

Rosemary Cottages
7 Lyntonville Tee.
Bunde Haven
Cornwall Nov 29
1941

My own Dearest One

What a lovely letter you wrote on a lovely day - although you were anxious about Mitchel - How you do carry the burdens of others - I do hope you will not lose contact with Mitchel in your work - But to return to your letter -

Yes I remembered the service from Iona - I knew something about Iona when at Carey Hall - but had forgotten - Am glad you remind me - Among my devotional books you'll find one called "Iona" - something - I wonder if it was compiled there - It was Miss Irvine's first ^(and only) present to me the first Xmas at Carey Hall. Don't look for it for me but if you would look at it yourself - I don't see it here - I'd love to visit Iona some day - It is just what I felt nearly 30 years ago - but with you it would be so wonderful. What a crowd of visitors on Thursday - The children were delighted with the gloves - and Gillian & I wrote thank you letters -

I sent all the "Peter" things to Daisy as I promised her - yes, her letter to me was much more balanced - Thank Mrs Stevens of the Cutting for my scrapbook

That is just the type of ~~the~~ baby they put in it. There are other things besides babies - but you shall see it.

I agree with you about music waiting a bit - it is a bit expensive. Also perhaps the piano will be better with you at the moment. I see there is to be a "stand still" Xmas - chaotic curtailment of trains - Keep your eye on any information re trains - Possibly Dec 18 will be too early to be upset.

Gillian says she likes her dancing better than eurhythmic. I prefer eurhythmic - but had a perfect introduction to the subject in about 1920 or 1921. when I saw Dalcrose himself and some of his students - a wonderful demonstration - ordinary dancing seems to me so artificial after the eurhythmic.

Yes, isn't Buller's little funny in parts? I never thought of the Sowerby family as dying out - why there are 12 living grandchildren of Pa's and 2 great grandch - more on the way - But when I came to think of it why Sonny & Wendy bear the name Sowerby. I should have thought Buller being such a biologist would have

worried about the name - ~~But~~ It is something the same in the Spear family - plenty of the next generation but bearing other names. Chestersman, Lovell, etc. Still the real biological successor ought to satisfy Buller. Now you & I go much further - we are passing on the Spear-Sowerby inheritance in the sphere of the mind & soul - a far more difficult task - and yet I believe even more successfully than old Buller who has had little enough influence on his Sowerby son -

I see strong Sowerby tendencies in both our children - possibly even more in Penma than Gillian - who is more & more like you. She has the great generous heart of your Spears. Both will be naturalists & musical - what about art? Here is a recent drawing of Gillian's - Can any stretch of imagination see in this a budding Anthony Stewart? (the miniature painter) I'm glad you don't want a party - your idea of a visit to my 2 children a month is jolly good. I'll try it next year - begin in January.

Re Xmas presents - I've been looking through some of my white elephants and can do a lot without spending a penny for my own family. We'll do some.

thing for Susan, Hazel & Michael from the Children
 As for people like Smiths, M^{ms} Bambray etc - who
 have been kind to the Children - Gillian is
 herself making kettle holders & lavender bags
 and Calendars (with her wool sewing cards) for them
 - and I'm sure they'd appreciate that better -
 I've made a beautiful body for the new baby head
 of Gillian's new doll - I put in some pebbles for ~~bones~~
 bones which balanced it better & the "voice" "mama"
 of one of the older dolls - It is like a real baby
 now - Joan hugged it when I showed it to her -
 Gillian is making preparations for it - but of course
 doesn't know I've got it -

I've got a ^{small} Calendar each of M^{ms} Hulbert & one or two like that.
 If only folk were nearer I could give a bottle of my
 salt beans or blackberries - but can't send these by
 post. We won't go in for expensive things this Xmas -
 Gillian's owl from Grinnell shines all night. We stand
 him near the door so that she could find her way there
 if necessary.

So glad you got our egg in spite of my not being
 able to send one. We got 10 yesterday! One for
 Joan, one for me, & 4 each of the Children! I sent you

are in your parcel. I'm afraid I cooked it rather long. You have it at a lot lunch don't you? I mean you don't have to divide it with P. Smith's dog? If so I'd better send 2 occasionally. I can't always spare them.

What exciting plans for taking in the shop - I always plan for Gillian's room - i.e. the best bedroom to be your upstairs study when the children have expanded into the shop. It would make a charming study. Just now I've put more books on the shelves behind the door. They look so nice - It is the brightest room in the house as it gets the early morning as well as the afternoon sun -

I'm glad the Careers hospital have asked you to lecture them again. More than one lecture?

Glad the seedlings are doing well. I've got some of those Nasturtium seeds for you.

Coombe logs have come - Oh I told you that - Petrus is back. Looking very well indeed. Has enjoyed himself - That job is finished - but they are to do another very soon - somewhere else - Kathleen has had a fil of 10 or more weals - under

Dr Morgan was. He was passing over when she had a fit so said he'd give her something of them. She has not had a fit since.

We often go to the Smiths - generally on Sunday morning when we take your envelope to the Church. M^{rs} S. is passionately in love with Penna, and she sets her cap at him. I don't know how the Grandpa Grounie idea came - I think it came suddenly to all of us - I discovered that she has "motherly" feelings over me! This is most amusing to me as Dr Dodd says I had taken the "mother" place over my own mother who had in ~~so~~ a way become my daughter -

Penna Chins in bed with me in the morning. Suddenly remarks "your big ears" - "your big mouth" - "your eyes are in juice". But after all these disconcerting remarks she says "I love you" -

Gillian took at school today - full of beans - Dancing class tomorrow. She did not miss any of these by her cold but missed one early music class. I think I'll post this tomorrow (a day earlier than usual) as I didn't write much of a letter on Sunday. Tom cleared & polished your study today ready for you - just over 3 weeks now - Oh how I love and want you my own darling one - Your Aida