

Rosemary Cottage  
7 Granville Terrace  
Bude -  
Jan 26.

My dear Darling One -

I only got a tiny note written to you this morning - and now I have heard your voice on the phone. It is good to hear you but you sounded a little tired.

Yes, darling the seeds were some of those we picked up for the Trally - There are one or two primroses that try to bloom at the foot of the bird table - but the birds will pick them. Bulbs are starting to shoot nicely now and your heather looks very well. The "bell heather" or whatever you call it is not so good but even it looks still alive near the roots. There is pink rhubarb in the shops and daffs etc. I haven't even asked the price of these things - but they are a sign of spring - also the pussy willows are beginning to swell their buds. Gillian & I gathered a bunch of them. Pemma looks as sweet a little green puck as Gillian does in his new green pucks' (pixie) bonnet. Did I tell you I turned the little green coat Gillian wore in California - put a new flat collar on it and made a pixie bonnet with some pieces of the material I found among my bits. It looks a charming new outfit. She paid a special visit to Miss Pickels in it - great admiration.

I got Mr Petrin to mend my little stool. He char.



11/- for it. He spent days over it. Took it all to pieces washed it & glued & clamped all the bits together and then pegged it. It is beautifully done. It looks a lighter wood. It is so lovely I've taken it up to your little Chapel. I remember kneeling at that when I was younger than Gillian. during family prayers. He says it is about 60 years old. He asked me if he had let you have 2 candlesticks for Howenstar Church. If not he is afraid he has lost them. Young Douglas swaps his father's stuff for aeroplanes, trains, etc. - I told him I was sure he hadn't let you have them. but I'd ask you for sure. I quite agree that what we have bought from him should be delivered in good condition - at least I should have thought so - we shouldn't have to pay to have it "done up". but we did with the bed - so I suppose he thought we could with the rest of the things. I haven't any place to put another chest of drawers however lovely and don't want to spend 35/- - I'm losing at every penny I spend these days - we have got to hantle we. I did genuinely want that stool mended properly - it has very special sentimental value to me - both children love it too but all my life I remember it being patched up. I'm very glad to have it properly done at last. By the way I let Gillian take it over to Petrina. and she said she wanted him to entirely



change the pattern as she was tired of it. Fortunately she told me what she had said so I rushed over to cancel that bit of her order!!

Sorry I had to trouble you with school problems - but here are the facts. Drina David dev: mumps Jan 23<sup>rd</sup> quarant 28 days she is a day girl not in Gillian's class.

On Jan 24 Anne Evans the daughter of a doctor in Holsworth developed measles - quarant. 21 days.

Anne had a brother - who fell out of the car and grazed his knees a few days before he should have returned to St Patrick's. He was kept home for that - and Anne was sent to St Catherine. In a day or two he went down with measles & his father phoned Miss Weir telling her of it and that Anne had been with her brother all through holidays - and he'd fetch her home at once - but before he could get to her his temp: was taken and found to be up & she managed to develop them there & then. He took her home.

These are the facts - Miss Weir will not advise us what to do. As a matter of fact she rang me up on Sat. m so I did not send Gillian - but Gillian & I took a walk to the school & had a chat with her and got the above information. It was Miss Payer who came to the door and I asked her what she would do - She said she'd risk it - I think I will. I had a nice little



Chat with Miss Weir - I enquired of Miss Woodruff. She has gone to help a friend somewhere who has started a school. Gilliam misses her very much but says that the two new ones have lovely smiles. Miss Chamberlain is her name. Gilliam seems happy enough but says they tell her she must "learn to be quiet." I think that a jolly good thing, but know it is a hard lesson for Gilliam. She also says they sometimes want her to try and do things that are too difficult. I don't want Gilliam to balk at difficulties but thought perhaps the new teachers did not realize how young she is and her size and brightness make them expect too much. I had a little chat with Miss W. about this. She said that she had of course left Miss Chamberlain to find her own feet for a few days - but ~~but~~ will tell her about individual children ~~later~~ in time. On Sat I fished out a number book the Aunts had given Gilliam. One picture is of a cake with 6 candles. By that I expect the book is meant for a 6 year old. But Gilliam's quick mind had no difficulty at all - e.g. How many balls must you add to 000 to make 7. She said "4 of course" without hesitation. Then what numbers go between 7 .... 10? Gilliam could fill it in easily. Her grey matter is all right. I heard her telling her dolls a story tonight. This is it.



"

There was once a giant - a very bad giant so everyone called him Hitler. He was really a man - but had to be a giant - now what must we do with him? Mop him up - mop him into the vacuum cleaner - or even put him right out of the world.

But there was once a King - a very good King. He was so happy. His name was Jesus. He made all the evil men good."

Doesn't she get right to the root of things - We met a man with one leg. Thinking of the Hugel story of the one legged man I wondered what Gilliam would say - "Mother - what happened to that man's other leg?"

Valerie sent a Christmas card - and some handkerchiefs. I believe she made the Christmas card.

Penna develops quickly now. I let her out of the pen a lot now and she enjoys the big room. But has bumps on her head as she falls down more in her headlong rushes. By the way Petrie very much likes the little back dining room - my study -

I'm looking forward to your next letter - I've had nothing since your last Sunday lovely long <sup>(came)</sup> one on Tuesday. You sounded tired or depressed tonight. Were you dear? How is that pain of yours? If it was rheumatism I'm afraid the wet cold weather will



not help it. Do rub it with the green labelled Iodex - it really does help. My shoulders ache quite a lot but my muscles that were affected in Cambridge are much better - only a little stiff in the mornings. This winter I'm not living under the fear of suddenly becoming immovable - as I did last winter - that threat seems to be passing. I do hope my darling are that your pain has quite gone.

Your photos in your new study are precious to me. They help me to picture you in your new surroundings. That English Chair opposite you calls me so. Darling I'll come just whenever you want me.

The electric bell you put for me is so useful in the evenings. We hook the flex on the Central light hook and it dangles just above my head. Thank you my darling one.

The news said that a house & 2 burglars in Camwell were hit. We know no more except that we had a (3½ hrs I think) siren last night - no inconvenience as we had only the day before thoroughly aired the understairs bed & made it up fresh. I'm longing for your letter - God bless you my darling one.

All my love Ada.

Hope last week was not quite so hectic and that you found comfort in your study to make up for the weather - we get sunshiny periods but always wear gum boots. A huge hot hail storm woke Panda one night - she chuckled then said "eccccch" like



she does + a plane. I kept quite still the noisy  
storm only amused her - When I chuckled too  
she burst out laughing - but went to sleep again before  
the storm stopped.

✓  
x  
1/2  
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Monday night  
Bayer & Schick  
Gillian  
but I don't  
know how to  
write it  
so the time  
now goes  
to the  
speaker