## Letters from T.S. Eliot to Emily Hale

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Letters from T.S. Eliot to Emily Hale

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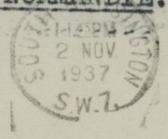
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# By French packet NORMANDIE.



Miss Emily Hale,

22, Paradise Road,

NORTHAMPTON,

Massachusetts,

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.





# CRITERION

A QUARTERLY REVIEW

EDITED BY T. S. ELIOT

TELEPHONE: MUSEUM 9543

TELEGRAMS: FABBAF, WESTCENT, LONDON

24 RUSSELL SQUARE,

LONDON, W.C.1

All Souls: 1937.

I have two letters for which to the first boat since my return on Sat

I have two letters for which to thank you, and tomorrow sails the first boat since my return on Saturday. One letter was waiting my return and the other arrived this evening by the Bremen. Edinburgh was a very busy and tiring visit, but I believe satisfactory. I arrived on Tuesday morning and drove to the Maitlands, whom I had never seen before. They are evidently wealthy people, and both very attractive, especially Mrs. Maitland. Immediately I felt that I was back in South Kensington - one would hardly know that they were Scotch - and indeed it transpired that they had both lived in South -ensington. Mrs.M. is very musical, and is said to play very well she was the first pupil of Sir Donald Tovey, who was the chief guest at lunch on the first day - the others Oliver Richmond and his wife a brother of -ruce Richmond who is Professor of Latin. A nap after lunch; then hurried tea and gave my first lecture to a packed, but not very large hall at the University. After that back to the Maitlands to dress for a large dinner party there: Lord & Lady Normand (A judge); Mr. & Mrs. Cursiter (Director of the National Gallery); Mr. & Mrs. Peck (official of the Board of Education - his wife turned out to be one of our novelists whom I have never read, and a sister of Ronald and E.V. Knox); a Lady Finlay, said to own "The Scotsman", or her husband did; and a Mr.& Mrs.Blair, who were invited because they were just young people. The next day I had to go to a lunch at the Union given for the above-mentioned Peck, who made a speech - I have quite forgotten where I had tea; but after my lecture I dressed and went to Professor Kemp Smith's to dinner, and thence on to a "reception" (men only) at the University. Thursday Dover Wilson had a lunch party at a hotel; we had tea with the English Association at the North British Hotel, after which I gave a poetry reading - then I moved from the Maitlands, as Dover Wilson wanted me to spend a night with him at his house in Balerno, so that night I had a quiet dinner. On Friday morning (rainy) I took a walk with Dover Wilson over the Pentland Hills, went to lunch with the Adam Smiths (who spoke warmly of you) and wondered how on earth you found their house; went back to the Dover Wilsons, dressed, packed, and spent my last evening with a dining club, the "Common Room Club", where all the same men turned up again - Kemp Smith, Lord Normand, John Baillie (oh yes, that was where I had tea on Wednesday), Sir Donald Tovey, J.C. Smith and Sir Robert Greig, Dr. Moray Mackenzie etc. etc. And was very glad to get into my sleeping car did not sleep very well, and dozed most of Saturday. Sunday a lunch

party of the Vicar's at the Kensington Palace Hotel, in honour of Archdeacon Phillimore, and I had to sit between two ladies whom I knew nothing about, and had also to talk to an earnest student from Ceylon. And last night a small dinner of the Literary Society, where I found myself between Duff Cooper and somebody named Tommy Lascelles who was not bad company. And I have tonight and tomorrow night at home; and Thursday to Mrs. Seaverns to meet Dr. & Mrs. Perkins, on Friday with John Hayward (sharing a car with him) to the Tandys Guy Faux' Day fireworks party - and on Saturday to Conrad Aiken's (I shall be glad when that is over). And to-day I had to look in on Ottoline, and to my vexation found it a tea-party, and a young Italian, and Juliette Huxley, and Djuna Barnes' who has turned up in London, and I suppose I shall have to take her out to dinner.

I enjoyed Edinburgh nevertheless - one of the pleasant places to visit. My lectures were well received, and my reading still more so. I read what I wanted to - nothing choral or dramatic, because that is intended for other voices than mine - but some of the poems that are more difficult to read, ending with "Burnt Norton". I also attended Sir "erbert "rierson's Rectorial Address in the same McEuen Hall that you remember. There was considerable apprehension lest the students would be up to their traditional tricks of throwing tomatoes and bags of flour about: and as Lady Grierson only died the week before, the old man was very shaky. Fo rtunately, the students minded their manners; gave him a warm welcome, and sat through his address as if it were a sermon. It was the first rectorial address in the history of the university, that has been audible - and would have been more so if the microphone in front of Grierson had communicated with the hall, as it should have done, instead of merely with the B.B.C. I hope that you will meet Grierson when he comes to Smith, and give him my love: he is quite a grand old man, and a great scholar. You should get him to read from Burns - but remember that he is not a Scot - but a Shetlander, which is quite a different thing, because the people from Orkney and Shetland are pure Norwegians in blood.

I am very sorry about the 86 ¢! WAS that parcel left open at the ends, or not - because I gave careful instructions that the last parcel should be left open at the ends, and I want to know whether you are summoned to the postoffice to pay duty on open-ended books. I wait to hear about furs, or furbelows. I am glad you are going to concerts - even if no better than what you have just reported on - and hope that you are really seeing more people this year, and that your work, in the second year, can be taken more easily.

I am starting to get down to the play - this morning typed out a fair copy of as much of the second part as is written - and must quickly do another copy of the first part, because Martin Browne is wondering whether he should go to America or not (letter enclosed); and I can only say to him that I do want him here to produce The Family Reunion, only I don't want him to decide without having seen what there is of the play - and he can make up his mind whether the

text is promising enough -allowing for an indefinite amount of rewriting - to justify his waiting at home for it. The play is announced for the spring, so I do hope I can finish it: But a devil of a lot has got to happen in the last half of the second act - and the latent hostilities between Amy, Agatha and Mary have got to come to the surface with all the fury that Racine could give them - if I am to get away with the slowness of the action so far. Suspense there is - but there is a point beyond which suspense can be abused.

Did I tell you that I did write my commentary about the Nuffield gifts to Oxford? and somewhat about the National Theatre. I do hope that you will like what I have written about Oxford, because I feel strongly about that, and I should like to send a copy to that wooden Halifax (who sat across the table last night) and that wooly Lindsay. Speaking of Lindsay reminds me that Marguerite de Bassiano has turned up: still owing about thirty pounds to the bookseller - her daughter is having her exhibition of pictures - and wrote to me, yrs affectionately, bold as brass. Speaking of pictures reminds me that Wyndham Lewis (with whom I am at the moment on very friendly terms) has written a most amusing book of reminiscences, "Blasting and Bombadiering", which I must send you, because it has quite an hilarious account of an incident which I had forgotten, when he and I went to Paris in 1920 carrying a parcel from Ezra Pound for James Joyce, which proved to contain a pair of old shoes.

Here is a letter which is nothing but chatter - like too many of my letters, I fear - but when one has been away for a week without writing, one feels impelled to account for one's actions. I shant be able to write again till Monday or Tuesday - but I hope that this NOTE will do until then - and after that, except for a weekend at Kelham and a "Thanksgiving" weekend at the Morleys, I hope to have a quiet winter - enough to write you many of a different and more serious kind of letter than this. So I remain, dear madam, your devoted and obedient servant and adoring

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And I hope they sent you nice roses for your birthday, my dear, as I ordered them.

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TELEPHONE 2881 TORQUAY

HARDMAN'S LIVERMEAD CLIFF HOTEL TORQUAY

25 - 10 - 193

My dur Tom, We had a pleasant week in Birtugh, and a foggy and onfrofitable ne in New Brighton, Mere Brothe broke Lis record hy being off with a bad chill. Now we're reached Deva + les tetter, and business looks like being better to. Nextweek, She we play at Browley, I an living at home, and the American project will be up for serious discussion. Ou point

about it corans ne deeply, and I should be ver grakful for zour vieus uper it. Ashley is auxims for me to go, if possible forthe Mule visit. Bout he is also, as you will have seen, advertising your new play for "to New Year". He has admitted that he was, in doing so, contemplating the idea of somene other tran myself proming it, feeling that I should be more naged to his interests in the U.S. -But, for my own part, I am not prepared



TELEPHONE | 2881 TORQUAY

HARDMAN'S LIVERMEAD CLIFF HOTEL TORQUAY

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ishateves, if you definitely want and to do it. You know you need not scomple to talk me honestly how much importance you attack to my peticipation: and Johorld be very pratiful to know this in trying to solve statives problem may arise.

9

Ishould be perfectly willing, of comm, to go to America orshold indud enjoy

it: her the new play is to me the most important ting. Hyon could send me a line about the matter to the address, Ishould be glad, will kup it in confidence as far as you like. Doore las ven kindt juvitet Henzie or myself to hear Species play read on Sunday. I will let zon hurs shet it somes like. Yourson, Maria.

THREE BEECHES,
BALERNO,
MIDLOTHIAN.
TEL.BALERNO 2216.

9th. October 1937.

My dear Eliot,

I now have the arrangements for your visit more or less worked out. There are one or two details still to be decided, but perhaps you will allow me to let you know those later.

I enclose a provisional programme.

The two undecided items, lunch on Wednesday and Thursday, depend on whether there is something in the nature of a rectorial lunch. If there is, Mrs. Dover Wilson and I hope to invite a few friends to meet you to lunch on Wednesday; this would be at an Hotel in Edinburgh. If there is no rectorial lunch, we should have the same party on the Thursday, but I will let you know about this later.

I am announcing your University lectures as 'Two Lectures on Shakespeare.' This leaves you to decide on the titles of the deparate lectures when you like.

As to clothes, Mrs. Maitland tells me that she is having a black tie dinner on the Tuesday. This means there will be no need for you to bring a double lot of evening clothes with you; a dinner jacket will do for all other evening engagements.

Please let me know if there is anything in this that does not seem to you clear. I am sure you will like the Maitlands

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THREE BEECHES,
BALERNO,
MIDLOTHIAN.
TEL.BALERNO 2216.

very much. They are charming people, and have got an interesting collection of people to meet you at dinner, including the Headmaster of the Academy, Curator of the National Gallery, the head of the Education Department, and so on.

Yours ever, Som

The most say. And short youth a quite was by for an empty avering after at your labours. There Buelles is a one might cottage and shall give you suffer all timed. The At am sintes are limited are to the hours to meet you a for water and and the time of him to be a surrounded for the time of the hours of any that a as there to be it to the time of the month of the work of a time of the time of time of time of the time of ti

Destant Barrell A THE WALL STORY

#### Tuesday October 26th.

Breakfast at the Maitlands (6 Heriot Row) I understand Mrs.

Maitland is writing to you.

5 or 5.15 p.m. First Lecture at the University.

8 p.m. dinner at the Maitlands.

Sleep at Maitlands.

#### Wednesday

1 p.m. lunch (not yet decided)

5 or 5.15 Second Lecture at the University.

7.30 (? 7.15) dinner at Kemp Smith's house (Ellerton, Grange Loan)

9 p.m. Small reception at the University to meet a few members of the University staff.

Sleep at the Maitlands.

#### Thursday.

c. lla.m. Grierson's rectorial address.

1 p.m. lunch (not yet decided)

4.30 Poetry reading to the English Association at the North British Hotel.

Quiet evening at Balerno, or a Concert in Edinburgh, whichever you prefer.

### Friday.

l p.m. lunch at Sir George and Lady Adam Smith's house, Balerno.

7.15 dinner at Common Room Club, Edinburgh.

11 p.m. train back to town.

7.30 (7 7.15) dinner at Kemb Salth's house (Ellerton, Crange Loan .asarbbe dairoter a'nosrairo .m. ell'.o ( pen inch (not yet derind ) 4.50 Poetry reading to the English Association at the North  Don't trouble to upry to this under yn hoor quer es

Inibersity of Cainburgh

Professor J. DOVER WILSON

Department of Rhetoric and
English Literature

Minto House
Chambers Street
Edinburgh

19th October, 1937.

T. S. Eliot, Esq., 24 Russell Square, London, W.C.1.

My dear Eliot,

Just a few additional items for you to insert in the programme I sent you:

- (1) Mrs Maitland is arranging a lunch on Tuesday for you (quite small) mainly to meet Donald Tovey, a most interesting person as you will find if you do not know him already.
- (2) Your lectures here on Tuesday and Wednesday are at 5.15 in Examination Room B, Old College.
- (3) You have been invited to lunch by the Edinburgh Branch of the Association of University Teachers in plain English, the Staff of the University. Don't be frightened, they won't worry you to speak, unless you want to, as the main guest is Peck, the Head of the Education Department, whom you will be meeting on Monday night.
- (4) On Thursday my wife and I are having a small lunch party for you after the Rectorial Address, in Edinburgh.

We are all looking forward immensely to your visit which I hope you won't find too tiring. On Friday morning you can slack off

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and if you care and the weather is fine we might even go for a short tramp on the Pentlands of a fun in the car.

Don Wilson One or two une points to make all clear: -They was come too but they have some committee meting, they life to tall ); ptty wint, they's send you in their war 2 M Jotch you from their honor for the hunder on Wir wester) & deliser your back in time to dress for Kenty Smith's Turner Emp south with I am afrest you with have to find your en to the denisority of inthe take you book to unitants to sup 3. In fatch you again on the homoday in time on the hed aired as loss, taking your lugginge on toute afthe some time, or you with not be returning to The high lands after that - that is if you only more a sint wice. It it, a longe tounk un our being a light one, punt botter coll first after the Empline dos strates meeting

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By C.W.S. QUEEN MARY.6 NOV S



Miss Emily Hale,

22 Paradise Road,

NORTHAMPTON,

Massachusetts,

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.



CRITERION

A QUARTERLY REVIEW

EDITED BY T. S. ELIOT

TELEPHONE: MUSEUM 9543

24 RUSSELL SQUARE,

LONDON, W.C.1

TELEGRAMS: FABBAF, WESTCENT, LONDON

6 November 1937.

My Dearest.

I am too late for the Bremen, and I shall have time to write again before the Queen Mary. I dined on Thursday very pleasantly with Mrs. Seaveras, who had been having influenza, and looked not very strong, and Dr. and Mrs. Perkins, who seemed very well and cheerful; and came back with the latter as far as Aban Court. shall expect to see them again week after next. after they return from their lecture visit to Campden. Last night I went out with John to the Tandy's Guy Faux night. Several visiting children of about the same ages added to the excitement, and it was fun setting off fireworks for them - we had supper at about nine o'clock, and got back rather tired at 11.30. Now (Saturday morning) I must leave presently to deposit my bag at Charing Cross, have some lunch, and go on to the funeral of Valentine Dobree s father at All Hallows near the Tower. Then back to catch a frain at 4.30 for Rye; I hope I do not catch a cold at the Aikens'; but even with a cold I shall be glad when it is over. But a cold next week would be as good a time as any, because I have a good many people to see, and at least I would have the relief of cancelling engagements. And Marguerite de Bassiano has turned up again!

I am very sorry that I have not made it clear that I received all your letters so far - certainly all that you have been wondering about. I did not perhaps, comment on your visit to your mother, since I know all that that means, and I cannot help. And I did not want to express too much satisfaction with Dr.Lawrence's opinion, since it seemed to support my own - if it had been otherwise, I should still have felt that he knew much more about the details than I do; but as it is I am all the more contented. I will not pretend that I think it is all going to end suddenly and quickly, because I know you must be prepared to have to struggle with it for a long time to come, and the change will come gradually and imperceptibly. But I do feel convinced that you have very much more strength that a year ago, and the struggle will not be so hard, though there will no doubt be short periods when thinks will seem as bad as ever. I seem to detect a greater confidence also, perhaps largely unconscious, in your attitude to your students;

among whom I dare say you will after a time find a few girls with some reality to them, emerging from the usual colourless and characterless mass.

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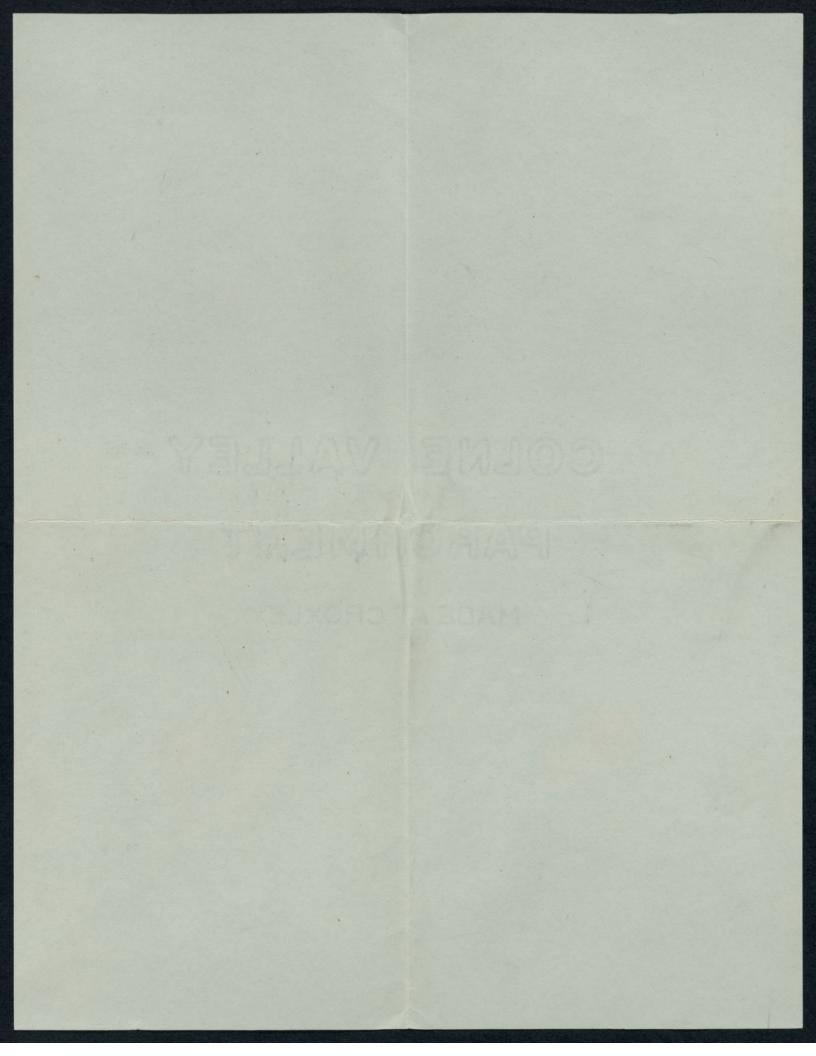
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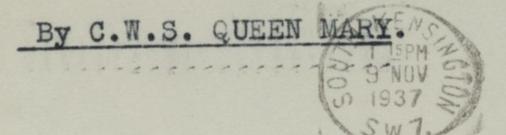
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Loving prayers for Emilie from Pom.

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Miss Emily Hale,

22 Paradise Road,

NORTHAMPTON,

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EDITED BY T. S. ELIOT

TELEPHONE: MUSEUM 9543

24 RUSSELL SQUARE,

LONDON, W.C.I

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TELEGRAMS: FABBAF, WESTCENT, LONDON

9 November 1937.

Dearest

Another short letter to catch the Queen Mary, and acknowledge your letter of the 31st, which arrived this morning. I
had been amused by your thinking the cable was from me - at a
shorter distance I should have wired to let you know, but of
course by the time I got the letter you had made the discovery.
It occurred to me that it might be from the Perkins's. You
seem to be very busy indeed at present, and I only hope that you
will not be overdoing yourself. I was interested to hear of
Niebuhr - it sounded just like him. His voice is rather rasping,
and his platform manner fatiguing - too fast and too vehement:
I only hope that he will mellow in time, for his intellect is
quite first-rate, but he has a long way to go. He smems like a
man who had been exasperated for years by small people, but had
not yet developed to the point of serenity in it. But his passion for social justice is, I believe, quite sincere; and he has
matured a good deal since he began. I think Edinburgh will be
good for him. And I liked him.

Yes, the snapshot is quite good, and is cheerful. But I don't seem to remember the jacket you are wearing.

Rather a lot of evening engagements this week - tonight to dine with Wyndham Lewis (I must send you a copy of his amusing book of remininiscences), tomorrow John and I give a small dinner party: just Geoffrey Faber and Desmond Mac Carthy and a bottle of good Burgundy; Thursday to Richard III, which will be interesting to see, with Emlyn Williams, after measure for Measure. And last night a dinner of the All Souls Club, where D.-J. expanded on the subject of church music.

The week-end with the Aikens somewhat depressing, and myself not too much at ease. Mrs.A. does all the work of the house and the cooking. She seems very young, paints better pictures than I expected, and has a kind of coarse prettiness. Not a thoroughbred by any means; but was quiet, at least while I was there! I am sorry for anyone who marries Conrad - and has to live in Rye - a rather stuffy and depressing little town, I think; a very limited circle of acquaintances; and Conrad's interests are limited; and he has very little money and is writing another novel, I suppose

as unhealthy as the previous ones. It is depressing to be with an old contemporary of a good mind, who has arrived at forty-eight or so without yet having formed any philosophy of life or settled view of things, still living in a rather bohemian way, with elementary cooking. Last winter they were living in Charlestown, Mass. Fortunately his children seem to be rather able - his son doing rather well as a physicist, and a daughter doing well at Oxford. They all seem to want to stay in England, and Conrad said sensibly that he meant to stay in England until their lives were settled, and then go back to Boston to live (where I think he would be happier).

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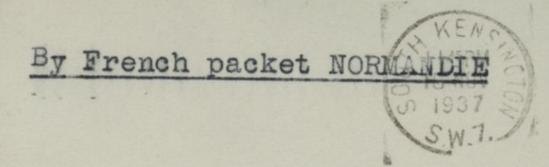
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This weekend I have in London, and am glad of that,

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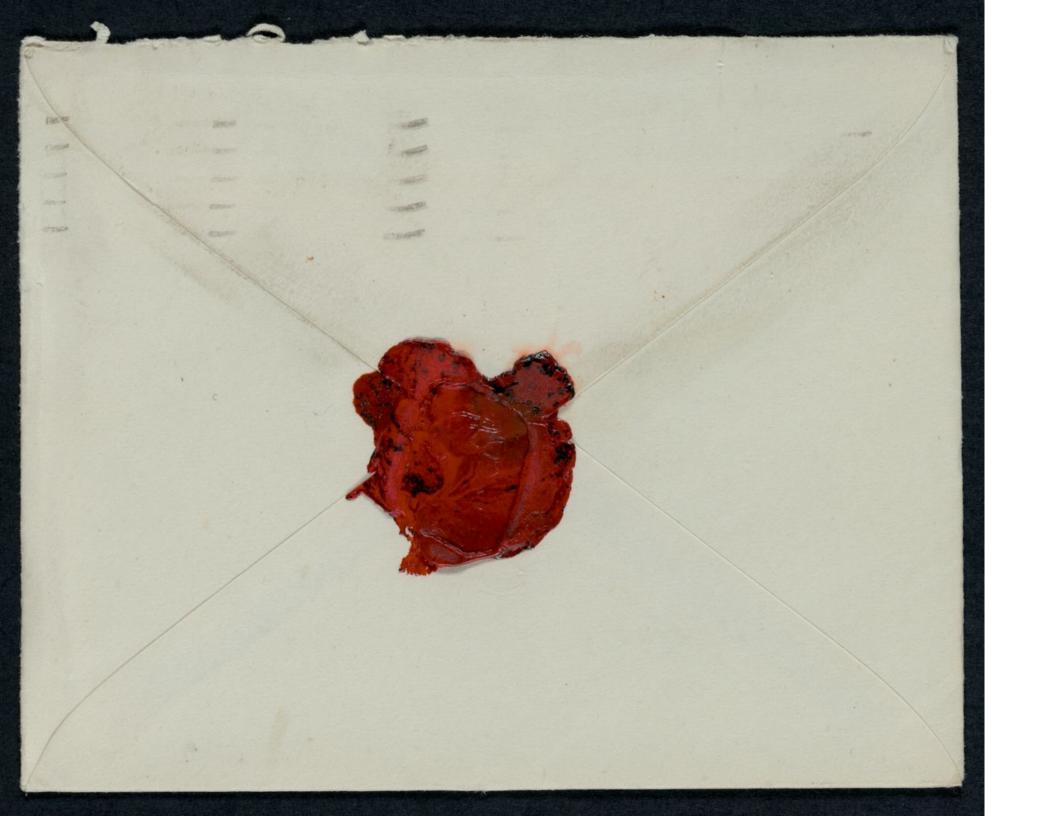
Miss Emily Hale,

22, Paradise Road,

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#### THE

## CRITERION

#### A QUARTERLY REVIEW

EDITED BY T. S. ELIOT

TELEPHONE: MUSEUM 9543

24 RUSSELL SQUARE,

LONDON, W.C.1

TELEGRAMS: FABBAF, WESTCENT, LONDON

16 November 1937.

Dearest Emilie

Your letter of the 3d arrived this morning by the Normandie; it seems to have been a long time coming; and Edinburgh seems to me so long ago, that it is strange to hear from you that you are still waiting to hear about it. I did write on my return to give an account: There was no boat out during the latter part of last week. It was a busy week, as I had told you in advance. The dinner that John and I gave to Geoffrey and Desmond Mac Carthy was very successful: both the guests have written to him to express their enjoyment - which is natural for "eoffrey, but very unusual for Desmond. The Corton Charlemagne, the Richebourg '23, and the Biscuit Dubouche '84 were appreciated, as well as my Partagas Panetelas. Thursday I have to take off to go down to Sevenoaks to see C.R.Ashbee, who wants us to do his memoirs, and made me come down to him to spend an afternoon reading them - as they make at least seven volumes it is rather difficult, and he is to try to get some American Trust to subsidise them. Ashbee was one of the founders of the Arts & Crafts Guild Movement in Campden: and was in at the beginning with Alec Miller (he was very anxious to hear about the family, and Alistair, and Janey and her husband whom the Ashbees had not taken to any more than I did) and Hart, etc. Since those days he has done a number of things (he is an architect) and was most interesting in talking about Palestine, where he spent some years after the war - he was sent by the government to plan towns - and knws Sir Arthur Wauchope etc. I was interested to find that he is, in the Palestine embroglio, anti-Jewish - all the more interesting because I suspect from his physiognomy and from certain remarks in his memoirs, that he has Hamburg Jewish blood himself - and his appearance bears it out - and what he said about that hopeless mess was certainly most persuasive. We walked through Knole Park in the afternoon: I had never seen Knole before, and was surprised to find it such a jumble of accretions of every period -I had always supposed that it was a complete Elizabethan structure. We did not go very close to it. Whom else have I seen? I have had an evening with Wyndham Lewis, and have been writing a note on one of his books for a Lewis number of "Twentieth Century Verse" not that I have any obligation to that periodical, but because I feel that I ought to support Lewis, who is certainly our greatest prose writer, as well as our best artist. And on Saturday evening I went with Mary Hutchinson to see Priestley's second "time" play: "I have been here before" it is called. Not nearly so good as the

The philosophy is just as feeble, and a good deal one we saw. more of it; and thecharacter study less interesting. Only one scene throughout - which I now think, on the contemporary stage, is a mistake: anyway a play ought to be exceedingly absorbing to stand the monotony of one scene throught - especially when it is a Yorkshire inn. Also, it seemed to me that the play was very slow (which was rather encouraging, because I know that is my weakness) and a great deal of time wasted by people coming in and out. on Sunday night I supped with the Martin Brownes and read my play to them (at their request) - all of that that I have written. didnt get home till nearly half past twelve. I left the text with Martin to mull over. I was much encouraged to find that they were really excited by it, and that Ma rtin thought that the verisfication really had got what I was trying to get. And he did not seem to be worried by the slowness of movement of the first act. He said that it would be very difficult to find the actors who could speak that verse properly, because it would be so easy to ruin all by speaking it as prose; thought that the casting should be very careful, and that a great deal of rehearsing would be needed. shall probably agree, against Ashley's impetuosity, to postpone production until the autumn; especially as Martin has got to go to America with the Murder troupe in January, for at least six weeks. I shall see Martin again about Christmas, when I shall have written more and when he will have had time to consider what I have given him. In short, I feel much encouraged! nevertheless, the part that I have still to write is the most difficult, and must move swiftly and surprisingly. I begin tomorrow:

Last night I dined with the Perkins, very happily, at Aban Court, and after dinner wnet up with them to their flat, and think they are very pleasantly situated. They have a self-contained suite of two nice bedrooms, a boxroom, and a bathroom, with an entrance hall. I hope to dine with them again on Monday week to meet Miss Sunderlands Taylor. I do want to entertain them in some way, but so far have not thought of anything interesting.

Tomorrow I may dine with the Chandos Group, or not - Thursday I go with Belgion to Richard III, of which I will write later. To-day had Pickthorn to lunch: the place full of ecclesiastics, as the Church Assembly is in session. Peter Winckworth (a member) with whom I lunched on Monday at Windham's, tells me that Lord Hugh Cecil is to make an important speech perhaps on Friday. On Saturday I go to Kelham to see George Every and Father Gabriel. Next week is the Morleys' Thanksgiving Party and weekend: after that I hope not to leave London or The Family Reunion for a long time.

So much just an informative letter to catch up. Morley's comments were not on the cat poem but on my Shakespeare lectures. which are now being typed out again, so that I may send copies to you, to Granville-Barker, to Dover Wilson and to Martin Browne. Then perhaps next summer I shall re-write them (collating all the criticisms I expect from you all) and deliver them again in the autumn in Copenhagen. Now you say: sort out the books I find most helpful to me! I can't do that all at once. And some of them are I know helpful to me that couldn't possibly be in the same way helpful to anybody else. But as a first shot

Shakespeare
The Bible

French
Pascal's Pensées
St.Francois de Sales
(L'amour de dieu)

Italian Dante

that's a large order. Some of the little books that one reverts to may be more suggestive. I will return to this. I am glad you make a real breakfast. Now I shall write again, by the next boat in three days, and shall not have to be informative.

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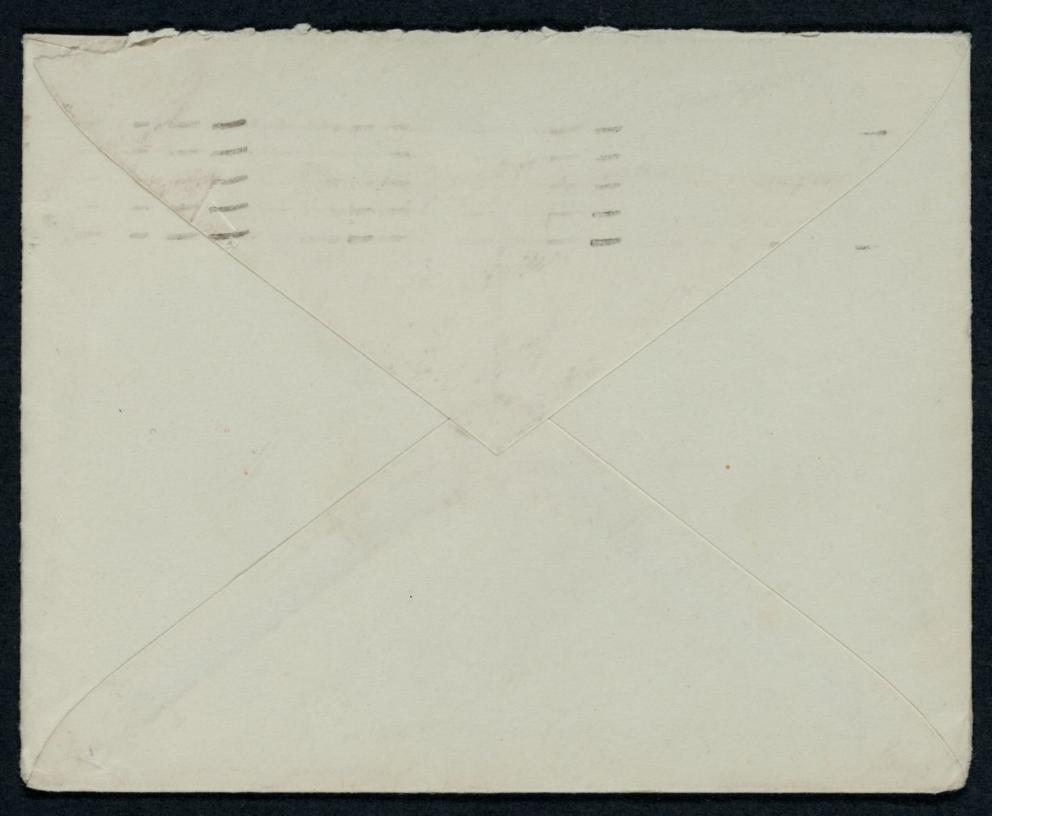
Miss Emily Hale,

22 Paradise Road,

NORTHAMPTON,

Massachusetts,

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.



THE
CRITERION
A QUARTERLY REVIEW
EDITED BY T. S. ELIOT

TELEPHONE: MUSEUM 9543

TELEGRAMS: FABBAF, WESTCENT, LONDON

24 RUSSELL SQUARE,

LONDON, W.C.1

8

16 November 1937.

How stupid of me. I meant to enclose this with my letter, and now I have missed the last post; so this will be another boat. I have been rather miserable about this. I do so dislike making myself disagreeable, that when I do, I am either so mild that nobody knows I meant anything, or else so violent that it is quite out of proportion to the cause. I did not get any answer to this. So I shall wait and then ring up Jones and Evans. And it is true that I had no opportunity to speak - I saw her for a few minutes and then Lelia came in, and I couldnt discuss this sort of thing before Lelia. What do you think?

7.

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13 November 1937.

Dear Marguerite,

I am writing this letter to leave for you in case I do not have the opportunity of a word with you alone.

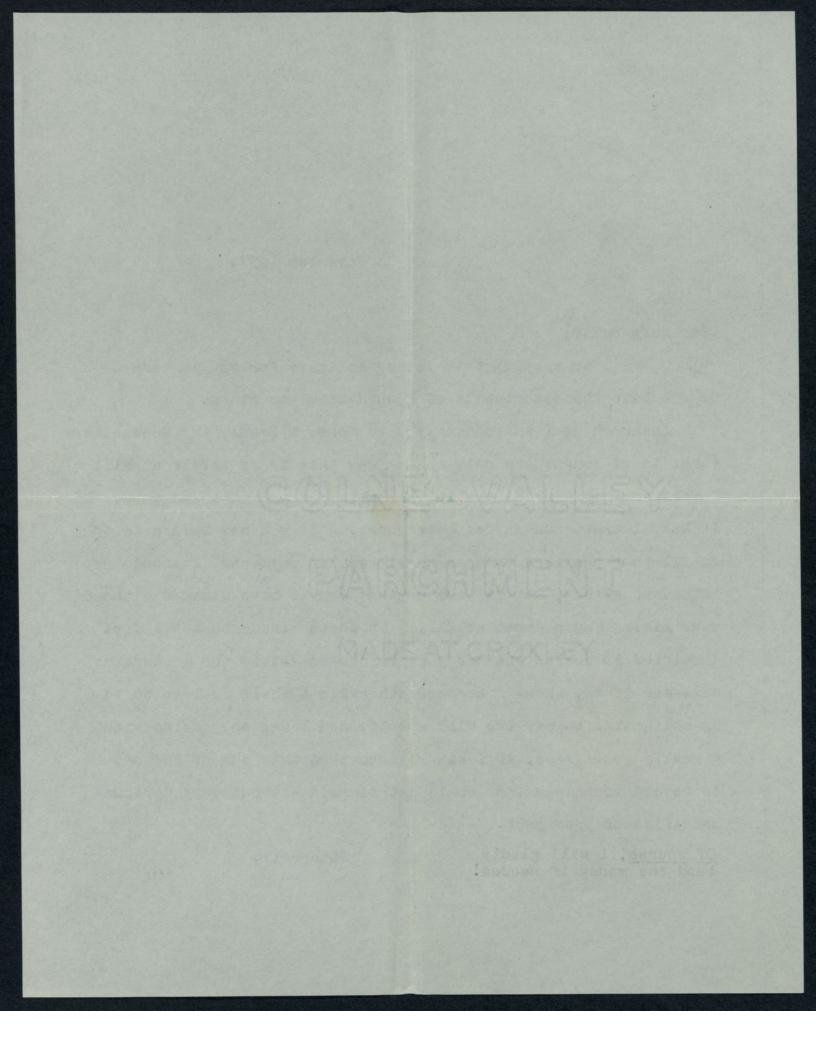
Inasmuch as I introduced you to Jones & Evans, the booksellers (that is of course the only reason why this is my affair at all)

I feel some responsibility in the matter of your debt to them.

It has, I know, run on for some years. If you had been able to fulfil your promises to make small regular payments, I should not intervene either, but fifteen months seem to have elapsed without your making any payment at all. In these circumstances I feel justified in asking whether you propose to settle the account at all, and if so, when? because otherwise I shall feel it to be an obligation to pay the bill myself; and I can only do so with a really good grace, if I can believe that this sum of £37 odd is beyond your means, or could not be paid without very serious sacrifice on your part.

Of course, I will gladly lend the money if needed:

Sincerely,



Old Deuteronomy's lived a long time,

He's a Cat who is living nine lives in succession;
He was famous in proverb and famous in rhyme

For some years before Queen Victoria's accession.
Old Deuteronomy's buried nine wives

And more - I am tempted to say, ninety-nine:
And his numerous progeny prospers and thrives

And the village is proud of him in his decline.
At the sight of his placid and bland physiognomy

When he lies in the sun on the vicarage wall,
The Oldest Inhabitant croaks: "Well, of all...

Things...Can it be...really...No....Yes....
Ho: Hi:
Oh, my eye:

My mind may be wandering, but I confess

I believe it is Old Deuteronomy!"

Old Deuteronomy sits in the street,

He sits in the High Street on market day;
The bullocks may bellow, the sheep they may bleat,

But the dogs and the herdsmen will turn them away.
The cars and the lorries run over the kerb,

And the villagers put up a notice: ROAD CLOSED So that nothing at all may occur to disturb

Deuteronomy's rest when he feels so disposed,
Or when he's engaged in domestic economy.
And the Oldest Inhabitant croaks: "Well, of all...

Things...Can it be...really...No:...Yes!...
Ho! Hi!
Oh, my eye,
My sight's unreliable, but I can guess
That the cause of the trouble is Old Deuteronomy:"

Old Deuteronomy sits on the floor Of the Fox and French Horn for his afternoon sleep. And when the men say: "there's just time for one more" Then the laddlady from her back parlour will peep And say "now then, out you go by the back door For Old Deuteronomy mustn't be woken -I'll have the police if there's any uproar" -And out they all creep, and without a word spoken. The digestive repose of that feline's gastronomy Must never be broken, whatever befall. And the Oldest Inhabitant croaks: "Well, of all ... Things... Can it be... Yes ... . No .... Ho! Hil Oh, my eye, My legs may be tottery, I must go slow And be careful of Old Deuteronomy."

Into Louis Pariston Guiden old Sente trongery's tired a Cort time, The second as the property of the state of the second of t neyth suin matric p'ymono sinol vic and more - I am tempted to sty, steet, at a . Har exersely of a nor end of the self of medi-... If o to give : colected the black telecto add ...lov....lo ... vileon...ed ob mod... agains Ob, oy oye: asethes a cod , astronas of too bain the ! Dellard lt 1 016 Deuteronor! The boll pake may believe the thest was alectical .vava ment drud lite messbeen out but got ent the dang and the largice run over the lere, in whom he's automout a disposite scancey. and the Oldest Innebitant ornexe: "Jeil, of all ... tere in .do The the equipment of the traditions of the service .qeolu vooi tetla ela tet quel mate T one xoT end to . medone blow & front's one . goods als west Juo th temporate to e and int dank to concert evidence to en ... its Classe linebitest of Call. .... os.... issi...ed tol med.... gain on, my eye, no have been saled of to lole the ed ba

## By German packet EUROPA.



Miss Emily Hale,

22 Paradise Road,

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THE
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EDITED BY T. S. ELIOT

TELEPHONE: MUSEUM 9543

24 RUSSELL SQUARE,

TELEGRAMS: FABBAF, WESTCENT, LONDON

LONDON, W.C.1

An Scaret,

19 November 1937.

Rather tired tonight (a pity as the Europa sails tomorrow) partly in anticipation of my weekend at Kelham, where I shall be tenderly devoured by Gabriel Hebert, George Every and a few select students; and partly because of to-day: the morning (you will be glad to hear) spent in wrestling with the problems of my characters (the next scene the most difficult of all I think) then Stephen Spender to lunch to discuss his future books, and his play which is to be produced and published in the spring; then a dash to St. Stephen's Hospital, Fulham Road, to visit Janes, who was taken there suddenly with a chill on the liver (it would seem that he owes a good deal to Mrs. Webster and his son Fred, but he doesn't say so) and found him merry as a grig; delighted to find that he was the oldest man in the ward but that there were several younger men who looked much older; pleased with the food and the nurses; and having the benefit of the wireless whenever he wants it. However, Fred seems to have done well in packing Dad off to the hospital without hie clothes, because that prevents him from leaving until the doctor thinks proper. However, it was rather fatiguing; and dashed back to the office before tea; and then had to dictate letters, talk to Morley about Spender, talk to my secretary about getting married (she has a young man in the Oxford Press) and go off to see Tandy and Ian Cox who want me to recite Cat Poems on the B.B.C. which I refuse todo. Wont do anything until I have finished with Harry and Amy and Agatha.

Next week must be a short week, as I go on Thursday afternoon to the Morleys for Thanksgiving and to stay over Sunday. After that, I hope to excuse myself from going away for weekends for some months to come - except that I shall probably have to go to the Morleys again to see the New Year in.

I dine again with the Perkins's on the 29th, to meet Miss Sunderland-Taylor.

I lunch on Monday with Ashley Dukes, to hear more about his season in America with Gilbert Miller.

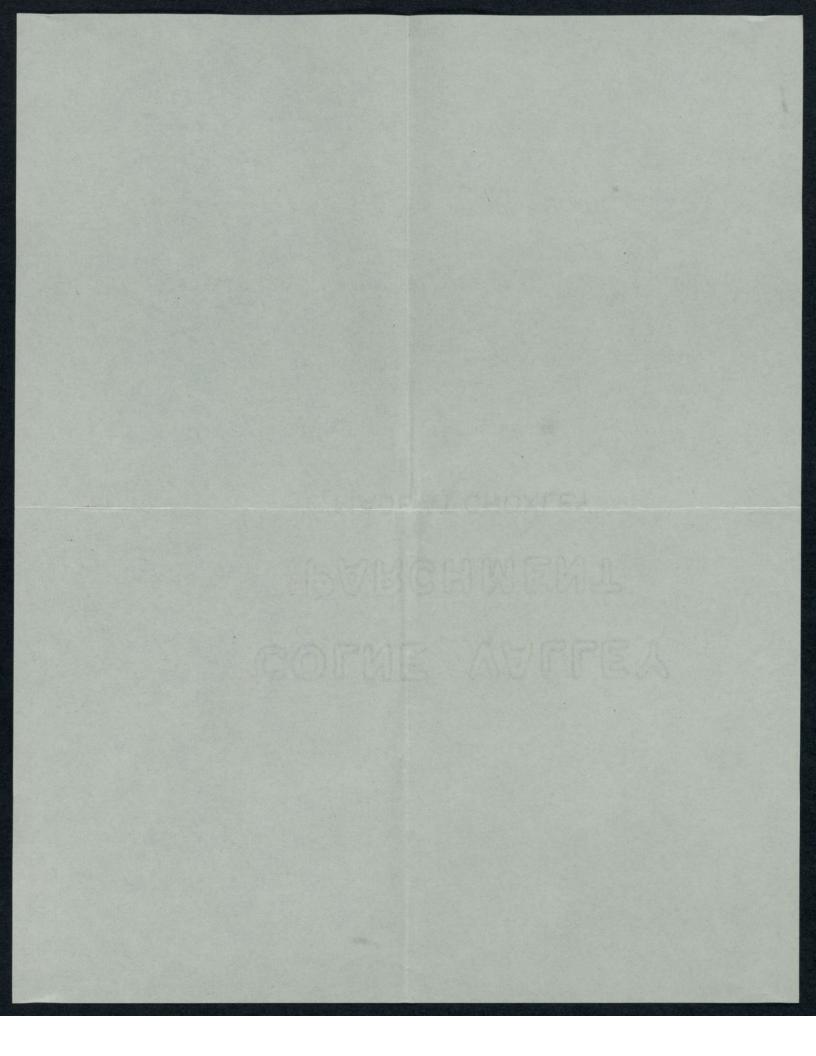
When the Family Reunion is done with, I hope to take some

months to replenish myself, I think that I have got this play in me; but when I get it out, I know I shall be very empty and in need of nourishment: disinterested reading, and thinking and meditation. Such as one ought to be doing constantly. I see that when I have done this play, I must NOT immediately full up my next year with speaking engagements and writing on behalf of causes, but try to take some time to read and think. I hope you agree, and will remind me of it when the time comes. At present, I am conscious of having so little to give, beyond what I am trying to write, and what I have to give out to people in the way of business. If I could only spend a few hours a day in reading and meditation, it seems to me that a great deal would accumulate which I should want to express in letters to you; and at present I am only living on my pemmican, and I seem to have nothing to give. So this letter is merely resting upon your shoulder, not giving you rest. But I always want to write, whatever I am at the moment.

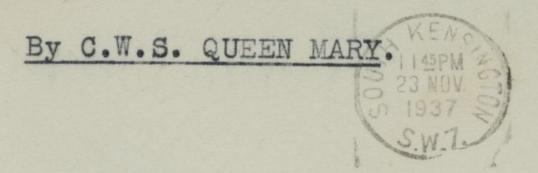
Is the weather very cold now, and have you got some warm wraps?

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24 RUSSELL SQUARE,

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TELEGRAMS: FABBAF, WESTCENT, LONDON

Dearst Lady.

TELEPHONE: MUSEUM 9543

23 November 1937.

This is a small letter to catch the Queen -ary, but I fear is the only letter possible until next week, as on Thursday I have to go to the Morleys until Monday - my last weekend visit until after Christmas, at least, I am glad to think. My visit to belham this last weekend was pleasant and happy; though as you know, I think, visits there are not ph sically or mentally restful, they are spiritually refreshing. But I grudge the time so ong as it means Saturday and Monday morning away from play-

writing.

You should be hearing by this same mail from Ahsley Dukes, who wanted your advice about a publicity agent for Boston. The troupe, under the auspices of Gilbert Miller, arrives in Boston in the middle of January, and expects to stop there for three weeks. I hope that you will be able to see them while they are there; but whether you or anybody else knows of a possible local publicity man I am doubtful. I told Ashley that the people among whom an audience might be worked up are the rish-American catholics: and I have no idea how they are got hold of, or who could do it. Martin will go too, though he may not stay throughout the whole of the tour; but I am not counting on the new play being produced until the autumn; though it is just possible that it may be ready for the spring - but I am sure that the casting and rehearsing ought not to be done hurriedly.

Your short letter of the 16th arrived very quickly, by the Queen Mary, last night. I shall think of you in Cambridge (I don't know at what cousins') over Thanksgiving (I hope that you will be able to let me know in good time where you will be over Christmas). You ask me - rather in a vaccum: > to discourse on following one's own feelings or convictions against the most trusted advice. But advice is always relatively general - it can never be exactly for the particular you in the particular situation; and being a generalisation, is more apt to valid as to what is generally wrong to do, than as to what is specifically right for you at the moment. Nobody ever can understand quite fully what you are at a particular moment or what the particular situation for you is. And, in the face of advice, our personalities assert themselves more

often by arising and saying to us "I cannot do that" (something that we have been advised to do) than by saying "I must do this". But if we don't ultimately go by our really deep feelings - when we recognise them for such, and distinct from something that we want and therefore try to persuade ourselves is right - what are we to go by? If they are wrong, nevertheless we must find out for ourselves by living them out, that they are wrong, rather than violate them. There are times, certainly, when it is right to act in accordance with advice which one has not succeeded in making one's own point of view: those are the moments when one's own deeper feelings tell one nothing or seem to be indifferent, and we must rely on our general valuation of somebody else's judgement: but I am sure that one must not violate onself....

Well, my dearest, this is perhaps not very useful - but imagine yourself as the person offering advice. If you knew that some person was sure to act on any advice you gave, wouldn't you in the end refuse to give it? wouldn't you be horrified by your own power, and say: I must withold the giving of advice to this person, because it is better that they should act for themself and be a person, even if doing something which I think wrong or injudicious? Nobody is wise enough to have his advice adcepted always, and nobody is a real person who never acts against advice: Whose business is it to know you, so much as it is your own?

I dine again with the Perkins's on Monday evening, to meet Miss Sunderland-Taylor; and I shall write you that evening or the next day, according to when the fast boat sails.

Thank you for the concert programme - a very mixed one, and new to me.

Your Cowing Tom

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