

Rosemary Cottage,
Granville Terrace,
Bude Haven,
Cornwall.

Nov 18 - 41

My own Precious Husband -

What a dear letter you sent me this week - and tho' this morning was sunshine it is pouring with rain now (4 p.m) and as Gillian is absorbed in ironing with Tom & Penma still sleeps I think I'll start answering it now. There was a tear gas test this morning. As it took place about 11.40 a.m. Penma & I were on and my & met Gillian and got into it. I put Penma's gas mask on first and tho' she didn't want it at all she was very good about it and made no attempt to take it off till I said so. The delay of putting hers on first ~~caused~~ caused my eyes to water a bit, but as this did not get any worse after I put my mask on I presume mine is O.K. It was very good for Penma to see everybody wearing gas masks and to hear the rattles. She took it all as a matter of course. Gillian was terribly disappointed that it was all gone by the time she got there. They released gas I believe in 4 or 5 places. We got that which was released by the Grenville Hotel gates as we were going up the hill at the time.

How nice the snags are. They do not do Gillian's free justice but her whole little self looks sweet and what character + determination in little Penna free. The family are is charming - especially of your top curls - Will that satisfy Hilda? Anyway it is symbolical - My darling are standing beside me bending over & overshadowing the little family and taking care of us -

We are making some slight rearrangements in the house. Tom is going to sleep at home as she did on your visit. You see she does love the evenings at home and stays out so late that she cannot wake in the mornings. Surprisingly enough she can get up at home and be here in the mornings earlier than she can get up when here - As a matter of fact since she has not had Penna in her room I fancy she reads in bed - this added to her already coming in late is too much for her. At home her mother can take the responsibility of packing her off to bed if she realizes what a job she has to wake in the mornings. They are two less in the house

H. Metcalf
 at Plymouth
 - Tom
 somewhere in
 the north.

than there were when Tom first came and wanted
 to sleep in. I think at any rate we will try
 it till after your visit ~~and~~ as it will leave
 your room free - although this point has not
 really affected our decision as Tom was quite
 prepared to go home for that time anyway.

Now for your letter -
 How beautiful all the autumn colouring you describe
 must be. That is a thing I miss here. The first
 year the wood round the Church went autumnish
 but last year & this cold winds spoil the trees
 before they had a chance to turn.

That is a good place to put the "Chinese Rose" as you
 call it. I hope it will flourish.

So glad the dreadful woman at the party treated you well
 with her car. That is interesting about the
 teacher of dancing. I was very interested in the
 class I watched - but I can tell you about this better
 than write about it. Gillian loves it and does not
 seem too tired. Poor Sylvia has been tired and
 badtempered ever since - I think it was too much
 for her as she does piano so well. The dancing
 is 12-1 on Wed - that makes the morning 8.45_{am} - 1 p.m.

* Don't
for them with
all these
Very long details of
household
accounts -
for your phone
since writing
this and live
been to both
children to
children
and enclose
copy of N.P.
State went
and suggest
to what
you can do to
help -
Barcelona
to balance sheet
and the bank will
next week not
till the
needs of the
end of do
your letter with
- 24 Apr. 1944 - 4

piano at school but elsewhere! (at Spencer Thomas) -
Which brings me to the piano business - Yes. I'm
game to help all I can. *

More bills have come in and my three quarterly accounts are complete -

First Quarter -

~~2nd~~ 2nd -

3rd Qu.

Expenditure ~~£83-2-7.~~

 ~~$\neq 80 - 5 - 6\frac{3}{4}$~~

93-6-6

Almanac. 86-15-6.

~~£ 86.15.6.~~

≠ 92-5-6

 ~~$\frac{1}{2}3 - 12 - 11$~~
$$\neq 6-9-11\frac{1}{4}$$

(you subtract the charge)

$- \frac{1}{2} \quad 1 \quad -1 \quad -0$

$$\cancel{\pounds} 10 - 2 - 10\frac{1}{4}$$
$$- \lambda - 1 - 0$$
$$\pounds 9 - 1 - 10 \frac{1}{4}$$

~~Credit balance on first 3 quarters.~~

This Quarter is I fear rather heavy. Being winter

for are thing - Then there is Pennas Insurance #6-10-0

✓ Inc. £2-19 0. Also, logs have just care £2-11-0.

And then I have a bill $\$5-15-0$ for blanket & cedarum

4 Penna - she will be growing out of her cat soon

- then it is Xmas Quarter - However the first

quarter had income taxes, \$12-2-2 - & Gilhams house \$6-35.

but my total was only £83-2-7. So you see even

If this Quarter is heavy I have a credit balance +

met it - and according to my account

if correct, I had \$32 add ~~in credit~~ in hand at the beginning of the year - I don't see why this or ~~part~~ part of it should not go to the piano. All I regard that as is as a "working margin" - you see on Jan 1 - there are income taxes etc & he wks etc - this balance was very useful last year until you were able to send me a cheque - you see the first cheque you sent me last year was Dec 6th - But if the Spear Bros Cheque is to meet the expenses the first few ~~weeks~~ months of 1942 - and is already in the Bank - well - the \$32 is not such an urgent need as before -

However these accounts are only totting up my account book - I'd better get the Banks statements & ~~cheque~~ up - and see exactly how we stand - I'll do that tomorrow (See page 7*) But - I suppose it is like the cautious me to count the cost before enthusing. I think it is a perfectly brilliant idea - just so long as you do not cut yourself to fine - in game of anything - I think the urgency is more the scarcity of pianos rather than Gillians immediate need - I'll send

Miss Player's letter - it has been lying on my desk ever since - I thought you had returned it. I sent another from her re costs - didn't I?

She is picking up tunes on the tubular bells at the moment - I think the addition of dancing is enough for the winter at any rate - but we could discuss that with Miss Player ~~at~~ when you come. I feel we ought to get the piano now rather than miss it - don't you?

Just posted a parcel - no egg but some cooked ham. It was only cooked this morning M^{rs} Small was afraid it would not be cool enough to eat. Are you still getting your mill? Now all my puddings are made I've been able to get a few more raisins - wish I could have got them in time to go in - never mind - I guess the puddings taste good anyway.

I'm so glad the Radium Commission will restore correct balance. I understand your "Lab" feelings now - my trouble is to wade of my own narrow little sphere - i.e. Children - dear tho' they are - but M^{rs} Metcalfe comes & sits with Joan on my half day so that I can go to the pictures

occasionally - and going right away to the Smiths
took me out of it all a little. This is only a temporary
absorption by the children. As they grow a little older
i.e. when both go to school I'll be able to have a
little life apart from them & be fresher for them & you
I understand your point of view differing from D. Daddo
(He by the way married fairly late - was regarded
by his friends as a confirmed bachelor.) The
problem as I see it is that physically you
should marry young and yet at that time
your character is scarcely formed enough to
judge of the spiritual affinity. Hence so many
failures in marriage. A sex repression has
this advantage - it enables you to judge
the opposite ~~sex~~ sex in a detached way. I wonder
had you & I met more often when younger if we
would have married earlier - or grown even
more in affinity? Well, we belong now, and that
is the precious thing.

Nov 19th the talk with you last night was helpful and
this morning I went to both Banks for statements and worked
away at my accounts & estimates - and enclose a bit
sheet of paper with the result. The thing I'm not clear

about is whether you want to draw £25-0 - or whether the £60 already drawn is part of that. Any way you will see how we stand. I'm game for whatever you suggest.

Now as to the place to stand it. The space between fire & glass door in my room is only 3 ft 7 in. That is no good. Behind nursery door would do - especially if that is turned into a dining room when Oenna no longer needs a nursery. Another suggestion is up in Gillian's room where her desk no stands - and her desk could come down to my room again. You see we know no one to play it at the moment - it will be entirely for Gillian's practice - we'd hear it less up there!! What do you think?

By the way she was delighted with her new flags & has written you a letter with them - I hope you can read it. Entirely her own idea & kept her occupied for about an hour.

She loved the Owl & letter from Emmett. Took them to school as "news". She forgot to bring them back because at her dancing class - but says they are safe in the desk. What a jolly good place for a lavender hedge.

No we don't need a book rest. We use one of the little orange tables. As a matter of fact we begin the reading while I do Gillian's hair. She sits on a little stool with "The fairest life" on the table - hair is finished by the time we get to the pictures, hymns & prayer - the latter at the prie d'aux.

I'm jolly glad you got yourself a settee - Don't feel sorry about not using that for the piano - You felt justified in getting it I'd much rather think of you with a redful place - and it will be fun making an effort for the piano -

Will take your advice re Vitamin C. + the mouth wash - I don't feel the hunger for sugar so much now - and have had no further mouth trouble (touch wood I'm not sure that a little purple isn't coming on the tip now.) but I'll do as you say Doctor Am so interested in what you say about independence - I see what you mean - By "illumination" I took that to mean just what you say - freedom for other work - It was to make that particular bit of work independent of us. So I do not want to be free of the children - but teach them to gradually be independent of me in things they should learn to do themselves ~~is~~ physical as well as mental + spiritual - i.e. at the moment I'm trying to teach Gillian to report to me when she needs Phillips Magnesia - But this is bringing the subject down to low levels - Let it soar again. I love that poem of Oliver Wendell Holmes - I feel Gillian is one of those who need greater scope -

The Vs on Gillian's wall are many of a few inches and one about 2 ft + another 18 inches - A "yard" was a little exaggeration - tho' they look it - She is very

destructive at the moment. Chews & tears at things with her teeth - things she has taken care of for years or new things. I put this down to getting her second teeth. as when a baby I could always tell when she was teething by this sort of thing. She got her nail biting habit with her last two molars. That is not yet being started again.

The sherry at 3/6 - may be a discovery! Some hopes! I doubt if I'll ever get another - after saying they had it they had to hunt for ages for the last bottle.

I must get the recipe for M^{rs} Smith's shoe gin next year. It is the nicest of all the things she gives me. The children have decided to call the Smiths Granmire & Grandpa - much to their delight.

I got a dozen rather nice cards that I think will do for some of those I was nervous about. I'll tackle them tonight.

Phoned Chris for her birthday - she has had a cold & tummy trouble - so I got her at 4 p.m. & let the children speak.

All my love my own darlings are - this letter has used a whole pen full of ink!

Your Aida.

She meant to say here: - For getting injured
pen cut thank
you

DEAR RAPD FIM O RD
W VERY MUCH I LOVE IT -
PEN I LOVE IT SO I WRITE
WITH it LOVE FROM

GILLIAN.

