

Rosemary Cottage,  
Granville Terrace,  
Bude Haven,  
Cornwall.

Sat Nov 8 - 1941.

Birthday  
part of  
this letter  
begins on  
page 4.  
but begins  
here.

My own Darling One

3.30 p.m.

Such a pile of birthday things are collecting - also a golden telegram and letters & cards - I simply could not resist opening your letter which is before me now. I've sent the children out with Joan as it is a gloriously sunny day - we had a great search of Pemma's kitten which seemed to be lost. However when we went to take Pemma up - there was the kitten snuggled beside her!!

Your letter was written at the Lab - with many interruptions - that is just how I often have to write yours - and it isn't easy to write like that - but I'm so glad you did it and I'm beginning to answer it today as tomorrow is Joan's "day off". There has been much secrecy and funny shaped little parcels piled on my machine - A great envelope with TOMMY on it - from Gillian & Pemma - It is M<sup>r</sup> Metcalfe's birthday too so Joan is very excited.

I'm so delighted with the barometer - It came packed in a huge parcel. I have hung it under the owl cloth brushes on the pillar. It has already brought good ~~and~~ weather tho it



is falling a little now - Thank you my darling but it is just what I've wanted ever since we came here - The other parcel I have not opened yet - will write about it later.

(Post again - more cards - and receipt of the assurance premium I sent for Penn)

How is your cold? I'm afraid it has depressed you a little. Are you cold at night? What about <sup>warmers</sup> pyjamas. These man's ones I got for myself are not wool - but something warmer than cotton and I'm sure they are full size - What you have them? I've seen some sort of knitted ones - I mean women that would suit me better and I have plenty of coupons. May I send them to you?

The children had 2 lbs of oranges lately - and yesterday M<sup>rs</sup> B. had some ones and gave me another couple of lbs - so I'll put you one or two in your next parcel. They have eaten the soft ones and if the rest will keep I'll put them away for Xmas I think. The pudding making went off well - I'll send you a little "taster".

Another golden telegram -

Among the parcels are ones for Daisy, Hilda, May & Chris



When you say sometimes you feel you could cheerfully leave the Lab if good - that means Strangway Lab - not the M.P.C. doesn't it? If there is no alternative my darling are I'm sorry you feel like this - but if you have other things drawing you <sup>and</sup> if this is just a restlessness preparing you for other work, it is then, I suppose, just natural growth - a development in your life. If it is all research work it sets me thinking of things Dr Dodd used to say - It was when you were feeling that your work should come before marriage - he said that our marriage should be first - and all other "vocations" go out of this central happy life? What is in your mind?

One wonders what changes will come about in our lives after the war -

I've not heard for "Spear Bros" yet - I'll let you know at once when I do - Sorry Nov makes such big demands for premiums - I think you are wise to scale down a bit on the last personal insurance - Will you lose what you put in?

Well - I too will continue this tomorrow after a phone talk I have -



Well now I have you to myself a little while -  
 Mrs Lloyd has taken Penma off & Gillian  
 has gone to Church with Joan. It was  
 good to hear your voice on the phone. We had  
 just finished breakfast and I was trying  
 to fit photos into the new folders when you  
 rang. I've put two of you in the one over  
 my desk - and two each of the children  
 in folders on the mantelpiece - Bless you  
 my treasures - Could any woman ever love  
 her husband and children more than I do? You  
 are my whole life now - without you life would  
 be meaningless. Is this selfish? Perhaps - but  
 you all need me still - and when I cannot serve  
 you all - I hope to be able to watch & enjoy you all  
 while I live and not make the selfish demands  
 so many old folk make on their loved ones.

Well here I am 54!!! Cos funny!

I brought a trayful of my things upstairs  
 last night and when Gillian came in with  
 Joan & the tea, she undid the parcels for  
 me and Penma helped - It was almost  
 like Xmas - How we all enjoyed it.



I enclose a list. The handkerchiefs Mary made herself. I wrote letters to Chris & May during the week so just added a thank you here today - I'm sending you all my letters that I have answered so that you can share in my birthday.

I do hope your cold is really better and that you can enjoy your day today.

The barometer has recorded its first rain. Well I don't really expect sunshine on my birthday I was born in a blizzard of snow - Yesterday was a glorious day and when I went up to bed I tapped the barometer which was falling quickly so I did not expect anything else - and am not disappointed - without it I'm sure I should have expected a grand day - <sup>almost as I was speaking</sup> ~~writing~~ this the clouds roll away and the sun is nearly breaking through.

Well, darling, I'd better finish my thank you letters -

Goodbye my dear darling are  
All my love -  
Ada -

So glad the jacobins like the spotted hare -  
I thought they would.