

**Ellison and Lottie Hildreth Papers**

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**Series: I. Correspondence**

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**Folder label: ESH and LLH from John (Jay) Hildreth (their son), from the United States**

**Dates: no dates**

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Sat. Feb. 21

Dear folks,

Called Alice last night. She had already written me but I hadn't received the letter. She said that they had been figuring all week trying to see a way which they could afford to take a car, but hadn't worked it out. So I'll sell it here. She also said she was pretty well recovered from the quipps and that Billy's ring worm was all drying up & almost gone. Good to hear from her again.

I forwarded Alice's letter to Aunt Fannie with a kind note. It seems you have found a way to keep us in correspondence with Aunt Fannie's ☺

I'm enclosing a couple of things with bits of information you may be interested in! You have the "Membership Series" Bulletin with the dates for the Series events, don't you? If not I should let you know that this coming Sat. (the 24th) is

The Potty event in which Kate and a lot of the other kids are participating, and the next Friday (the 6<sup>th</sup>) will be Dante's concert, toward which we are all madly rehearsing. After that the event on Sat + the one on Contemporary Architecture follow at about 2 week intervals + almost immediately we will be into rehearsals for Rungelstiller again. However we do hope for a few days' break before Rungel start. April 8

Life is full of problems, but we are having a good time just the same. Hope you're doing OK. Thanks for the note. Will let you know when I may be able to get home for another week end.

Love,  
Jay

Antioch  
12-13

Dear Mother,

I run ~~of~~ out of ink so fast! Well, I wanted to tell you the possible arrangements for coming home. If you can get me on Sunday morning before church I can sing in Jesus Joy of Mans Dwelling! I would leave here a little after five and arrive in Albany about 6 (or before) the next morning. From there I'd take a bus that would get me to Rutland just about 9:15 and if you were there to meet me ~~we~~ might get back on time mightn't we? I do so want to sing in that. It's the only possible connection. I could never make it if I went around by Springfield. So please let me know if it's OK. Cause if it's not I don't want to rush so if it's not going to get me there in time for the Bach. Oh by the way I do hope you're having it played on a peano. I can't imagine it on the organ and on our organ I don't think I could tolerate it. And if it's in the Congregational Church you do have such a marvelous peano to hear it on.

I am at present playing my Christmas present to my best friend here on campus - an album called Modern Russian Music with Shostakovitch's Age of Gold and a couple other

little numbers by Meites + Messlov. It is  
thrilling. New records are such a thrill. By now  
though I'm listening to Jess, for again and  
figuring out the bass part as best I can render  
it from what is audible in the recording.

Love  
Lottie

Dear Folks,  
I shall  
be thinking of you  
every day and hope  
that you will have  
a lovely visit together  
We are all well. My  
voice is better tho  
not normal yet.  
It is mild weather  
here, but icy.  
Much love,  
Lottie.

Fri Apr 12

Dear Mother,

What a time we had at Glee Club last night! It had been a miserable cold rainy day, all day and it so happened that one of the large windows in Kelly Hall got out of adjustment and the rope got off its pulley so we had one of those huge windows open blowing in on us + there was a huge wind ~~away~~ and it was full of rain - and those long curtains would billow out into the room and reach and reach - half way across the room or more. And then the rain, which had been cold, turned to snow + we got up and sang a final triumphant chorus + stamped out of the room. Singing Brechane is good for the lungs + we almost got enough exercise just from singing to keep warm - almost dead!

Well this morning we woke on a white world as rich as a half of snow or more and every tree a marble pillar on the northeast side (where the wind had been blowing) and every twig coated. And every flower - and there were many frozen stiff - some of them won't mind it at all but I'm afraid others are lost!

Here it is Monday + so many things have happened Sun. We had a student recital + I conducted a small group of string players in ~~one~~ one of my arrangements of a Handel Sarabande. It went very well all things considered. And to night was orchestra again - What fun playing Tympani in the Haydn Surprise Symphony. And on Saturday we got some new music for the library

and Sunday I heard Bernard Harman's  
new Cantata "Moby Dick" - I never heard anything  
like it! And I've been reading some wonderful plays  
by Edouard St-Vincent Millay, and re-reading his  
youthful Importance of Living.

I don't want to put off things till any longer  
so I'll just close with a question you won't find  
so easy to answer perhaps since I haven't  
told you of many of the things I would like to do yet.

"What would you like me to do  
this summer?"

I've been offered five weeks very attractive  
work here in the music library. I have no plans  
for next year; I would like to study music; I  
would like just to enjoy myself; I'd like to get some  
practical working experience. What

Should I do?

Love

John  
P.S. just as your card  
said - My Mouth is Improving  
& my Dental Work nearly Done

Friday eve.

April 19.

Raining outside. I stayed home from a fashion show to be quiet and write - but I am so lazy in this warm humid atmosphere that I don't feel like doing anything. I glanced over newspaper, listened to radio, wrote a card to Emily and rested - Rested and slept this P. M. also. but I was entitled to be a little tired, for I had washed towels and undies - and dry mopped the main rooms - not a big task -

Emily Miller's good letter I am enclosing.

I have been home all day except for a trip down town to shop for food, and a few little things.

2. <sup>of mail</sup> Bigenalo's fall, from Carol.  
& nice long letters from Mrs Prentiss.  
Sorry Mrs. H does not approve  
of medical missions.

I wish you would find out how  
large a mortgage Arthur's Bartlett  
(or Rogers) has on Grace Bartlett's  
place! It seems a perfect  
shame for them to be driven  
out. They are tied hand & foot.

Bess and I are trying to make our  
money hold out to the end. I shall  
have to draw a check to have cash  
on the home trip - but I think we  
are going to make the other.

Jennie's mulberries are ripe  
and we enjoy them a lot,  
sorry about Bert Mc Kenzie, but  
I am not surprised.

Much Love,  
Lottie.