

ends for
may
Helen
Gracie
dinner time.

Rosemary Cottage,
Granville Terrace,
Bude Haven,
Cornwall.

Tuesday Dec 10th 1940.

My own darling One

Your lovely letter came this afternoon - I could not settle to write to you this morning partly because it had not come and partly because the doctor had not been - Now all quiet and serene so I'll answer it -

Penna's ear is beautifully clean the doctor says and I need not go on washing it with peroxide - only put in the glycerine & phenol - There is no discharge - and there has not been much pain ^{since treatment began} - Her temperature goes up every evening - not very high - only a 100 or a little over - but the doctor is not very pleased about that - and examined her throat again. She seemed flat and irritable yesterday. Today she is full of beams but at tea time definitely had pain in her ear - kept putting her head on one side and her hand to her ear - Temp tonight 99.4 - Most of the day it is subnormal - He has given her a new stuff - M² Furrow did not send the prescription box with it - but I'll get it and if I remember slip it in here - or a copy of it.

Dr Morgan is delighted with ~~pe~~ Penna as a personality. Says she is a most attractive baby and that he has never seen one so good. She certainly has grey matter. Yesterday I gave her the thermometer case. She immediately shook it as I do the thermometer then put it in her groin. When

I had done her ear - leaving a little wool (not pushed in far - just in the ear). I went to wash my hands - came back to find she had removed the wool and neatly put it in the other ear. Oh dear! Infection! D.M. says he doesn't think the infection will get to the other that way though. Anyway I had just cleaned the ear -
 I'm having no disturbed nights with Penma. Slept till 6 a.m. today - woke singing.

Yes Gillian went to the Anglican Church with Tom. and after the service spent a little time in the Children's Corner - They took 3 of your envelopes. I make a point of going for a Sunday morning walk past the Church in order to put your envelope in. It shows how much we have been kept in that there were three to take. The whole of this term seems to have had sickness - First we were kept from school because of mumps. During that time the weather was good & Children well - So that time was spent learning walking (Penma) & roller skating (Gillian) The weather has been pretty rotten ever since and we seem to have had sickness in the house all the time Tom first then Gillian we & Penma in such quick succession that we were really all together and now little Penma's ear. It has definitely hindered

and Christmas preparations - but we are pegging away. Have made Xmas puddings & Cakes - Sent parcel to Mrs Stevens and tonight done up Pitas - Have started an address card list. We are gradually getting more and more Christmasy - and Githian is the most delightful Christmas Child you can imagine. Playing Carols on the bells - speaking to her little Crib Jesus - and singing to him. Tonight I heard her say "Darling Jesus you are a sweet little man". Every hour and there a balloon gets blown up and adds to the general air of festivity. After the war what a lovely place to put our Christmas tree would be the little glass appendage(!) in the front - A tree lit up there would show up such a way. The tiny bird cottage would look sweet with a light in it.

So Mrs Stevens is altogether moved in. I'm so glad she slept well the first night and that she and Hilda are such friends. Hilda is worth a dozen of Mrs Stevens and daughters (- if she had a dozen!)

By the 6 silver spoons I expect you mean the "George" ones your mother gave you. They are very thin. I've found the box of 6 (your father's last Xmas present to us) you can have those too, then you will have plenty. We'll sort things out a bit when you come.

Every day I read to Gillian out of the book you gave me "Parables & other sayings of Jesus Christ". She is thrilled - We cannot now guard her from outside influences - for instance yesterday a plane flew quite low and almost past the window overhanging moors bridge. Gillian remarked "I hope it is one of our own." not with any apprehension why as though that was the correct thing to say. So I said "If it wasn't one of our own whose might it be?" She replied "Adolf". I said "How could you know?" "Oh we might see Adolf coming down in an umbrella thing." she said. Did I tell you that she thinks Adolph's hair must be in a frightful mess with all the stuff the R.A.F. have chapped on his hair. Any there is less and less any suggestion of anxiety or fear. Did I tell you about the sister that ~~was~~ went when I was on my way to school? Well I found ~~there~~ the girls all settled down in the cloak room - which has been reinforced with beams and wire netting - and a big girl was telling Gillian a story. Miss Weir asked me to stay if I liked but I didn't - I might have been stuck for hours and there was Joan & Penina to think of so I came home to find Penina under the stairs & Joan getting

5.
dinner - the all clear sounded before we ate it.

I've not heard from any Bath folk since Bristol raid.
Here is a letter I had from May - What about Deryck -
Sylvia is already at Bristol.

Heartiest congrats on Rosseter job - I'm so glad you
will all be settled into a nice routine before you come - It
will help me a lot to think of you settled and with M^{rs} J.
& take care of you -

So Danvers sent Children & U.S.A.? Well it will relieve
two doctors of family cares which may help the nation - but
I feel like you - England is the place for us and ours - I hope
nothing will happen to ~~alter~~ make no regret it - but I'd not
sleep a wink if my babes were on the ocean wave.

I've had a Christmas letters from Florence & Gracie &
present for Gillian & me for Gracie -

Glad you liked the ham - I'm the only one in this family
who eats bacon (Gillian quite gone off it) and as I'm choc
for 1 lb a week and don't ever bother with mine as I
hate cooking & eating it alone - we just go without and
bread - ^{for ages} then you see we get a nice little lump enough
to boil or bake - I'm surprised another bit at Xmas time - I've
ordered a Turkey (9 lbs to 12 lbs) from MacTishens in hopes
that Uncle C. will rise & the Season again - Also a
Xmas tree for Dulleys -

So glad Phillips too is thrilled with your work.

Think of me now with Xmas Cards, presents, labels string paper, trying to settle a few - They are all round me now - I let Gillian help where I can but I'll tackle some now while she sleeps - and finish this tomorrow -

I'm so sorry I haven't got our photo taken - If only I'd thought of it in October - We were booked to be taken today - but of course have had to put it off indefinitely till Penma is well and bony again -

Wed - Dec 11 - 2.p.m. Doctor did not come today - I had a disturbed night - Penma restless - no temperature - I gave her warm milk and a biscuit and she slept till morning - She is full of beans again today but temp. subnormal - She is very white and has lost weight a lot - flabby etc You will say she needs fluid - It is always difficult to get her to drink much - but she is eating well - I guess will pick up again now -

Lovely sunshine - Let Gillian do some roller skating the wind very high - She is quite good on uneven ground & high wind - tho she has done very little lately. The enclosed picture is the Shepherds looking at the Star -

Must race this to post and then get a little day sleep whilst children are quiet All love
and beloved - Ada