

Herschel House,
Cambridge.

Tuesday the 3rd

My dearest George

I was very glad to find that the California did not sail after all till Saturday morning. I suppose it was because the weather was so stormy.

I am afraid I am going to do the one thing you told me not to and use a ton of ~~coal~~ straight away. We are under thick snow here. Some fell on Saturday night but on Sunday night there was a heavy fall & yesterday was a glorious sunny day. The children played at making snow men in the afternoon in the garden & had a lovely time. It was thawing most of the day & when I went to bed but it froze later in the night & was freezing hard this morning.

Blunt has again not come so I have rung up Mrs Salter & he is well so I have taken his address and written to him.

Nellie, the new cook is so far very satisfactory. She seems very nice & cooks well.

Frances Willb is coming here tomorrow for five days. I shall enjoy that. We are both going to dine with the Cranages on Thursday before the lecture. So far I seem nearly as full of engagements as I was before you left. People are being most awfully kind and nice. Really I think more friendly than they were at Gadalming.

M^{rs} Craneage rang Vi up to find out when I was coming home that she might meet me with her car. Vi didn't know, but it was most awfully kind of her.

At Blitchley I got into the same carriage as John Christie. He was coming to Cambridge to stay with David for the Greek play. So I saw him again in the evening.

I enjoyed seeing the Greek play quite a lot, the dances were very good & the colour scheme pretty. As I did not understand it there did seem a lot of standing still and spouting at the audience. But I expect if I had understood it I should not have felt that so much.

I am so sorry you left your dressing gown behind. I am sending it to Bombay & then addressed to Darjeeling in case it misses you.

Wednesday

I see that the California left Gibraltar on the 4th. So now you are in the Mediterranean. I hope it is warm and nice. I am getting rather worried about the garden. If the weather goes on being so cold I shall not possibly be able to get the necessary seed sowing done before I go away. If I can't do it I think I shall come back for a few days of solid gardening in April. I hoped to do a lot of greenhouse seed sowing today but I can't get the seed boxes. The fishmonger

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promised them but he has not sent them.

I went to the Quay Village performance last night. It was quite good and very well arranged. There was no scenery so there were no long pauses as there so often are in amateur theatricals. I think the whole show was a great credit to M^{rs} Salter.

The young man we picked up at St Neots, came round yesterday just as we were starting nursery tea so I asked him up and he was quite pleasant and jolly and evidently enjoyed seeing the children. Clara was in an appallingly talkative mood all day yesterday. Nothing would stop her tongue and at tea time she had her fling. I found her this morning before breakfast engaged in writing out thirteen times table. She has determined to write out and learn at the difficult one up to 19 times she says. M^{rs} Reacle came to lunch yesterday. I took her after lunch to see the new Sidney Sussex chapel & we met Mami Forbes there and they had a long talk about the chapel etc which

M^{rs} Reade evidently enjoyed very much. I don't think I was very good company. My period had just come and I was not at all on the spot. I have just fallen down from ladders & all trying to get the climbing things into the loft. Luckily I did not hurt my self at all.

I have heard from M^r Raxworthy. My bank balance is overdrawn £23 & your £112 that is £935 in all.

He suggest we sell of our £500 Vickers 4% which would bring in £400 → £400 National War Bond for £420 If we get £2500 for the Holt we need only sell the Vickers I think so I will tell him only to do that for the present.

Dearest one I do hope you are happy and having a good voyage. I am keeping quite cheerful & happy but I do miss you a lot. I think I want you companionship even more than I used to. I know I have rather often been cross and not nice & I am very sorry but the bottom reason has nearly always been because I was unhappy at getting so little of you. I know its partly stupid to spend the times I do have you for those when I don't.

Very very much love to you my dear one

Your loving
Ruth.