

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lunch at 1, ate ~~heartily~~ heartily, dozed till 4, had tea, & read or hung out of drawing-room window till 7, changed frock & had an excellent dinner with new guests at 7.30. Two Amer. guests from Florence were expected all afternoon but have not yet turned up. Two Amer. ladies came by car the day before & stayed only 1 night. They did not contemplate returning to the States as they felt sure this country is safe & too that there are other symptoms pointing to a general appeasement.

Thanks for news of Alfred's return to N.Y. & for good news of Baby. I had fully hoped you would remain in Greens. till Oct 1, & feel sad about this mention of your possible return to town on the 20th. I rather dread this return for you, knowing what a lot lies before you owing to recent removal, besides which you needed a longer holiday, even in view of a normal autumn activity. This hectic existence is too awful for words - it is not living - it is a frantic rush - breathless, échevelé ~~at~~ undignified - almost indecent. as ever fondly your own Mav.

I'm addressing this to the Museum as you wrote in my new address-book No 14 East 96th Str & in to-day's letter you write 49 E. 96. Please say which is right, as I much prefer writing to your flat direct. A.H. has plenty to think of besides delivering letters, Please stop worrying about my welfare & safety. Under no circs. would I care to go live in N.Y.C. N'empêche pas that you are never out of my thoughts. Please God all will go well with us both & we shall have a happy meeting next summer as usual, only better managed.

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Grand to know that B the loves to have games with the Baby.

Sunday Sept.24 1939

Dearest & Best Beloved, Like yourself, & realizing as you did, that the boats to & from Am. had become irregular, I have endeavoured to multiply my foolish scribbles, just to keep you from worrying. - to my sorrow I realize through your recent letters & cards that you have been worrying & that they will reach you all in a tiresome, untidy bunch, entailing deciphering postmarks, &c. Can't say how very glad I am to get so many of your darling letters & P.C.'s. Up to the I2/Sept I had not heard from you since Southampton. On that day came your first. It was from Greensb. begun on the 3Ist Aug & reopened on the first Sept. It came by airmail & cost apparently 30 cents. Then came a written p.c. dated Sept 9 to hand about the I6th, Then your letter written on board the Norm. dated Aug 27, it came by air-mail & bore stamps for 23 francs, I got it on the 20th. Then came yours of Sept 9 a handwritten letter, on the 23rd & finally to-day, Sunday sept, 24, came yours of Sept II with coloured photos & an enclosure from Carol, In all 4 letters & I p.c. all of which I acknowledged at once. I must say that for a beginner C. chose the setting of her subject right well, tho' the subject itself is less happy in nearly all. Her letter shows great vigilance & real affection for the child. I must say I think you are lucky to have her. and her letters are quaint & most interesting. #

I regret to say that I have absolutely nothing interesting to write as my days are much of a muchness & mostly vegetative. Food, rest, sleep, outing, long spells hanging out the large drawingroom window on the Piazza, hairdresser, Tramride on the forenoon of the 2Ist to fetch Pension. About a week ago Aureli phoned to inquire for my health, he having heard from Lupi that I had been seedy. He said Piera was about to return to Town from Palombara & would come to see me in a day or two. I phoned on Friday & Saturday to the house in Rome but could get no answer showing of course that Massimo lives with his relations when in town & that Piera is not yet back. Of course I was a bit weak & shaky after the bout was over & doctor & infermiere gone & have since been recruiting energetically, that is doing nothing but read sleep & eat. The lumbago tho' quite insignificant after the first week by day was most aggravating at night, so the nights were bad & the days sleepy during convalescence. All this is now over I am thankful to say & I hope to undertake more in the coming week.

I spoke to Signa Luisa about prospects, closing, heating &c. but elicited nothing - they were waiting to see how things turn out & everyone of the family seems to hope & expect that Mr Smith will perform some miracle & smooth out everything to perfection by a slight turn of the wrist. Prices are normal & infractions on scheduled prices severely punished by long or short closing of shops. As I wrote in former, meat is restricted to one dish of meat in hotels & restaurants. Sale of meat is confined to (I think) 3 days, but the ladies got a certificale for me from Lupi, so I shall always get meat, fish or chicken twice a day. I get plenty of bread, milk, sugar, excellent butter & tea. The coffee they say is not abundant, but I find it no worse than for the past year or two. As you know I am rolling in money & am lending a trifle to Sigra Munzi to enable her to go to your specialist about her trench mouth at once. She was waiting till her next salary comes due ... This I elicited by inquiring only, & offered. She too feels that this place ought logically to close for a time & so is looking out for a new post, for all events. She hates to hang on here doing nothing. I am going to exhort her to learn some skill or other, like bookkeeping, typing or shorthand. She would like a post at the Cit or similar travel bureau to give information about routes, trains, sailings, & the like, but better have some more strings to her bow.

So as to keep S.P.'s large photos from dust &c. I think of getting them legati sotto vetro. This until I run across a frame that I like. I feel immensely buckled by the certainty of your constant thought & seemingly increasing affection displayed in so many touching ways & expressions. In fact humanly speaking, I seem to live for it & you alone - As for the spiritual side of things I shall only feel at liberty to speak or rather write about it when you give the signal, et encore... Everyone, I fully believe, has to evolute for himself. Individually. At a given time and way, different from any other being.

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Don't be alarmed however if I send you an article on time, suitable for reading on one's birthday or other recurrences of the kind. as an effectual antidote to the aging thought or illusion.

How thankful I am to read that you are at last doing something for your own very precious health. I was so very cut up that it did not seem expedient or feasible for you to use a hot mud cure at Acqui or elsewhere when here. I say Acqui because the situation is less hot than elsewhere in summer. But I found Viterbo more efficacious. But there - you were too exhausted & the time was too brief & the heat too overwhelming to think of going for that cure which is supposed to be a bit exhausting. Besides unless you had had reliable advice about the trouble in your shoulders, it would be unwise to go in for a mud cure just like that. You precious Darling, goodbye for this time. Seems to me that you radiate love, help & goodwill wherever you go. Comme ça... sans avoir l'air d'y toucher... As if you couldn't do otherwise. Every body is the better for contacting you. Everyone feels happier, feels life better worth living... This is a wonderful gift of which you seem barely aware.

My dear love to Alfred with all good wishes for his career. My very kind regards to Mrs Barr whom I envy for long spell of openair life with spells of S.P.'s company every day for months in which to mark change, progress, developsments &c.

As ever fondly your only

MAV.

Don't please imagine that I am pining for S.P. — I'm not. I shall be very glad to make her acquaintance Quando che sia. But it must be without special effort — any time within the next 10 years will be plenty to satisfy me. Infact I think it quite superfluous unless she were coming here to learn Italian or some other good reason of the kind

M.

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Piazza Esquilino 12 Rome

Wednesday Evg. 20/9/39 This card, dearest & Best Belov
ed, is quite a random shot & only to say that this evening
round six came your darling long detailed letter, so lovin
g & sweet to me, written on board the Normandie & posted on
Aug. 27. Your letter from Greensbororeached me on the I2th
Sept. I acknowledged it at once & have sent you no end of
p.c's all the time, I confirm one with lines from Lupi & an
other with a scribble from Mrs Munzi who is grateful for
your two bottles, but is going to your doctor as soon as e
ver he returns from his holiday next week. To-day I went
out alone on foot & felt right well & stronger than I expe
cted, had my hair washed & frizzled & feel altogether as xx
tho' I had really come back to normality. To-morrow mornin
I take autobus to go fetch my Pens. Soon I shall ask the D
irezione of this show how it will be about heating during
the winter& whether I had not better take one of the sunni
er rooms on to the Piazza. This will elicit their intention
s about keeping open or not, seeing that all hope of guesta
of anynationality is nil by the present outlook. They
seem quite serene & chatty, but Sig. Munzi has begun to lo
ok for another post. I am not forgetting our agreement ab=
bout my health & shall continue to bear it in mind.

ning

ept 1 reached

d to hear

. Y. & ap-

vries about

new flat, as you had seemed to anti-
cipate. This is an immense relief to me
as I had been dreading a terrible time for
you in that new flat. Now I surmise you
will have put off anything in that line
until after Greensb. And may that stay a
a lengthy one this time for all of you! I
congratulate you on the frame of mind
that allows you to shake off worrying &
find sound, restoring sleep at night.
All you tell me about S. P. is fascinating
to a degree. But I do not share your
extreme apprehension & foreboding as to her
extreme sensibility. That tempera-

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Evening

12

Dear ... of Sept 1 reached

me to ... glad to hear

you on ... N. Y. & ap-

Parent ... worries about

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Cipate, ... relief to me

as I had ... ible time for

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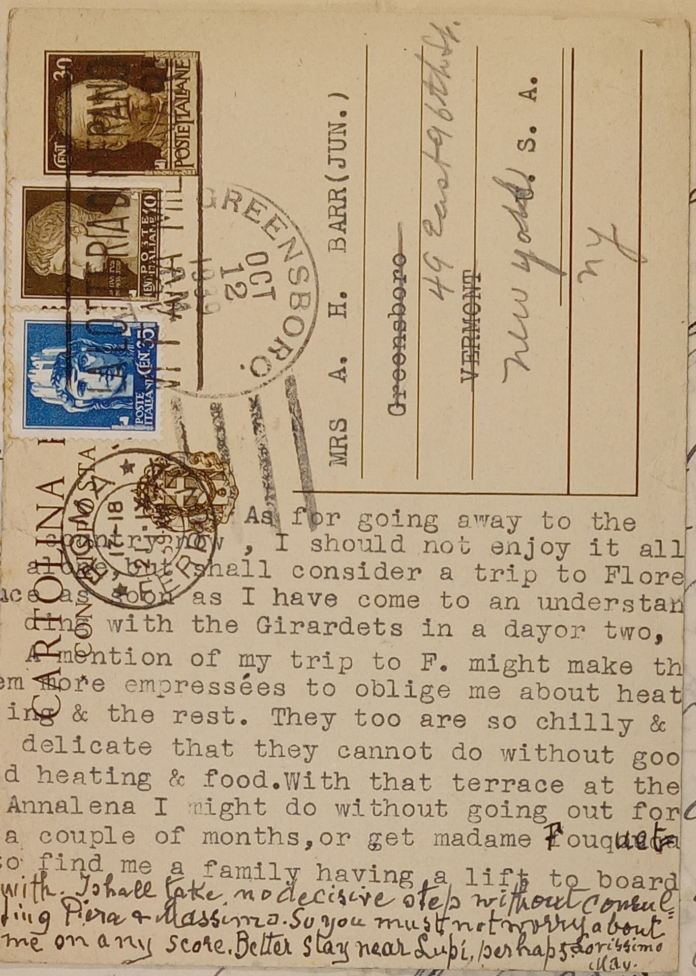
CARTOLINA I ... CONTINENTALE ... 17-18 ... 1939

MOTTERIA ... POSTE ITALIANE

GREENSBORO OCT 12 1939



MRS A. H. BARR (JUN.)

~~Greensboro~~ 49 East 96th St.

~~VERMONT~~ New York U. S. A.

NY

As for going away to the country now, I should not enjoy it all alone, but shall consider a trip to Florence as soon as I have come to an understanding with the Girardets in a dayor two, A mention of my trip to F. might make them more empressées to oblige me about heating & the rest. They too are so chilly & delicate that they cannot do without good heating & food. With that terrace at the Annalena I might do without going out for a couple of months, or get madame Fouqueta to find me a family having a lift to board with. I shall take no decisive step without consulting Piera & Massimo. So you must not worry about me on any score. Better stay near Lupi, perhaps. Lovissimo May.

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Martedì 19/9/39 Dearest,
Just had my 1st outing w.
Sig.ra Munzi in Carrozzella to
V. Borg & Pincio. Also I walked quite a bit & had merenda at Pagano's. I very often see Osserv. Romano & N.Y. Her. Trib. Things are so normal here that it is hard to believe a big war is on. All Italian transatlantic liners plying regularly to all overseas ports as you must know meat restricted, certain days gas to certain hours, but Lupi gave a certificate which enables me to have

Dearest ... Sept 1 reached
me to ... had to hear
you only ... N. Y. & ap-
parently ... worries about
new fla... ed to anti-
cipate. I ... lief to me
as I had ... le time for
you in that new flat. Now I surmise you
will have put off anything in that line
until after Greensb. And may that stay a
a lengthy one this time for all of you! I
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Evening

12

Dearest ... Sept 1 reached

me to ... had to hear

you on ... N. Y. & ap-

Parently ... worries about

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cipate. ... lief to me

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Mrs. H. Barr
49 East 96th
Greensboro
Vermont
U.S.A.
New York
NY

Jun 1

Mrs. H. Barr
49 East 96th
Greensboro
Vermont
U.S.A.
NY

Meat ... twice a day. Sunday it poured. Yesterday it was cold & windy so I had to delay my 1st outing. No more health bulletins after this full return to normality as ever fondly, fondly Max.

Da Pagano, pensando affettuosamente a Lei dopo una bella nuovezza. Cordialità Luigi Mazzi

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16/9 saturd. Dearest
Altho' I know that logically, Evening
Lupi's line & my long letter
of Thursd. ought to have set
your mind completely at
ease. You are so apt to exag
gerate my ills that I want to
reassure you vieppiù. Today
I dressed & went to table for
the first time (lunch & dinner)
I'd have loved to go out, but
wish to avoid a set-back
by overdoing. I hope to drive
& sit at Cas. d. Rosa on Mon-
day. Do not forget to send me
your new address. I feel
fine, am breathing well &
only feel a bit weak. Ap-
petite not enormous but
satisfactory. Please remem-

...o 12

Dea... of Sept 1 reached
me ... s glad to hear
you o... N. Y. & ap-
Parem... d worries about
new f... med to anti-
Cipate, ... relief to me
as I had ... rible time for
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me to Mrs Barr. All Amer guests have left except your table neighbour, Miss Hill who came back having recovered from Scare to finish her work. Italy is pronounced by all to be the Safest place in Europe. Rome the safest in It., owing to the P. I want lots of news of your mouth & shoulders & general Ciel intime. Also of A.H.'s health & outlook " " S.P. most of whose [illegible] will metamorphose. Your nose too was too broad at base. Write [illegible] please even p.c.'s as [illegible]

CARTOLINA CON RISPOSTA

Mrs A.H. Barr Jr
49 East 83 Hon
Greensboro
New York
Vermont
U.S.A.

POSTE ITALIANE CENT. 35
POSTE ITALIANE CENT. 10
POSTE ITALIANE CENT. 30

Evening

12

Dear [illegible] of Sept 1 reached me to [illegible] glad to hear you on [illegible] N.Y. & ap- Parent [illegible] worries about new fl[illegible] ned to anti- cipate. [illegible] relief to me as I had [illegible] ible time for you in that new flat [illegible] I earnest you will have put off anything in that line until after Greensb. And may that stay a lengthy one this time for all of you! I congratulate you on the frame of mind that allows you to shake off worrying & find sound, restoring sleep at night.

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Sept 12/39 Evening

Rome. Piazza Esquilino 12

Dearest Beauty, Your letter of Sept 1 reached me to-day. I tell you I was glad to hear you only spent 36 hours in N. Y. & apparently without household worries about new flat, as you had seemed to anticipate. This is an immense relief to me as I had been dreading a terrible time for you in that new flat. Now I surmise you will have put off anything in that line until after Greensb. And may that stay be a lengthy one this time for all of you! I congratulate you on the frame of mind that allows you to shake off worrying & find sound, restoring sleep at night.

All you tell me about S. P. is fascinating to a degree. But I do not share your extreme apprehension & foreboding as to her extreme sensibility. That tempera-

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2/ (ment) holds compensations, for such people enjoy more keenly than the Solid. They have "toute la lyre" as V. Hugo put it. Besides the world is evoluting, & living will be far easier for the next generation. Far be it from me to want to start strife in our small circle; but I was surprised you gave up the idea of Church of England, or, in default of it, Episcopalian Baptismal rite which could have taken place only in N.Y. However I quite agree with what you say about making a change when she comes to years of discretion. Essie was not confirmed at the usual age & altho' desirous to take Communion later, she never screwed up the courage to be confirmed later. In fact my own deeper quest for a more progressive spiritual life such as I find in the Kansas teaching has entailed no outward change whatever — & never will do so; the teaching there being wholly nonsectarian.

You don't say result of yr inquest on summer Museum happenings nor how they are likely to affect A.H.

My health bulletins will have reached you punctually by this. To-day at last the lumbago pain is immensely relieved & I can move & walk about without grinning & so much quicker I am delighted, & hope to dress & go to table to-morrow.

All the Italian liners big & little to all parts are ~~running~~ plying regularly thanks to the neutrality. May it long continue! American guests

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3/ declare emphatically & truly that Italy is now the safest country in Europe. As I said in a former A. sent me some days ago (a cheq. for) the amount of Ital. cash you left him for me (L.950) I wrote at once thanking & acknowledging. He has now given me a permanent address & added "Lamarmora" to his name (only on the Cheque!)

I got such a nice letter from Villa Serena from Mrs Assagioli's mother. They seem really fondish of me & appreciative of my company.

The foreign guests they expected at Villa S. have all called off, she says. I feel sure they would not have taken the trouble to go there if they had known this "miss" in time.

Nothing can equal the "bremure" of the girardet ladies during this last attack of mine. They each come to see & chat every day regularly & send out for anything I want at once. To be sure they have scarcely anyone else to take care of. I'm not fatalistic but am thankful this attack did not overtake me at V. Cicerone. Dearest, fondest love to my sweet sad-toned Darling. Do cheer up & expect only good as ever Mav.

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P.S.

Miss Shirley Smith left the enclosed for you, illustrating her system for identifying photos of which she did hundreds this summer for her College in N. Brunswick (somewhere South of N.Y.) She kept me very good Company; it was through her I got to know Gilbert Bagnani's Guide-books

Before resuming the idea of Villa Cicerone I shall hear what Lupi says

WHEN WILL you SEND ME your new N.Y. address. ???

I trust I shall not have to trouble Mrs Bo Beskow. She is probably angry with me.

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CARTOLINA PRISPOSTA

NAPOLI 4.9.39

Mrs A. H. Barr
Greensboro
Vermont
U.S.A.

Sunday Sept 3
I trust you have got certain amount of post which still continues to arrive daily, & which I have regularly redirected at once. I am still here awaiting events. Don't be

8/39 Rome &c &c
...ill, you see fixing even 1 fortnight in advance would have land the last cable safely in your hands. A. H. however ought to address...
...y Cards are a renewed de...
...empêche pas that you are a wonderful Darling & I your proud fond ...
...bsequent single letter. P.C's will satisfy me fully till you are rested. Mar...
...to-day's from Palazzo Sa...
...ou decided to visit A. & his
...ine how very glad you will
...mother & the mature gover...
...that he at long last got his
...
...had bad rain & a cloudburst
...may not have impeded
boat, transatlantic, piroscafo.
...ld be well for you to let
...of your return liner &
...y? because Alfred's 2 letters
...morning about 9-30-10 were
...& made me very anxious
...last ...
lest they contained important matters to be transacted in Paris. The same applies to a cable that arrived this morning at 7 & that I might have transmitted on board, had I known which liner & port to address to. ~~[illegible]~~ It was ~~a~~ transmitted by the fattorino whom I tipped generously — but how? As I felt anxious, I fizzed round & discovered that the fattorino had forwarded it by post!!! Imagine my dismay. Now I have ascertained what to do in future & where to go in similar contingencies, but there! ~~you~~ it will of course have missed you. I felt sure it was from A. H. & thus felt most uncomfortable. He evidently did not know you were moving round,

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angry about this. It is only human to wish to remain near newspapers & especially "L'Osservatore Romano" which gave the first news of Italy neutral as yet.

As last year as exactly same date I have had a little internal irregularity (nothing of tummy!) & am now all but myself again. Don't worry about this, it will be ancient history by the time you answer. Owing to requisitioning of vessels, there has been a panic-flight of Am citizens, so this place is now empty. All a few Italians. Much love hoping for early lines. Mar

8/39 Rome &c &c

...ll, you see fixing even 1 fortnight in advance would have land the last cable safely in your hands. A. H. however ought to address...

...y Cards are a renewed de...

...empiche pas that you are a wonderful Darling & I your proud fond ...bsequent single letter. P.C's will satisfy me fully till you are rested. Mar.

...to-day's from Palazzo Sa...

...ou decided to visit A. & his ...ine how very glad you will ... mother & the mature gover... that he at long last got his ...

...had bad rain & a cloudburst ... may not have impeded ... boat, transatlantic, piroscafo.

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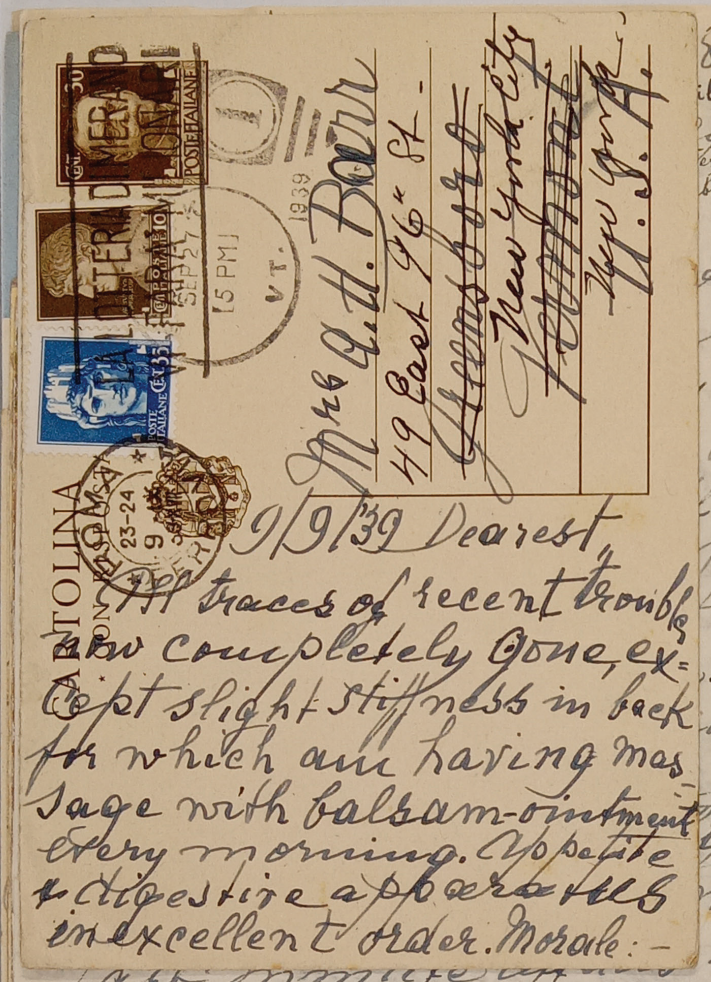

CAPITOLINA

POSTE ITALIANE

LETTERA DI MERCATO

Mrs A. H. Barr
49 East 96th St.
Greensboro
New York City
Fremont
New York
U.S.A.

9/9/39 Dearest,
All traces of recent trouble now completely gone, except slight stiffness in back for which am having massage with balsam-ointment every morning. Appetite & digestive apparatus in excellent order. Morale:-

8/39 Rome &c &c
...ill, you see fixing 1 fortnight in advance would have land the last cable safely in your hands. A. H. however ought to address...
...y Curds are a renewed de...
...empêche pas that you are a wonderful Darling & I your proud fond ...
...bsequent single letter. P.C's will satisfy me fully till you are rested. May...
...to-day's from Palazzo Sa...
...ou decided to visit A. & his
...ine how very glad you will
...mother & the mature gover...
...that he at long last got his
...
...had bad rain & a Cloudburst
...may not have impeded
boat, transatlantic, piroscafo.
...ld be well for you to let
...of your return liner &
...y? because Alfred's 2 letters
...morning about 9-30-10 were
...last minute affairs & made me very anxious
lest they contained important matters to be
transacted in Paris. The same applies to
a Cable that arrived this morning at 7 & that
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I known which liner & port to address
to. ~~[illegible]~~ It was ~~[illegible]~~ transmitted by the fattorino
whom I tipped generously - but how? As I
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He evidently did not know you were moving round,

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neeplus ultra. Am hourly expecting your 1st line from across the fish pond, as I calculate you got to N.Y. on the 28th. Since you never believe what I say, I trust Dr L. will add a line to this to reassure you that all is well with me. A. has just written inclosing cheq. for what you wrote me. I am answering him to-day. He gives me same address as you, as permanent. To-day I feel quite strong & Doc. says I must walk about for lumbago. Am so glad to be well again. Gentile Signora Love to each fond Max.

La mamma, che ha avuto una enterocolite acuta e un fatto congestizio alla base polmonare destra risoltosi in un paio di giorni, è ora del tutto guarita e, tranne una lieve lombaggine, sta proprio bene. Non vi è — come del resto non vi è mai stato — alcun motivo di apprensione.

Sta tranquilla e gradisca i miei cordiali saluti Thuri

8/39 Rome &c &c

...ill, you see fixing gran 1 fortnight in advance would have land the last cable safely in your hands. A. H. however ought to address...

...y Curds are a renewed de...

...empêche pas that you are a wonderful Darling & I your proud fond & absequent single letter. P.L's will satisfy me fully till you are rested. Max.

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...had bad rain & a Cloudburst ...t may not have impeded ... boat, transatlantic, piroscafo.

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P.S. I realize perfectly, when all is said & done, that perhaps you didn't know yourself which boat & port you would eventually take & possibly too didn't want to tie yourself down by fixing this beforehand. Still, you see fixing even 1 fortnight in advance would have land the last cable safely in your hands. A.H. however ought to address.... extreme mail & cables to Paris or elsewhere by agreement. N'empêche pas that you are a wonderful Darling & I your proud fond Max. No need to answer all these matters at once, or in any subsequent single letter. P.C's will satisfy me fully till you are rested.

22/8/39 Rome &c &c

Dearest your lovely Cards are a renewed delight - not excepting to-day's from Palazzo Lamarmora. So glad you decided to visit A. & his "Palazzo" I can imagine how very glad you will have made them, his mother & the mature governess. Am glad too that he at long last got his records & other stuff.

I see you will have had bad rain & a cloudburst in Paris & I trust it may not have impeded your doings there.

N.B. In future it would be well for you to let me know the name of your return liner & from what port. Why? because Alfred's 2 letters that came Sunday morning about 9-30-10 were last minute affairs & made me very anxious lest they contained important matters to be transacted in Paris. The same applies to a cable that arrived this morning at 7 & that I might have transmitted on board, had I known which liner & port to address to. ~~[illegible]~~ It was ~~[illegible]~~ transmitted by the fattorino whom I tipped generously - but how? As I felt anxious, I fizzed round & discovered that the fattorino had forwarded it by post!!! Imagine my dismay. Now I have ascertained what to do in future & where to go in similar contingencies, but there! ~~you~~ it will of course have missed you. I felt sure it was from A.H. & thus felt most uncomfortable. He evidently did not know you were moving round,

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2/ otherwise he would have written & cabled to Paris & all would have been well. I felt sure you had wired him on leaving Rome & consider it would have been the right thing to do. Speriamo bene! & that at least the 2 letters from him which I forwarded per espresso on Sunday morning will have reached you safely & the contents have proved satisfactory! — Here too there has been a decided cooling off in the weather & one showers with various distant thunders & lightenings. I still go out regularly every day, mostly twice & am feeling O.K. I came across 2 books on Rome lately both of fascinating interest by your infancy playmate Gilbert Bagnani ("Daisy Cresce, e io... son rimasto un nano!) One was by Lugli translated by G.B. the other was "I dintorni di Roma" by himself. I had heard (or was it of the second Mingazzini boy, Paolo?) that he was an egittologo. & was surprised. I shall try to find out more about him. I knew his mother & grandmother a Mrs Dewar, a Canadian. His father I met too of course, as they were summering at Badia at Boscoverde like ourselves. He was in a bersagliere regiment & belonged to the Stato Maggiore. Very bright & studious he seemed to be. I later heard of his death, not in war, if I remember rightly.

I feel hazy about your impending removal & at what time it will take place. If possible I should recommend putting it off until you have had a good long rest at Greensb. Will that be possible? Please tell me this & whether

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3/ you still think it necessary to wriggle out of the contract for the new flat, also whether you ~~[illegible]~~ still think of going to an hôtel & storing furniture I did not wish to bother you with questions about all this while together, for I felt that so very much was to depend on matters still to be decided, & on what (situation) A. H. found on his return to N.Y. —— I have asked for an extra wardrobe in my new (your) room. They say they have none & Mrs Munzi (not yet back) suggested that I should get along one from the flat at 6 3. So I could & can. Which would you suggest? Isn't it a pity not to keep the gilt & green bookcase? Of course it is a wardrobe I need most. The Noris lady has had nice full silk blinds put into it, as they have no books, they keep chattels in it. The blinds are of course heresy, or a form of it, from the style viewpoint, but if I had it here I should do like likewise. Not that I need it tho! Do you still think I ought to have the big carpet in my room here & get it cleaned & custodito every summer by a Ditta that does it for the Gallery Sanziorgi & has done it twice for me? If the sale of furniture is to be worth while we had better not withdraw 2 such important items. All I really need is one wardrobe and one trunk. Nothing has been said about

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4/ family portraits. I must beg you to take time to make out an exact list of the items you want sent to America & whether to N.Y. or to Greensb. & at what time of the year. Not that I don't remember perfectly what you said when here, but there are books by Anatole France & other French ones, also a certain number of mystery or dectective novels which you told me ~~at~~ one time I was to keep. Also your university copybooks & university notes with some of your manuals & study books (beside the Dictionaries)

I've begun to think about the Irish reminiscences you both want so badly & wonder whether you won't be disappointed. Of course I remember distinctly the beauty of certain places, views, sea excursions &c, but these will be apt to sound pretty tame ~~without~~ in my cold prose. Mais tu l'as voulu, Georges Dandin! Also I have not yet written the first word!

Sweet Childie — will you really give yourself the time to read all this letter? I ~~was~~ concentrating on the health question & have good hope. I have found a passage leading up to the somewhat enigmatic extract I typed for you on grey paper, but hesitate to send it lest you should think I've started "preaching"

All love to my Dearest Treasure, as ever fondly

Mav.

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27/II/39

Monday 20/II

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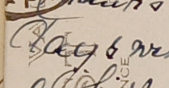

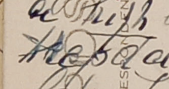

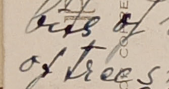

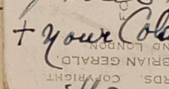

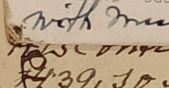

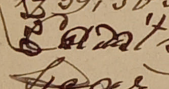

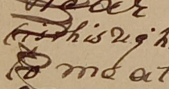

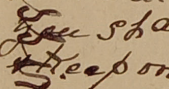

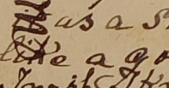

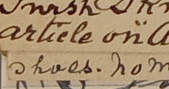

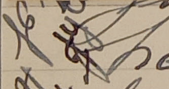

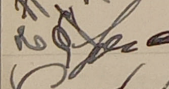

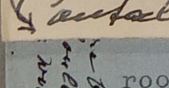

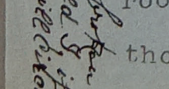

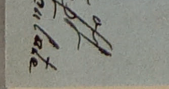

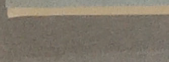

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Monday 20/II

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Miss Lance Lovell
c/o Mrs H.H. Bass
49 East
96 Street
New York City
U.S.A.

c/o Chas Knowles

12/8/39 Evening

Thanks for lovely Card. The
Bay & with You will remain
a Shiny light in my Summer. I
the Bay dreaming a lovely
bits of road & Scenery. Groups
of trees & rocks & grey light
+ your Colourful profile & hair
with much love W. Scolari

Now as I give our
for a dancer our
for me and sent you
for the making. But
all made in happy
with a time
for you - with
your guides
Feeling A-I

("We start at
5 on 31st Oct.

royal box 2 bbb
in Sunday

a a Soul about
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Friday.
been rude to not write
since I last wrote
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have taken a small
with a view to taking
and P. G's or dis=
I know they would
me, but I have been
to. And how to leave
not, for everybody
here is ideally right to my taste & such
Speeches as I have never heard Sovrano
Scolari would mount the top room May.

room too in good taste. Hall rather baddish, poor & empty, I

thought. They would love to have that oil-portrait of your Father

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Dearest Beauty, Best Beloved,

As this is possibly one of the last of

Monday 20/II

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Sat. Eg 9

Sunedi 6/3 Feel Contrite very,

Yes she doth run — and quick with both hands raised high and knees out teeter-pattering with an exultant smile at her triumph over gravity and statics (Hope same of you 3. Love to Mrs Barr) Weather much cooler. Feeling to annoy you I shan't shout "courage"! at you — and fear to describe our joys here lest you be made unhappy. But we're saving plenty for you — but time move quickly

We start at 5 on first Sept.

Feeling A-I

Shoes. No matter about the gloss. Sorry your shoes worn to tatter

layed in sending
spoke to a soul about
I am sick of thinking
Friday.
been twice to meetings
since I last wrote
intellectual Centre in
have taken a small
with a view to taking
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I know they would
ve me, but have been
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here is ideally right to my taste & such
freedom as I have never known
Cantaldi would want the top room

Lovissimo
May.

room too in good taste. Hall rather baddish, poor & empty, I thought. They would love to have that oil-portrait of your Father

present flat
an electric st
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Dearest Beauty, Best Beloved,

As this is possibly one of the last of

Monday 20/II

& a letter,

n the extreme
day & it is

Greensboro
Vermont
U.S.A.

THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Mr A. H. Barr, Jr.
Greensboro
Vermont
U.S.A.

Decision in favour of staying on.
His contract expires with March
1939, so I sh^d be glad to know where I am.
Can't say how glad I am to
hear of y^r 5-day "Shinanagan"
(is this right? I fear not) in Worcester & Boston
to me at this distance it seems that
you sh^d accept the "Comité &c &c" offer
& keep on looking out. In short use
as a stepping-stone. Also it sounds
like a good "titolo" to take off from.
I wish I knew how much is true of the
article on "Am. Matern. & Infancy" problem, thing
shoes. No matter about the gloss. Sorry you shoes W. Lolette

in sending

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have taken a small
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I know they would
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Monday 20/II

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n the extreme
day & it is

Saf. Evg

Dearest

Sunedi 6/3 Feel Contrite very, trubly so, for "forlorn" little p.c. too for 2 rags of paper in an envelope posted on 4/3 about letting 63-flat (Contaldi's offer) of course he appreciates the advantage of our Soffitta being accessible fr. within. This evg I shall dine at Aureli's & ask him about using this offer to oblige present tenant to a decision in favour of staying on. His contract expires with March 1939, so I shd be glad to know where I am. Can't say how glad I am to hear of yr 5-day "Shinanagan" (a) (this right? I fear not) in Worcester & Boston. To me at this distance it seems that you shd accept the "Comité &c &c" offer & keep on looking out. In short use it as a stepping-stone. Also it sounds like a good "titolo" to take off from. I wish I knew how much is true of the article on "Am. Matern. & Infancy" problem, thing shoes. No matter about me [illegible]

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Lovissimo May.

Dinigg-

room too in good taste. Hall rather baddish, poor & empty, I thought. They would love to have that oil-portrait of your Father

present flat

an electric st

ts to see me

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Dearest Beauty, Best Beloved,

As this is possibly one of the last of

Monday 20/II

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day & it is

Saf. E.G.

Mrs A.H. Barr
2 Beekman Place
New York City
U.S.A.

S.U.A.

Sounds too weird to be true. These first 2 years of Victoria's delightful developments are speeding away rapidly — never to return. You will be glad later on not to have had a job during this early stage & thus have seen & enjoyed more of her company & carryings-on than you wd have if busy on a job. I note her pt biggfall & behaviour. It is a good omen. I used to tell you that falls harden the bones. As you were strong on acygiene, it always had a good effect. Lovissimo Mav. Shoes. No matter about the gloss. Sorry your shoes W. Colette

layed in sending

spoke to a soul about

am sick of thinking

Friday.

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since I last wrote

intellectual Centre in

have taken a small

with a view to taking

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I know they would

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not, for everybody

There is ideally right to my taste & such freedom as I have never known. Lovissimo Mav.

Gontaldi would want the top room

room too in good taste. Hall rather baddish, poor & empty, I thought. They would love to have that oil-portrait of your Father

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Dearest Beauty, Best Beloved,

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Monday 20/II

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Kindest regards to Mrs Baer Sr.

room too in good taste. Hall rather baddish, poor & empty, I

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Sat. 6 & 9

Mrs Atte Barr
2 Beekman Place
New York City
U.S.A.

S. U.A.

13/3/39 your lovely letter came on Saturday followed up by Cable on Sunday at 8 a.m. Sent off by local N.Y. time at 5 a.m.! Hope that means coming home from a merry time. You & I certainly have an amazing faculty

I never got "Pepita" so never thanked

layed in sending

spoke to a soul about

I am sick of thinking

Friday.

been twice to meetings

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May.

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& a letter,

n the extreme
day & it is

Dearest

Kindest regards to Mrs Barr Sr.

"iniezioni ricostituenti" — which I started this morning; & which will bring me up to the mark in no time. Meantime there have been storms w. rain & the air is quite cold this evening. I have not given up Villa Cicerone, only deferred it. Love To-morrow's bulletin will be signed by the Doc, as you never believe me. All foreigners, as you will have read, left in a stampede one evening, for France, where by all accounts, they fared not too well. Here all is serene for the nonce. Let us hope for the best. No news from you as yet.

Love to all 3

Mav.

Saf. Eg 9

Mrs. And what to do ... things stored in top-room; layed in sending

spoke to a soul about

I am sick of thinking

Friday.

been twice to meetings

since I last wrote

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have taken a small

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& a letter,

n the extreme
day & it is

Mrs A.H. Barr
Greensboro
Vermont
U.S.A.

6/9 Piazza Esquilino 8012
Rome

Dearest, I confirm p.c. saying I had a slight setback w. fever. + was on the mend. This is still the precise fact, only more so as concerns the mend. Appetite excellent, morale A+1. but still a bit weak, 20 Dec. Lupi has ordered a fresh series of

Dec 23rd
Received 12 Jan

Eg 9
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

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Dearest Beauty, Best Beloved,

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& a letter,

n the extreme

day & it is

Sat. Eg

Dearest

Sorry I delayed in sending you this. I never spoke to a soul about selling the flat. I am sick of thinking about it since Friday.

Have been twice to meetings at Arrangioli's since I last wrote. They are getting up an intellectual Centre in their house. They have taken a small flat alongside with a view to taking spiritually-minded p. g's or disciples thus inclined. I know they would just love to have me, but have been hermetic hitherto. And how to leave Girardet I know not, for everybody here is ideally right to my taste & such freedom as I have never known. Contaldi would want the top room

Lovissimo May.

Did what do do in that case with things stored in top-room?

P.S. Yesterday managed the flat occupy to bring the a lot before & during the exhibition of 42 [illegible]

room too in good taste. Hall rather baddish, poor & empty, I thought. They would love to have that oil-portrait of your Father

present flat

an electric st

ts to see me

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	MSB	II.319

begun Monday Evg. 27/II/39

Dearest Beauty, Best Beloved,

As this is possibly one of the last of

Monday 20/II

& a letter,

n the extreme

present flat

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s to see me

3 marzo '39

Desidero conoscere:

1) se la Sig.ra Seblari intende vendere il suo appartamento in Via Pierluigi da Palestrina

2) in caso affermativo qual'è il prezzo definitivo e le modalità di pagamento.

A me l'appartamento occorrerebbe per il prossimo novembre, ma debbo decidermi entro marzo avendo in vista altro identico appartamento nello stesso stabile.

Shall ascertain whether he wants to stay on

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Dearest Beauty, Best Beloved,

As this is possibly one of the last of my missives before Xmas and altho' it will not start until Dec.4, by the S.S.REX, I prefer to take time by the famous forelock & tap off a preliminary slice this evening lest someting should hurry me at the last moment. So MERRY CHRISTMAS TO YOU THREE WITH ALL MY HEART AND SOUL ! finda ora, lest that d... dawn without good wish...

As I said - in my ... as ladies asked too m... terms were within ...

CARTOLINA



...he 25th. To-

Forgive this untidy rag of a letter. I am fairly worn out & upset thinking about this offer & wondering what you will decide about it. So I can't write properly as ever fondly

Max

... I should say antiques. Dining=room too in good taste. Hall rather baddish, poor & empty, I thought. They would love to have that oil-portrait of your Father

Monday 20/II

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Sequita

Even with the absurdly low rent of 600 now in force, the flat brings in much more than the Centomila (at most) that it would bring in if sold at 5%. Of course there are the taxes & Condominio trimestrale = Salasso which, last year, was L 251 each rata. This year's January rata has not yet been sent to us. All things considered, my excellent health included, I say: do not sell now. When you come you can consult Aureli or others May.

27/II/39

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Ceilings were broken off
apple. So should I if
Motor-cars will circulate
again.

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28/II/39 Dearest, Got your C.p. by Regilitarmia yesterday. Glad to know constant thought & care. Trust S.P.'s little upset is forgotten by this & that she continues to fulfil her mission of delighting you. A.H. & Arolt. Snowdrops

53½ kilos. I gained 1½ kilo without the least effort. I go out regularly every day tho' perhaps not yet as actively as I might. I am desperately trying to appetite & digestion L.I.F.E. Eureka. Hip hip!

I note all you say about chance of abode & am wishing you wisdom & satisfaction in the whole matter. It must be atrocious not to have a room to one self. Of course here too there much speculation & many conflicting voices about the possibili. Hope to send you

n Monday Evg. 27/II/39

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am glad I did it. They were evidently much elated & glad at my move. He pompous & megalomane as ever, speaks of Gino as "il Maestro". Is spending a lot on the Museum of Bassano where the works will be over & "opened" on April 21. He and Giovanna are going up for the occasion. The Podestà being friendly to them, they evidently expect to be festeggiati. They intend to bequeathe all their pictures to the same Mus. They are right well installed now at No. 10 lungotevere dei Mellini, with lift & autonomous heating, Large Eastern carpets all over the drawing-room floor. A very large room indeed. In very much better taste than I should have expected. On the walls ad olio su tela landscapes/in same tones as ours, I should say antiques. Dining-room too in good taste. Hall rather baddish, poor & empty, I thought. They would love to have that oil-portrait of your Father

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Is not Bella, nor Rollins, nor Berenson, nor the new people. So should S. if posted On Dec 8 or 10/38. Will Mother-Cats will Clarke again.

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Mrs. A. H. Barr Jr.
102 Beekman Place
New York City
U. S. A.

and table article by Mgr. Nogara much commented. Have got into closer touch with Assia Gigli's whose abode is on ground floor with private garden & a public one both very quiet are within 10 yards heating as good as Piranesi. And also no engagements but feel attracted. Anything you may have for me will do when you come. Am bearing your search for work in mind Love Mary.

gun Monday Evg. 27/II/39

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Dearest Beauty, Best Beloved,

As this is possibly one of the last of my missives before Xmas, and altho' it will not start until Dec.4, by the S.S.REX, I prefer to take time by the famous forelock & tap off a preliminary slice this evening lest someting should hurry me at the last moment. So MERRY CHRISTMAS TO YOU THREE WITH ALL MY HEART AND SOUL ! finda ora, lest that day should dawn without good wishes from Mav.

I confirm a recent letter by the Vulcania on the 25th. Today I posted a pot of PSEM, together with a trifle for you, to complete the little doylies that preceded. The latter I recommende but not the former, as the last reached you safely without.

The only thing worth registering this time is that I have thought fit to return Cesare Scolari's visit of last July. I had been screwing myself up for it sine quite a while & on the whole am glad I did it. They were evidently much elated & glad at my move. He pompous & megalomane as ever, speaks of Gino as "il Maestro". Is spending a lot on the Museum of Bassano where the works will be over & "opened" on April 21. He and Giovanna are going up for the occasion. The Podestà being friendly to them, they evidently expect to be festeggiati. They intend to bequeathe all their pictures to the same Mus. They are right well installed now at No. 10 lungotevere dei Mellini, with lift & autonomous heating, Eastern carpets all over the drawing-room floor. A very large room indeed. In very much better taste than I should have expected. On the walls landscapes ad olio su tela in same tones as ours, I should say antiques. Dining-room too in good taste. Hall rather baddish, poor & empty, I thought. They would love to have that oil-portrait of your Father

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This of Course was only a trick

that you lately wrote you do not like. But I said that you were (per farlo apprezzare di più)

anxious keep the child's European relations to the fore & I wa

not sure if oyu could spare it. They both remembered it exactly

& even described it. I did not say long & as there were no pre=

parations for tea in either rooms I refused when they offered

refreshment - a voce. Cesare asked if I would authorise him to

tell his lawyer that you had renounced Alfonso's inherit. (I

was surprised that he did not know it) He said his lawyer did

not either. They mentioned a fine of 45000 lire because of a

formality the deceased had neglected. Marini told me over the

phone that Cesare's avv to or he had agreed that the widow is "una virago" con la quale non si può r

ragionare e nemmeno discorrere. How will the poor thing ever

be able to pay that sum?

I have been able to do a few nicish things owing to your

liberality. Besides the 500 to Sigra Munzi I am getting a per=

1/ L.100 for one year only

mit & fixed pace for a poor thing that sells post-cards near h

here. The police were in the habit of sending her away when t

they found her there as she had no "patente". Then I am getting

Aureli to interest himself in a poor old woman who wants to be

rinchiusa somewhere in Rome where she was born. Then I want to

pay the quota for Bti's lectures, in 2 goes of 50 lire each.

This is all for the present & I feel quite elated & delighted

at being able to do all this.

I note with many thanks & approval what you say so thoughtfull

about the chewing-gum. I am looking out for something suitable.

Thanks for all the trouble about the white shoes. I wish yo

could see your way to letting me get my shoes & clothes altoge

here, now that you have supplied me so liberally with funds, Als

my wardrobe is so amply furnished that a very few items will be

all I shall want now & then.

From Nov on Noris has agreed to pay L.50 more a month; thi

you might take into your account when settling with Aureli. Only

since I saw him lately do I realize how very much you are going

to be out of pocket by this new arrangement that you announced

so airily this summer, as if you had secured a fine bargain !

1st Dec Friday 2 p.m. Nothing much to add to this. I took some longer walks. Went to Testaccio yesterd. afternoon & in the evening w. Sigra Munzi saw an excruciating Alpine-climbing film. On Dec 8 we shall have the Pope frisking about under our windows. Mrs Holwell's answer came censored, I mean opened by Censor but nothing deleted. Love Love & more Love to you 3 Darlings as ever fondly your "owny" Max.

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Pension Principe opposite this house, stipulating for a sunny room in winter & shady idem in Summer. I enclose a joke invented by the Florence Students some Months ago

Your Subscription Expires with December

This expiration notice has been carefully timed to reach you so that you may act on it and mail it back to us with complete assurance that there will be no delay in starting your renewal subscription. You have recently received your October copy, and your November issue is now en route. December, the last issue due on your present subscription, will be mailed shortly.

Therefore in order to avoid any unnecessary interruption in service won't you cooperate with us by returning the enclosed bill with your remittance now? A self-addressed envelope is enclosed for your convenience. Won't you please mail it to-day?

I confirm long letter (partly typed) & p.c. both quite recent. I think of you 3 the whole time, blessing & blessing you in every way, as ever fondly Mav.

The Reader's Digest Association Pleasantville, N. Y., U. S. A.

PRINTED IN U. S. A. 1M-BC

I/39

fied I was on Monday 20/II

hour 2 p.c.'s & a letter,

were lovely in the extreme

is the third day & it is

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& hardier but am hoping for

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shall go in the afternoon. Ø

There were 2 films. By far the best was "Incantesimo" with C. Hepburn. She was re=lly the cause of my going. I liked her immensely, so thanks for having told me. I was to have gone to tea to-day at 5 to Assagioli's, but I sent word last eveni that I dreaded the cold coming home so late. In spite of this message taken by his secretary, he phoned in person to-day to know whether or not I was going - Of course I confirmed. On Monday 13th I went to tea at Aureli's at long last. Piera looked do young & thin that she might be taken for her eldest girl's sister. At a given moment they had decided at the end of Aug. that Palombara was to be thei winter quarters for at least Piera & the youngsters, so there was immense labour transporting blankets & warm clothes for the lot, together with other commoditie Then early in Sept all had to be recarted back to town. This was all done by car & by them themselves. At least so I understood. Now all private cars are forbidde to run, so bicycles are increasing their various uses daily. Sofia came to meet me there & it was all very cordial & pleasant with her stepson. Phipp's ranch project has fallen through, they lost some cash by it, the charming partner having proved a fraud, the made some nice friendships among their guests there. Phipps hates country life anyway. Piera's youngest boy Adriano is the flower of the flock & admirably built lively, clever, aimiable; sucha complexion, such dimples! Two days later I took tea by their invite with Flora Sangiorgi & her mother at their house in Via Pai=siello. I did not ask whether their villino had been sold or let. The present flat has no sun. I saw a wood fire in the hall & where we sat there was an electric st ove. They were most cordial & Flora hopes to return at Easter & wants to see me

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Dearest [2 Nov. Thursd morn.

No news. I am right well & went to theatre last evening with a fellow-guest, the lady directress & owner of the Laboratory where you doylies were made. The Girardet ladies are trying to sell the Pension & the owners of a good hotel in Naples are going over the place every day taking notes, before making an offer. They will allow the Gir. to remain on here until they have found a suitable flat for themselves. This I heard from lady-guest & fr. Munzi only, so it is a yet a secret. Lupi & the Aureli's & Girardet too will easily find me a Comfy home — but the foreign "ambiente" is of course priceless. I hope to create an interview with M. Aureli to-day or to-morrow. If I am to clear out I should prefer doing so before Cold sets in. Indian Summer is in full swing here, hence my dissipation: 2 Cinemas at Supercin. & 1 theatre in same week! Don't worry about my removal it is going to be quite smooth. Am going to make inquiries to-day at

Thursday 23/II/39

to tell you how electrified I was on Monday 20/II

ast & within the next ½ hour 2 p.c.'s & a letter,

& cards 6 & 7th Nov. All were lovely in the extreme

This is the third day & it is

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long spells. Am takng ~~xxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxx~~ no medici=

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then again

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Thursday 23/II/39

Dearest, Darling Beauty, How to tell you how electrified I was on Monday 20/II on getting a cable at breakfast & within the next ½ hour 2 p.c.'s & a letter, dated resply: stands for respectively the letter 6th & cards 6 & 7th Nov. All were lovely in the extreme 1 10 This is the third day & it is I hasten to say that I am well & go out in the sun every day in spite of tramon= raining so we not may hope it is now over. i tana(sunny) tho not for very long spells. Am takng ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ no medici= ne for ~~xx~~ months past, should love to be stronger & hardier but am hoping for improvements. Went to a movey in the evening alone, but decided that in future, unless I find company for an evening "performance" I shall go in the afternoon. ~~Ø~~ There were 2 filma. By far the best was "Incantesimo" with C. Hepburn. She was re= lly the cause of my going. I liked her immensely, so thanks for having told me. I was to have gone to tea to-day at 5 to Assagioli's, but I sent word last eveni noo that I dreaded the cold coming home so late. In spite of this message taken by his secretary, he phoned in person to-day to n/ kow whether or not I was going - Of course I confirmed. On Monday 13th I went to tea at Aureli's at long last. Piera looked do young & thin that she might be taken for her eldest girl's si ~~x~~ ster. At a given moment they had decided at the end of Aug. that Palombara was to be thei winter quarters for at least Piera & the youngsters, so there was immense labour transporting blankets & warm clothes for the lot, together with other commoditie Then early in Sept all had to be recarted back to town. This was all done by car & by them themselves. At least so I understood. Now all private cars are forbidde to run, so bicycles are increasing their various uses daily. Sofia came to meet with her stepson me there & it was all very cordial & pleasant. Phipp's ranch project has fallen through, they lost some cash by it, the charming partner having proved a fraud, the made some nice friendships ~~xxxxx~~ among their guests there. Phipps hates country life anyway. Piera's youngest boy Adriano is the flower of the flock & admirably on built lively, clever, amiable; sucha complexion, such dimples! Two days later I took tea by their invite with Flora Sangiorgi & her mother at their house in Via Pai= siello. I did not ask whether their villino had been sold or let. The present flat has no sun. I saw a wood fire in the hall & where we sat there was an electric st ove. They are most cordial & Flora hopes to return at Easter & wants to see me when again

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then & show me her Swiss daughter, now 14. The first, Fausta, as you may remember is separated from her husband. There was nothing grave to cause this, but he was a pampered only child & so badly brought up that she could not stand his ways. She too was spoiled so they agreed to separate & have remained good friends. Alma too is in Rome now, back from Santiago, Chile & bound for Panama in a week or two Her husband is most devoted to her & satisfactory in every way. Her daughter by th Ist husband seems to live with Mrs Sangiorgi. I shall probably see her at Easter, Wonder if she has improved in looks & hope for her sake that she has. Olga's boy now 10, lunches with them every day & is totally disrespectful & illmannered to all, father comprised. If the women try to improve him Giorgio interferes & says: Let him alone, I'll attend to his manners. Olga still lives at his villino, but is thought to be living pretty freely. On that same Monday 20th the afternnon post brought me a long letter from Mrs Holwell to whom I had written to hear whether the Pazzi's had fled? Who was chaplain at all S's & where Sissons is now? The Pazzi have all returned to their villa on the Janiculum, The former chaplain has reopened the church & Sissons is in Australia. She gave me a permanent address for him Archdeacon J. Sissons, Lloyd's Bank, 16 St. James Street. London S.W.I. Her letter had been opened by Censor of course. I return to your letter & cards. I simply love the winter coat as it is, tho I have only worn it once, owing to unusually warm autumn & then only one evening at a cine merely out of curiosity. It is wonderful & what quality in the stuff & lining! There is nothing out of keeping about it so I intend to wear it exactly as it is. It is perfectly warm enough. If needful I can pile on underneath. But I need never go unless weather is suitable. I know about typing in another room, but prefer to write letters in the evening. There are always a few Italian guests now so the show is not an absolute dead loss. We have had heating all day during the tramontana. I don't think I shall need to go ask Noris about Electric fan-heater. If needed I shall buy one. Aureli has instructed Marini to be courteous to poor Noris & they consequesntly are on such excellent terms that they write each other quite flowery epistles, so Massimo tells me. Can't say how relieved I am to hear excellent account of your general health, but

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Tr. mouth & your shoulder trouble both need treatment & I earnestly trust you wi
bear this fact in mind, for as you know, unless attended to this gum trouble doe
not disappear, ~~otherwise~~. Besides it is a sign of being run down. Yes, I now hav
all my things around me at long last & it is no small comfort I assure ~~you~~ you.
This room is really wonderfully warm & bright & I hear the phone & hall-doorbe
not at all virtually. I am sorry you had so much trouble about those excellent t
excessive white shoes. I have at hand just the man you advise who dyes shoes & ha
bags to perfection, to judge by pattern specimens on show. He has tidied up some
shabby books for me & is a kind of general cleverality man. Also he is an origi=
nal & apparently devoted to your Mother. In spite of what you are pleased to say s
sweetly about S.P.'s birthday letter, I still feel bad about it & trust to do be
ter in future. I liked Mrs Kitty Day & wish her luck with her play. What about her
husband? So glad you are seeing some of those Russian Ballets you got so fond of
here long ago. I thought the dancing wonderful, but was quite unprepared for the
comedy scenes, I ~~say~~ mean those I happened to see. You mentioned Ph. Johnson's re=
cent flying visit here & longing to see me without address. Next time he need
only look in the Telephone List in any shop. I am there. I am getting S.P.'s large
photos framed. So glad to hear she is flourishing & immensely tickled at her cal=
ling you Mrs Barr. Shall now takes steps to send on the rest of the PSEMS. The s
stockings you left me for M. Nap. were last year's. She came for them brining chi
Giovanna too & stayed an unconscionably long time. I thought I should faint. Sin
ce then I have not seen her. Nor did you leave me any for her this year. Last not
least I want to thank for the lovely tailleaur you mention in last p.c. It sounds
marvellous in every way - even the side-pockets. You say "collo di lupo" Did you
mean volpe? I too am "exercised" by the increasing rarity of the boats & like you,
shall resort to the "Clipper" au besoin. Hope you got my Cable & that you have by
this got over you panic about this place being unheated. If & when it changes ha
nds, I shall hope to stay on in my sunny room which I owe to your unremitting lo=
ving thoughtfulness & devotion. Forget about the uncouthness of the Trustees &
accept gratefully & lovingly the rise in salary as direct from God. May He bless
you 3 ~~in~~ every thinkable respect Lovingly as ever Mary.

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P.S. In a former (recent) letter, I spoke of sending funds to "Unity" & confirm same. But am assailed by qualms as to whether, in giving the address, I added "Correspondence School Dept." which is important. Besides this, I now discover that since June 24 1938, I owe this same Department $.25 (= 25 cents) equal to Lit. 4.75 – a trifle, of course, for you people over there, but as they sent a note about it, I should like you to regulate it & regret not remembering this when instructing you about the tecnicolor money & wonder hopefully that my letter reached you in time to stop your sending it to me.

item

Since I saw Aureli I realize & have calculated the very considerable sum you will be out of pocket through me by this recent arrangement. If I had understood the plan before I should not have mentioned need or rather velleità for new tailleur. Please consider my present pleading proposal & wish that by this new plan I dress myself i.e. get here whatever clothes I need in future – including shoes, for remember, please, that I still have to hand the 3 pair of Solette you sent me some time ago.

N.B.

Lovissimo

Mav.

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S.U.A.

Mrs A.H. Barr

No 2 Beekman Place

New York City

U.S.A.

15/2/39. I note all you say about Arctic temperature & can't say I envy you or S.P. such bitter cold, no matter how well prepared for. This p.c. is to supplement No 1. Amsending "Mustrazione". In the matter of clothes, you know how long my things last, so to avoid superfluities & save expense I here mention the only things I need, or shall need in the near future, tho' I do think you ought now to curtail sendings &

39

t only a flying line, to catch rning Mar.

morrow. A;so to thank for 3 ly as you

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welcome. I should love to answ e fond of

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you have got a bad complex of "Heil

which I am the helpless & totally innocent & pretty indignant obje ix.

ct. You know how I hate all this fuss. What can I do but promise a üss Gott!

gain & again to apply to Aureli in case I should, by any unthinkabl lly say

chance, ~~I should~~ run short. Here I must quit the subject for fear of Dutch lady

hurting your feelings. The thing makes me feel such a perfetrfool! don't you

Alberti came to Tea on Sat 2/I2 & stayed 2 full hours. Seemed , I am A

to find me immensely improved since Badia. If he had felt bored he bon".

would not have stayed so long. I enjoed his visit beyond words. He d: -

wants to plan a tea with a lady friend called Bracci?(?) to get me Catholic:

and her acquainted. t Christ Nazi.

Thanks again for the wondrous violet tailleur & white shoes do-I-get-

about which you have gone, poor darling, to so much trouble. Please put, post the

consider my proposal for shoes & clothes in future. Italian shoes come out

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Max.

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gain & again to apply to Aureli in case I should, by any unthinkabl
chance, ~~I should~~ run short. Here I must quit the subject for fear of
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Alberti came to Tea on Sat 2/12 & stayed 2 full hours. Seemed
to find me immensely improved since Badia. If he had felt bored he
would not have stayed so long. I enjoed his visit beyond words. He
wants to plan a tea with a lady friend called Bracci?(?) to get me
and her acquainted.

Thanks again for the wondrous violet tailleur & white shoes
about which you have gone, poor darling, to so much trouble. Please
consider my proposal for shoes & clothes in future. Italian shoes

Camilla Moretti had the 2 nd set back a week sad away 10 days ago.

just a strict limit on expenses for M.S.T.
None of following items are urgent.
All will only be useful in Summer
and only when you come.
P. White Shoes, or better grey
ones perhaps. I walk so lit=
tle that they need not be so
heavy or so strong as hitherto
& if possible Shd not be gloss inside
but I expect this is not a suitable
item so don't worry about this detail.
By using Solette which I have, I can find
shoes here to suit perfectly with
broad heels of moderate height.
Blouse to be useful, Should be
a little dressy so as to do even
for dinner with, say a flowar
of wh. I have a certain number, & may
no more. I have a large number
of morning & daytime blouses &
Skirts, So don't add to them please.
Have got in touch with Asdagiolis: most Cordial
& may arrange part of Summer with them.
I am leaving to day Brenner Love to Harold.
MAV.

Have & think begun to fall out.

rning Mar.

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MAV.

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12/11/39 We have had 2 overcastish days w. Sun only fr. 12-4. To-day I walked thro' Colle Oppio Park to the Colosseum & returned by tram. I've begun to do a little work at long last. To-morrow I'm invited to tea at Aureli's. Flora Sangiorgi phoned this afternoon inquiring for me. We are to fix an appointment by phone to morrow. Some of my belts & skirts are being widened, still I am not very fat - Just a bit. Now that we are so reduced in number & our few Italy guests feed at sidetables the "family" converses with me for the first time. Nothing definite has transpired about transfer or sale tho' it is known that serious offers have been made. I have heard some new notes (unfavourable) about one of my British hostesses - the clerical one - The Anglo Am. Nursing Home is Closing

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would not have stayed so long. I enjoyed his visit beyond words. He
wants to plan a tea with a lady friend called Bracci?(?) to get me
and her acquainted.

Thanks again for the wondrous violet tailleur & white shoes
about which you have gone, poor darling, to so much trouble. Please
consider my proposal for shoes & clothes in future. Italian shoes

have I think begun to fill out!

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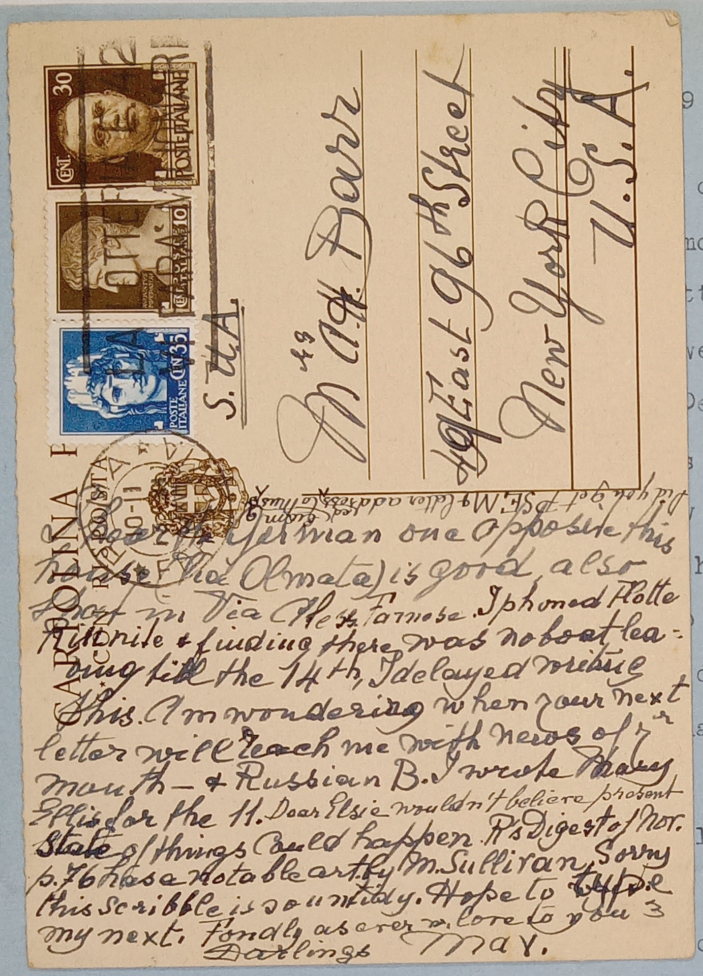

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Mae V.

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'8/II/39

Dearest, this is to my regret only a flying line, to catch the Saturnia sailing from Naples to-morrow. A;so to thank for 3 letters dated Nov. II, I7. & 24 , latter came on Monday the other 2 on Tuesday. All delightful & most welcome. I should love to answer in detail but not this time. On Dec I6 the Conte is leaving from Naples & then I shall say things properly.

I am fairly at my wits' end as to how to convince you of my absolute comfort & well-being. The heating here started all day long before the I5 Nov. & has never been ½ so good as this year thanks to great works that the Gir. Ladies had done to the caldaia this summer I t was partial for About three days & then total at once.

I am of couse upset as usual at this fresh draft of money. What on earth do you think I can do with all this stuff? I can only keep listing all the lovely things you are depriving yourself & A.H. & S.F. of . I am beginning to suspect you have got a bad complex of which I am the helpless & totally innocent & pretty indignant object. You know how I hate all this fuss. What can I do but promise again & again to apply to Aureli in case I should, by any unthinkable chance, ~~I should~~ run short. Here I must quit the subject for fear of hurting your feelings. The thing makes me feel such a perfect fool!

Alberti came to Tea on Sat 2/I2 & stayed 2 full hours. Seemed to find me immensely improved since Badia. If he had felt bored he would not have stayed so long. I enjoed his visit beyond words. He wants to plan a tea with a lady friend called Bracci?(?) to get me and her acquainted.

Thanks again for the wondrous violet tailleur & white shoes about which you have gone, poor darling, to so much trouble. Please consider my proposal for shoes & clothes in future. Italian shoes

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even the deares, t/ are so much cheaper, lighter in weight, & more becom
ing. You seem systematically to overlook my mention of having no less th
an 3 pairs of solette metalliche.

Many delighted thanks for the fresh series of snaps of S.P. They are so very prettily chosen, I mean the su
rroundings are so very pretty & the child so natural. The shot with collected
mrs BARR is very resembling & shows her in much better health than
when here. So glad for poor tired A.H. that the Picasso show ia such
an unprecedented success. Shows how he has been educating & enligh-
tening his public during all these years, through those wondrous pr
efaces. No more absolutely for this time I am right well & my room i
is far too hot on sunny days like to-day. I hope to send Illustrazi
one with views of to-day's ceremony here ai the Basilica. WE all
listened in at the Prayer for Peace held in the Borghese chapel & I
firmly believe joined heartily & fervently.

as ever fondly

Mav.

confirm
I confirm a very recent letter by the Rex.

P.S. There is a wonderful review of "Capitolium" with detailed Plans of the '42 Exhibition. Am hoping to secure one for Alta

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P.S. I noticed that this time the cap is not lined! 23/1/39

Next minsye will tell you how much I weigh & what height I have attained before I'm let out!

Dearest Beauty,

This is only a scribble to say that this morning Mar. sent me the cap & that this afternoon early I posted it exactly as you suggested in your letter & instructions on a slip in pack.2. It is very pretty..I can imagime S.P. looking her very best in it. Is she fond of nice clothes or anything like as vain as you were & as I am? I do hope & trust you will approve of the size this time. Perhaps if Mar. had said from the first that it was to be worn as far back as I described in a ...been well from the start. To day I collected ...tioned having got on Saturday ...and blesse ...o keep for your economy-fund the rest of ...ext from the Technicolor source. I am gett= ...ter ,so please do as I say & don't start a ...er.

...liends in England, and China where she travels ...f imteresting people.Latterly she regaled ...following which may sound stale to you, in ...ll for the deed.

...n peasant says by way of salute: "Heil ...cross road & there was a Crucifix. ...ow they invariably do there: "Grüss Gott! ...'t you salute properly? ...pointing to the Cross) I'll gladly say

...Germany. A passenger salutes a Dutch lady ...rs"Guten Tag!"How is this? "hy don't you ...dy:"Well,you see I am not German, I am A ...Hm, We'll soon be there too, very soon". ...s there already".

...ver the condemnation of the world: - ... I in 1914 ....

...olic: All Jews are &c. &c." The Catholic: But Christ ...n the Mother's side!"retorts the Nazi.

...cal policeman: "Heil Hitler-how-do-I-get= ...Britannia-second-to-the-right."

...ed, so tho I had planned to go out, post the ... I refrained. By 3.30 the sun had come out ...& dried the streets so I sallied forth, not expecting much cold After a very few minutes in a bank cose by here I stared to come home in the teeth of a piercing high wind. Very sudden, violent change, unpleasant, but I took no harm. In fact there was no time it was all so near home.

Good night, you sweet Thing. I have nothing to say, except that I love you more & more. I find myself rehearsing the most unearthly, gibbe= rishy nursery & other silly rhymes & wondering which S.P. would like best. I fancy however very few grannies get on with very small kids . Besides I expect she is quite different from what I fancy & it might be safer for all concerned if she & I do not get acquainted that is, unless much later if ever she is put to school here for a time.

as ever fondly Your sole & only Max.

P.S. I've put it in place of the ...



Monday 30/1

Many thanks for most welcome letter of 20/1 with Comments on some of my letters. Bec. Sorrow that mine for the 18th had not reached you even then. Glad you sent Scarf to Mrs B. I hated the conventional pattern & much preferred the one you liked best & I hope it's O.K. I note with much Concern your exhaustion after a whole day coping single handed with S.P. in a teething

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crisis & its mysterious transforming effects. On these occasions, I more than once surprised Miralma, your first nurse, making exorcism with oil on water in a waterglass. She was convinced you were bewitched. I found a salve for the aching gums that brought relief for a time. It is harrowing to see little ones suffer, ... and to know big ones' exhausted by cooking, catering & nursing. Your very informative letter contained back Stub & 1 cigarette. It came open. I expect the Scent aroused curiosity. I have now forwarded all to A. by post except records. It was quite easy. I weigh 52 stiles & a half. & have started a Second Series of injects by nurse. By this you will have received C.o.d. via posted by me in person on 23/1. Yes, new teeth are now satisfy. Comfy. Mouth & tongue still refractory - even to your Regaret. f. wh many thanks. Rebecca is a remarkable a- chievement. Very fascinating. Overjoyed at good news about Andrea. d. Sarto. Congratulations about 6 French Lessons. Best wishes about Job & S.P's summer quarters. Lorissimo to all 3 Mav.

23/1/39

Next mishye will tell you how much I weigh. Have I put on flesh? Have I grown fat? Have I grown thin? Have I put on flesh? Have I grown fat? Have I grown thin? Have I put on flesh? Have I grown fat? Have I grown thin?

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23/1/39

Dearest Beauty,

This is only a scribble to say that this morning Mar. sent me the cap & that this afternoon early I posted it exactly as you suggested in your letter & instructions on a slip in pack.2. It is very pretty..I can imagime S.P. looking her very best in it. Is she fond of nice clothes or anything like as vain as you were & as I am? I do hope & trust you will approve of the size this time. Perhaps if Mar. had said from the first that it was to be worn as far back as I described in a recent letter all would have been well from the start. To day I collected A.'s recent cheque that I mentioned having got on Saturday ...and blessed you in the act. I want you to keep for your economy-fund the rest of what may come in until Jan. next from the Technicolor source. I am getting to feel bad about this matter ,so please do as I say & don't start a fuss about so trifling a matter.

Miss Kendall has good friends in England, and China where she travels extensively & knows heaps of imteresting people.Latterly she regaled a small group of us with the following which may sound stale to you, in which case please take the will for the deed.

A Nazi meeting a Bavarian peasant says by way of salute: "Heil Hitler" ! They had met at a cross road & there was a Crucifix. The peasant answers, as you know they invariably do, there: "Grüss Gott! "What do you mean? Why don't you salute properly? "When I see Hitler there,(pointing to the Cross) I'll gladly say "Heil Hitler"!

In a railway-carriage in Germany. A passenger salutes a Dutch lady : "Heil Hitler! The lady answers"Guten Tag!"How is this? "hy don't you answer as you should?" The lady:"Well,you see I am not German, I am A Dutchwoman". The passenger: "Hm, We'll soon be there too, very soon". The lady: No doubt, William is there already".

Hitler, in fits of laughter over the condemnation of the world: - William: to him: - So laughed I in 1914 ....

A zealous Nazi to a Catholic: All Jews are &c. &c." The Catholic: But Christ himself was a Jew!"- " Only on the Mother's side!"retorts the Nazi.

A Nazi in London to a local policeman: "Heil Hitler-how-do-I-get-to- Victoria-Station?"
The policemen very stiff:Rule Britannia-second-to-the-right."

This forenoon it rained, so tho I had planned to go out, post the the cap & collect A's cheque, I refrained.By 3.30 the sun had come out & dried the streets so I sallied forth,not expecting much cold.After a very few minutes in a bank cose by here I stared to come home in the teeth of a piercing high wind. Very sudden, violent change, unpleasant, but I took no harm. In fact there was no time it was all so near home.

Good night,you sweet Thing. I have nothing to say, except that I love you more & more.I find myself rehearsing the most unearthly, gibberishy nursery & other silly rhymes & wondering which S.P.would like best. I fancy however very few grannies get on with very small kids . Besides I expect she is quite different from what I fancy & it might be safer for all concerned if she & I do not get acquainted that is,unless much later if ever she is put to school here for a time.

as ever fondly Your sole & only Mav.

P.S. I noticed that this time the cap is not lined! Next missive will tell you how much I weigh. Have I put on flesh or begun to fall out?

P.S. I've had 1 & 2 & not Dig One Gigolette (a la carte) yet. Miss Logue before Miss Logue Miss Logue Miss Logue

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9.30 p.m.
I'm now sailing forth to post this letter. I like to go out after dinner on any pretext. And these evenings are so mild!

"2I/I/39 Saturday Evg.

Dearest Beauty & Best Beloved, Neither is this a really adequate suitable or in any way proportionate answer to your colossal EFFORT from Plymouth.

This is rather to say that A. has just written an hour ago to say he is glad to have your book and enclosing cheque for L.600. with enclosed letter. I wish I knew some dodge for reassuring you on my account. Why, here am I in this heavenly weather, going out to bask in the hot sun every blessed day, fizzing round to movies & tea-rooms & you still go on eating your head off fretting about me & the bitterness of the winter. You seem to forget the glorious weather that prevails here as a rule in Jan. Dunque, I have been to tea at Rampoldi's in V. 2 Macelli with Miss Kendall; as I said in a previous line, there is a right good orchestra there & the public is sometimes interesting. That evening, immediately after cena 8.I5 found me in the most violent autobus in Rome - the II5 on my way to the Cinema Galleria to see the 7 Dwarfs with Sigra Girardet's daughter Elena who seems to like me. Next day I went to see same film again with Sigra Munzi a kind of St"utze der Hausfrau here with whom I get on right well. They both enjoyed themselves well & we were back at 23 oclock. This seems to be W. Disney's Big Effort God bless him, & is truly delightful. I wish I could tell you the success of your recent scarfs & my remodelled hats. Now that I am so well again, of course I try to be a little smarter than when I was weak & fasting. So everybody here is delighted to know that you & I get on so well & above all that all my lovely things are genuine U.S.A. glories & they seem obliged to me for doing them some little credit by setting them off to advantage. So they say. So 2 Teas & 2 cinemas in the same week are really an event for me & I consider them a crowning point in my recovery, marking indeed the final stage of my very successful convalescence. I forgot to say that Mary Ellis's 2 Friends

Thanks for Culling about A. Giomi Commemoration Concert

P.S. In spite of horsefeeding to aaKn. Arpalice this time got one of the nurses to write & thank, because A. was having flu. but was on the mend.

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I offered of course to settle expense for both caps, but Maria said I must not settle, because it was a matter between you & her.

are still here, have both been ill, & that I had them to the G. Gate for tea on Wednesday, They liked the food & tea & the locale. I ought by rights to have had them to Rampoldi's, but am so giddy, I never thought of it. However we are to meet again & have a pic-nic Tea this next time, so can still go there. It is rather more expensive than The G.G..

I am to phone Mar. Nap, at 21°15 in hope of ascertaining whether the cap has turned up as she promised the day she came here & stayed so late that the second bell rang while she was in the lift going away. If she had let me know she was coming I should of course have changed for the eveng. before she came & gone out to tea or to a cinema. It seemed an endless visit & must have bored her stiff too, so I can't think why she put herself in for such a corvée. The child is just as you saw her at Vallomb. only still more petulant & insisting on my telling her stories about you when little. You know how my mouth dries up when I talk, so what with the new teeth & the dryness, ...! I begged her in future to phone before coming, Trivellato came in the same way some day this week & found me not, for the 2 teas kept me out till round 19.15. He too ought to know better than to drop from heaven after exactly a year's interval & no common interests. Miss Kendall told me of an amusing book "Pepita", by Sackville-West. If you actually have it & can spare it I shall return it when read, or when you come over - for Mar. Nap. tells me that you are really planning to come over, in May, I think she said. She also said that this season you have thought fit to do the cooking with your own darling hands. Of course I quite see the practical side of this measure which is made feasible by the all-roundness of Carroll & the fact of only having one real meal at home. So I'm not going to rail & say I'm navrée this time, tho' I am, a little. Such a thing could however never have happened to me for the very simple reason that my cooking répertoire, tho' good, would not have been sufficient, at least not without Il Talismano & some tolerance from my public at the start. Of course I feel immensely glad to have this extra windfall & am busily planning how best to use it

Love & love & love to all 3 {as ever fondly your only Mar.

Mar wishes me to say that she got her darta to make a model on the measure that you wrote me & that this Cap is the result.

Dopo cena 9.15:- Mar. Nap. has just received the cap & will send it to me quanto prima & I shall mail it in your envelope without delay.

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S.U.A.

Mrs A.H. Barr
No 2 Beekman Place No 2
New York City
U.S.A.

Nearest, I dined at 60 Cic on Monday. Massimo assures me that prices of flats will soar & shoot in few months & be greatly in demand for sale or otherwise. So I have said "No" to Contaldi who assured me that 105 thou was too much. Mass. says that I shd not accept less than 150 th. for the whole (comprising, I think, top-room). So we have lots of time before us & can talk & inquire when and if you come you come to Italy.

begun Saturday 7/I/39
finished Sunday early afternoon.

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& thus have been able to start this epistle at an hour in which, for the
past month, I have lain down feeling quite overcome at first with weak=
ness & then by sleep so overpowering & persistent that after struggling
valiantly I have nearly always had to give in, with what loss of time you
can imagine. All this to say that I had planned at once to write you a very
nice letter the very afternoon of Wednesday 4/I on which the 2nd parcel
arrived, next day same thing for the same reasons & finally that p.c.
was indited at the sunny café out of pure shame & despair of even that
day getting to the projected letter. X I phoned Maria asking what
steps if any she had taken about the child's cap. She says she wrote at
once to that friend in Cagliari in whom she places implicit trust. She also
said a pretty interesting thing about the way to wear such caps. They

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I'm so well & springy now that I could meet you anywhere (inside or outside Italy if this suits you this year. Not having renewed passport I don't know of this possibility in advance — say 1 month before starting. Yesterd. afternoon I went down to St Sarvais and Cleaning of Jo's room preparatory to my going there also two times to get linen & bring books up & down, also to flit. I asked tenant to let me know as soon as possible whether he intends to stay. Also to say that the flat may possibly be sold or increased in rent tho' not before '39. Termosif. & lift both horribly insufficient, he says. A gas expert called in for repairs, told Maria the tenant that our whole Colonna w^d never heat properly unless thoroughly overhauled. Pignatti & Castellani are both selling their flats, as I said in a previous line. Yesterd. & to-day had had tramontana, tho I only felt it returning yesterd. at 6 p.m. by auto bus. So had only a few steps to take. To-day on this acc^t I do not go out, though I am due at Assagioli's at 5. I continue to have bright interesting Conversat^s at table where I am now getting no end of compliments for my German. We now have a violinist called Gelch who has given Concerts in 45 States he, with a German-Swiss man, are my table neighbours. Gentlemen

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Dearest Beauty & Best-Beloved,

This is a pure & unadulterated & unmiti=gated apology & amends for having put ypu off yesterday with a misera= p.c. in return for all your lovely Xmas presents in the two parcels of preparation & expedition of which must be a both a bother & a sore affliction - and the box - and the string - and above all the sea ling-wax process. The only time I sent you a parcel it took me parts of 2 days at least. All this of course apart from the loving care, fore-thought & intuition it took to choose, get home & camouflage all the ar=ticles - besides writing out a list in the letters to me about them. Fact is that I had worked myself into a sleepy phase (now happily over) through using too much lemon juice with all the items of my two principal meals. It was of course very appetising before my appetite got really normal, but I found it wasn't good for me in other ways & so have given it up completely. Evil symptoms persis=ted of course for a while still, but to-day I seem to be completely immune, & thus have been able to start this epistle at an hour in which, for the past month, I have lain down feeling quite overcome, at first with weak=ness & then by sleep so overpowering & persistent that after struggling valiantly I have nearly always had to give in, with what loss of time you can imagine. All this to say that I had planned at once to write you a very nice letter the very afternoon of Wednesday 4/I on which the 2nd parcel arrived, next day same thing for the same reasons & finally that p.c. was indited at the sunny café out of pure shame & despair of even that day getting to the projected letter. X I phoned Maria asking what steps if any she had taken about the child's cap. She says she wrote at once to that friend in Cagliari in whom she places implicit trust. She also said a pretty interesting thing about the way to wear such caps. They

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must not reach to the forehead but even if large enough to do so, be set back as far as the front line of both ears, with a lot of hair swarming out in front & on top. You had a little cap that Mary Ellisø's mother sent you, worn that way that suited you better than so many other things you ever had as a real kid, X Today in the teeth of a very cold tramontana with slight wind I took the latest felt hat to the Modista to be remodelled. She says she has an idea about it & will have a project ready for Tuesday afternoon . She is young, has an immense custom, takes invariably only L.10. for everything & has good fashion plates & many ideas, besides the constant practice. X A guest returning late from the Opera heard me typing & reported, so I have been requested not to type later that 10.30. Said Lady sleeps miles away from me but the sound is said to travel upstairs & down, as I learned in Jonaggano where, at the dead of night, the porter knocked to say the people below had rung him up to complain. On this latter occasion here I knew I had no immediate neighbours & so had gone on typing. Since then an elderly Amer. couple have taken two rooms on my left. The lady sleeps next to me, is noisy about handling things, smokes excelent cigarettes & has (eleven !) an 11-year-old very tiny dog that barks, so I have decided to conform to rules, as they look pretty crochetty. Also to complain if she really disturbs me. The Direzione here has lately become more benign, perhaps owing to the poor little L.50. I offered at Xmas "per uno svago" . I nearly fainted when the more risoluta of the Dir.; Sgnina Luisa came to apologize about not having provided bananas for me, idem next day to say there were none to be had in town. Can't think what has come over the good folk unless the fact of my having risen to having the 2 dinner-guests I mentioned in p.c. & having purchased an acquaforte from Signa Clotilde , - has perhaps raised my social standing . Said Acquaforte is by Dante Ricci & pretty suggestive . I herewith make so bold as to offer it to you. If you don't care for it , you simply pass it on to someone to whom you feel you have to give a present to. De gustibecs &c. Have no scruples either!

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I feel I have by this act done one of te h/ most courageous things I ever did in my puny life. It takes nerve to give you or A.H. a present. Mrs B. & I arrived at this conclusion last winter, for her experiences & mine seemed to coincide on this point. Alas! I lately quite lost your precious stilo - the one you sent me from Vassar so soon after getting there. I took it out to address a trifle I was sending Sigra Marconi that lives over out flat, left it in the bag all that day and next, probably pulled it out with other things to look for something - Kurz! weg war sie - so I have had to get another at Accossano's in the GAmbero & tho' the point is broader & it is quite nicish I feel I shall never like it as well as the other. On the Sunday after Christmas I went to the 11 o'cl. service at AllSaint's & stayed for Communion, incidentally I got pretty tired & frozen; Viceversa was rather awestruck by the doings of the younger clergyman who took the second service; to begin with, he wore some of his hair raised in a kind of top-knot, there were other novelties too. Mr Ariel Harkness the regular clergyman took the first service & gave out the steps to be taken in order to witness & welcome arriving the British Ministers. Brit. Subjects are to occupy a special Tribune on piazza d. Terme. Of course I feel pretty cool about this arrival tho' not about its significance. But I can see that some of the Amer. ladies are quite keen about seeing them. Of course, & fortunately, all will be very different from the reception this spring to the ALLY. Personally I hope that the Army will be kept discreetly in the background

I have begun & am fascinated already by "REbecca" the book that J. Mc Andrew sent me for Christmas But am somwhat nonplussed by things like "but he remained standing on his feet" page 16 line 1. Do they stand elsewhere in U.S.? Shall will should would too seem somewhat riotously used, also in & int[o]. However the atmosphere is tense & enthralling from the very outset & that takes something more than mere grammar. I had an interesting chat with a Jewish family on the move, that stayed here for a few days. Forgive dullness. All essential items were condensed in p.c. of yesterday. Also hardihood re acquaforte. This ought to reach you about tthe 18th. As ever fondly, but more so, your MAV.

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[N.B.]

The Pinocchio I sent S. P. by last boat was made by a boy of five a grandson of Sig^na Girardet, who comes here every Sunday with his people to lunch. The first attempt was greatly admired by the aunts &c. &c. so I "ordered" a copy for my granddaughter of two & a 1/2. This was duly handed over by the artist last Sunday & duly posted next day — so please, say some "Convenevole" about it some time. This boy is an uncommon type — very handsome. Terribly shy & silent; but quite manly & independent. Very fair with deep blue eyes.

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31/39 Sunday. To-days paper registered 200 persons injured by falling on the verglas, as the French call that condition of the ground. The German term is ~~xxxx~~ "Glatteis". They often had it in Paris in my time. Watching from my window I saw ever so many persons fall, but none seemed hurt. The ladies & girls climbed up the steps of S.M. Magg. in their usual high-heeled little shoes, whereas wisdom would have suggested high goloshes coming well over the whole foot. Papers say that since 1864 there has not been so heavy a fall of snow in Rome. There was only quite a small Christmas-tree this time, it was only lighted once for some distant relatives with children that were staying here at the time. My hosts are in mourning for a near relation, I expect the empty house in Sept. & October too made them disinclined to make any extra outlay. Altho' there is only one room occupied on the top-floor by ~~xxx~~ Sigra Girardet & her daughter, the whole top-floor is as thoroughly heated as this one owing to the way the heating is installed. There is no way of cutting-off the top-floor, or any of the radiatori. To be sure it is <u>autonomo</u>, but all the same it must be pretty expensive - when the house is half empty. To-day two more parties arrived, Yesterday two more, of which one Am. so things on the whole might be worse. There were fleurs de neige in a lovely pattern on my window this morning early. The principal thoroughfares have been partially cleared & traffic in the centre has been resumed.

Jan. 1/40 A decided thaw has set in. I am going out to post this myself. I began my <u>Recollections</u> yesterday. A very happy blessed prosperous year to you three Darlings. Hugs all round. As ever fondly

Mav. Heating is still A.I

P.S. The new medicines (am taking them steadily) are delivering the stuff. I feel stronger & less puffy.