Ellison and Lottie Hildreth Papers

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Dear Alice & Ellism:

I think I have been almost unforgivably negligent. Please forget! I must have thought letter would pass on my reports to you. Forgetting how long it takes for letters to pass around to Florida & back to Vermont! Mother is doing well, Dr. & Thicker. He has not been here since Thursday. Perhaps he went "down to the Farm" over the weekend. He does frequently. Mother is still flat on her back of course. I don't know how long the splints must remain. There is no cast. The break being so near the hip prevents that. Mother is very patient! Her nurse is fine. Very faithful & very neglect, a thing! Even dabs her eye with powder & rouge -- & uses pink polish (very faint) on her nails! She had a wonderful birthday in spite of terrible weather. We went to Carol's coming. We have that to look forward to -- in June or July?
Your letters pleased her a lot! A card from Eliz Barnes pleased her. Perhaps you'll mention — if you happen to think of it! No she said they were starting for Chicago this week! Hope nothing prevented it.

Matheis' room is like a corner of the Horne Show — you wouldn't have to pay a dollar to view it either!

Love to you.

Pears & honey from your folks are a delight & nighties from Glad (a wool shoulder shawl) & nighties from Doris & myself — George bought the handsomest basket of fruit I ever saw. Wish you were here to get a picture of it & the flowers. If I were clever I'd try to find someone who could.

Dot & Sue were here Fri & Sat & a bouquet of Spring flowers & some Strawberries.!! Daniel's Club sent a big box of Spring flowers — a pot of tulips & three hut hyacinths
She had about 3 dozen cards with the couple dozen "get well quick" cards, she has as nice a screen of gayety pinned up on the big double doors as your old aunt's see!

I got a friend to frost a birthday cake; it was a beauty. All blue and pink with Easter eggs filling the center and three Bunnies perched on top.

We had a chicken dinner + ice cream + cake to top off with which made it a little festive.

Joe & Ida spent Saturday here + it's always joyful where they are! (Joe & Ida came at supper time I told you before &)

Today our church sent Mother to the pulpit banquet! Isn't that nice! I forgot to tell you the bracelet John made! Amazing for a one-armed fellow to achieve so much! Hope you folks
Can keep well & that your dear Sattie can be restored to you in good health — & rested!

I fear she didn’t really rest here, but she was a great comfort!

Too bad this had to happen. But much better here than if she had been on the way to Florida — or even in Vermont.

I hope I can keep her here until she is able to care for herself!

(if she ever does)

So Emery thinks the home is knitting.

It seems miraculous to me.

Now I must go to bed.

Jimmy needs his rest.

A new Doctor is to examine him tomorrow.

He got our second check from Can.

Traveler’s middle of the week.

Corned only 3 who — makes 20.70. A big help! Farrar Marzouk.
March 25, '40

Dear John,

It is rather dull for me since Mr. Melies went but he has rested much more. You have been very good to write but please don't feel that you should write anything special to me, unless there is a special message and that could be put into a letter to Russ. He lets me read your letters to him, and that is fine.

A man is calling on Jennie down stairs and he talked to Russ trying to get him to pull ragweed, but Dana has called him back after five minutes, and I am glad.

Charlie Benson called late yesterday P.M. He doesn't seem
to feel very well, and doesn't care much about eating. He worked several days last week, however. He made arrangements to come at 8:30 this morning and to take us to the jam factory - a very interesting place. We bought some ginger conserve which we had sampled at Ruth Benson's place.

We saw women cutting up grape fruit, others peeled them, packing the peel in boxes, and putting the fruit aside to be squeezed. Men were boiling jams or marmalade, in one place, and cleaning and containers in another place. The prettiest room was where they had finished products on exhibition, and baskets arranged for gifts - and single pieces done up in brilliant cellophane.

Yesterday morning Ester, I got up at 4:30 and went with Mrs. Manning to the Beach at Hollywood to see and hear a sunrise service. Our own little one in the snow at South Royalton.

Cabot was really more impressive for everyone was silent and awe, but here the crowd was as great that many were there who cared for it only as a spectacle, and their tall and laughter and movement took away from the solemnity. The weather was perfect - a full moon shining in the sky on the trip over, and as the dawn came on the horizon over the ocean, we sat and watched it - having to pull steamy rugs over us to keep warm in the ocean wind. We were too far away to hear much that was said, and Mrs. Manning was too chilled to want to stay to hear Rossini's Stabat Mater to the end. But it was very beautiful performed by an orchestra, a large choir, and
solo voices. My name was hungry
and we went to a very large cafeteria
in Hollywood where there was a very
good breakfast at a very moderate
price, and then we came home and
got to sleep.

Russ is a very good pal. He
helps willingly with dishes, and
dry mopping and errands. He is
smart and efficient. This
morning, my head did not feel
very good, and we sat outdoors
and played checkers and Chinese
checkers. He always wins in
the latter, but I almost always
do in the ordinary checkers, and
so both of us are interested.

I am ashamed that I have not
written Glad more fully. I wanted
to speak of our lovely lunch on the train,
especially these nut date sponge confections
which we enjoyed very much. For many days
I think I must learn the recipe.

I send love to all. Hope Glad is resting
soon. Will she please send this to mother. Thanks.
Dear Glad,

Preece is sending you a picture of himself and Mrs. Melises. He is holding a cocoanut on his head and standing by the canal at the back of Jennie's home.

We are having two overcast days, yesterday and today, and that makes us a little cooler, not that we have suffered from the heat. We had planned to wash yesterday, and so did, and got the things almost dry before we had to bring them in. I was glad. Jennie insisted on ironing a few of them.
as she had a hot iron.

Have been interested in the crossword puzzles in the Monitor, and have done most of them, although I never have gotten them entirely correct. One really needs a dictionary, a good atlas and a Bible. We have the Bible (without concordance), and a very old fashioned small atlas. Russ said it was very hard to make a crossword puzzle and I never had made one. At breakfast I took some paper and started blithely to make one. It is nearly 10:00 A.M. now, and I hardly have a start on it. It is much more difficult than I thought it would be.

Russ said he didn't go into detail about our supper last evening, but I'll give the menu:

- Steaks, pot roast or ham
- White mashed potato and gravy or shepherd's pie
- Carrots and peas
- Onions or turnips
- Apple sauce
- Salads
- Pies - cake, coffee, rolls

Russ didn't take vegetables or salad and I didn't take salad, but everything was good.

We enjoy our room and the radio, and the lovely yard, and the games.

We want to thank you again for the lunch you put up for us on the way down. It was very good.

How are you getting on?

You would have enjoyed the exhibit of flowers and handwork that we saw at the church.

Petunias, roses, amaryllis, verbena, cacti - glass, sweet peas. The handwork consisted of dresses, quilted slippers, towels, lovely
wooden tray for fruit, metal pictures, (I don't know how it was done, but the figure stood out in the base metal - either tin or copper?), and the background was painted. Besides these things there were vegetables and canned products which looked perfect. There was a knitted bedspread too, of very fine work.

Ellisen writes of driving through snowstorms - we are very thankful to be here.

Much love to you all

Lottie.

Puss is an awfully good companion. I should be lonesome without him.

Dana sends his lovely roses almost every day.

Dear Marjorie: Marion: So happy to hear you are doing nicely; that the old paint will soon be off, that it is wonderful feeling to use your legs again. Saw John and Jack. Also made him for tea one fine morning. She is fine. Mother much better, dear.
Mrs. E. S. Hildreth
No Miami
Fla.
I can't remember when I wrote you but want you to know my thinking is as usual here. Mother had better night last night. Please thank Jen for her dear letter just received. Fri. A.M. Begins Mathews 6th. or June 14th. He walked out doors yesterday. Expect Dot and Gene today. Erv Doris called me before last. Suppose she is cleaning house! Wish I could. Much love.
Dear Ellison:

I have been meaning to write you a letter ever since that wonderful coffee grinder came from Montgomery Ward’s! It is a peach! We are all keen about it. The coffee seems so much better, and I hope we won’t drink too much of it.

It was very nice of you to do it and we’ll think of you every time we use it!

When you come to the luncheon I hope you’ll be able...
to have it transferred out there for your vacation time. It won't be much work and we surely can arrange it for those few weeks in the summer even tho we are keen on it.

Scat read your card about the picture at Mrs. Mr. Kempsie and will attend to it at his earliest convenience. It won't be any trouble at all and he'll be glad to do it.

Thank Alice for sending my Turban. How did that other thing from Gray's get
in? It was a mistake wasn't it? I didn't know what it was but just took it for granted it was a mistake & sent it back. Hope you read it.

Suppose Lottie is beginning to pack to-day as she'll be leaving day after to-morrow. Don't suppose you are glad at all! Hope she won't arrive in a storm like this. They had no school it was so bad here this P.M. Snow.

Suppose you are having plenty of it? Thanks for good letters from you & Alice. So glad you could come. We enjoyed it.
And thank you once more for the coffee grinders. We're going to get lots of pleasure out of it.

Love from all the Scotts.

Oh, I almost forgot! The boys liked their watch fobs very much indeed. And thank you again for those too.

P.S. I haven't been up to Stonelamb since you were here - I have planned to go several times but have had to postpone it. I am planning to go tomorrow tho. So Betty coming to Boston or is she going to Beacon Hill from there?
P.S. I sent the snap shot of Hattie & Jesse to Gladys asked her to send on to you
I'm glad you're feelin' better!

Best, [Signature]
Dear Ellen, I am glad to get word that you are doing well. I hope you are enjoying Cape Ann. I do hope you get some pretty hot weather to make up for the cold I am having to endure. I am writing to tell you that I took our boat to Rockport and called for some milk and took some food. The weather was cloudy but I got a good start on my poems. You can write to me again. Love, [Signature]