

April 15, 1932.

Dearest Lady Darling and Mary:

I will start a letter before getting dinner for it seems as if I never write as I want to. I have not quite shaken the cold or grippe, I guess it was for it has lasted so long as fatigue. Oh, how fine it would be to feel like a child in strength but if one cannot one has to do as well as is possible with the strength there is. The rest are fine. Mowly has stayed unusually well this winter and spring. Brother still coughs but is not sick and is of course long out of quarantine. But I do not seem to have the push to do more than I have to. It gets on ones nerves, doesnt it Lady? I often think of you, and your strength years ago even and how you kept up so well.

I have just come back from the school where we were mimeographing some questionnaires to be given to all the mothers at the school Mothers' Circle next week. They are in the interest of forming child study classes next fall and I am chairman of the committee to see if such are wanted and to get them started. But most of the plan was under way before I undertook my part. However I am interested in it and it is along my line. There is a very nice lot of mothers here, many about the same amount of education and means and interest and the others willing to fall in line. I think it is a good community for our children for they will not feel oppressed by greater wealth or standing which is so hard for a sensitive child like Mowly, and yet there is a chance too for them to take on some leadership as they grow older. We like our town and part of it and think our school is just fine. That is something for you to be happy over for us. I am sure there would never have been a public school in Chicago that I would have felt so about. The Mrs. Parks is working with today is a graduate of the University of Chicago, much interested in world peace societies, etc.

I must get some clothes for myself and the children and dont know what. ~~xxxxxx~~
Mowly needs a good dress, a best dress, and both children summer wraps of some kind and I a hat and coat. I do hate hate hate the idea of planning clothes. But if it has to be done it has to. Mowly is invited to a little child's birthday party and I have let down her pink dotted swiss that Ellen made two summers ago for that.

I got out various old hats and found nothing usable and must get out and get one.
I always expect my sisters to look beautiful but as for myself,-----

I think Ellen's play is lots better but still not enough action and progressive action. She has done so much on it and so well that I do wish it could go as it is. I thought Mr. Dorsay was not too discouraging, rather the opposite. He said plenty of very nice things even if he did say things about the play. But this is the hardest kind of thing to sell as he says and this a particularly hard time. I do wish Ellen were more interested in working on plots for stories ~~xxxx~~ as that seems a possible place to sell, if one can keep at learning how to do it well enough.

Henry hopes to get at making an accounting of the Berlin funds soon but he has to do some things on the house first. He feels worried not to have done it before. He keeps a separate folder for all the bills and business and has a day book for all money transactions so it is all safe but he thinks it should be reckoned out for you to see what balance etc there is. Perhaps in another week. He has had more urgent business on his father's matters. And on arranging for a new mortgage on this house. These mortgages on these properties are only made out for three years, which is a terrible pest and also expense. Each renewal has to go through the same old formalities of title examination, insurance renewals, a few here and there and so on. It costs over a hundred dollars to get the mortgage renewed besides time to get it right. We were fortunate all those years for the Berlin mortgage to have it just run on and on till paid. I do not remember anything being done every three years like this. Besides we have to make a down payment on principle. We now have the ^{whole} money for the whole transaction for May first arranged. Henry just fixed up a similar transaction for the Schaffners for which they paid him a small fee.

Henry made a wonderful cage of wire for the bunnies out in the yard. We are going to take a picture of it soon.

Well I must stop and you will not care for more. This says nothing but anyway it carries loads of love you two precious people. Mary I have been thinking a lot about your summer wondering about your vacation but seeing nothing. Lovingly

Bessie

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